# THE NOMINATION FOR THE MEANS OF WATERWAY TRANSPORTATION IN VIETNAMESE

### <sup>1</sup> Nguyen Van Thao, <sup>2</sup> Nguyen Thi Na

Abstract: In a modern and developed society, with the outstanding development of science and technology, the connection and communication of humans are increasingly expanded. Therefore, new words, word formation and new meanings are continuously and creatively invented to meet people's demands of exchanging information and developing global transaction. Subsequently, The emerging demand of nominating things, phenomena, activities, nature or expressing emotions, attitudes, human affection are also rapidly and broadly scaled up. Natural languages which develop new words or meanings basically follow certain rules. Of a wide range of rules, universally two semantically- changed methods in all languages in nominating things are: metaphor and metonymy. This article explored and presented the officially specific names of waterway transportation in Vietnamese in terms of language nomination. Based on the statistic data, the research has generalized ten single nominating models and twenty four complex nominating models in an isolating language - Vietnamese.

Keywords: Nomination, waterway transportation, vessel, boat, cargo

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

In modern societies accompanied by the outstanding development of science and technology, the connection and communication of humans are increasingly expanded, resulting in new words and new meanings are continuously created to meet the demands in exchanging information between people. Consequently, the challenging demand of nominating things, phenomena, activities, nature or expressing emotions, attitudes, human affection are also rapidly increasing. Languages that develop new words or meanings definitely follow certain rules. In which, there are two universal semantically-changed methods in all languages to nominating things: metaphor and metonymy. Previously, Vietnam used to run an outdated economy, science and technology, so labor tools were thus underdeveloped. The trend of globalization, extensive economic, cultural, political and social integration has forced Vietnam to develop in all aspects of life, including the expansion of Vietnamese lexicon in all industries. Due to the strong development of marine economy and waterway transport, the terminology in maritime industry have been accepted and expanded rapidly. In addition to the old waterway transports, a series of new names are born that creating the demand of nominating and indicating them.

Most of the time, in communicative activities, we only know the means of transport without understanding the syntactic origin, their meaning or the ways to nominate them. The names of the means of waterway transport are also nominated by the same mechanism as other phenomena in Vietnamese. This article will describe the ways of nominating waterway transport in Vietnamese.

#### 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

<sup>1</sup> Faculty of Philology, Hanoi Pedagogical University 2, Vinh Phuc, Vietnam Email: <u>nguyenvanthao@hpu2.edu.vn</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Doctoral Student of Graduate Academy of Social Sciences, Hanoi, Vietnam Email: <u>nant1986@gmail.com</u>

#### 2.1. The waterway transportation

In regards to the natural and geographic conditions, Vietnam is located in a tropical area, with a lot of rain and high humidity. Moreover, the terrain is diverse with the mountains in the west and the north, the plain in the east and the south, and the east sea surrounding the east and south. The terrain has created a system of rivers, canals, ditches, lakes, interlaced, especially in the Southern river. In that natural environment, Vietnamese people have built means of moving and transporting goods by waterway. And the factor of water has left an important imprint in both the material and spiritual life of the Vietnamese. *Finding Vietnamese Cultural Identity*, author Them. T.N wrote:

"(...). This is a hot area. Very hot gives much rain. Vietnam is where the average rainfall of the year is over 2000mm, among the highest in the world.

(...) this is water - river area. Water - rivers have left a very important mark in the cultural spirit of this region. It has created a unique feature of wet rice agriculture culture. Places with elements of Dak, Nam, Krong that we often see in the ethnic groups (Dak Lak, Dac To, Dak Sut, Nam Tha, Nam U, Nam Ron ...) all mean water. For Vietnamese people, even the "nation" is the only *water*" (Them, 1996. p59).

In terms of means of waterway transportation: According to the Vietnamese dictionary, "means is a thing used to do one thing and achieve one purpose" and "transportation is the movement between people and people" (Dam, 1999). Water transportation, hence. means using objects to move and transport goods from one place to the other in water. Because of the means of transportation, people's lives are increasing day by day. Demand for traveling and transporting goods is an essential demand of modern life. Transportation is also an important factor to help people have a comfortable life, helping to shorten the time and distance to travel and exchange with each other.

This paper conducted a survey and statistics, and analyzed the mechanism of nominating the means of waterway transportation in Vietnamese to have the deeper insight of the names that people have used so far.

#### 2.2. The researches on nomination

There are many researches on nomination, but we can brief some researches in Vietnamese on this matter, Hung (2013) considered Vietnamese syllables in forming people and geographical names (place names), his research mainly concentrated on the combination of syllables and all syllables in one name that will become one word or one phrase. According to him, people and geographical names are meaningless, one name is equal to its denotation, but Vietnamese always chooses name with pretty meanings. He also pointed out some syllables attached to the previous syllable and some attached to the followed syllable. His conclusion is that the function of people and geographical names are only nominating people or places without meanings but normally can notice the meanings. Other researcher considered the nomination of births in Chinese and Vietnamese, this research compared the way of forming birth's names in two languages, then pointed out the similarity and difference between culture and cognition of thentwo ethnics (Hao, 2017), whereas Hong (2015) considered the nomination of police concepts in Chinese, this research showed the features of nomination of police concepts and Chinese culture and cognition through the concepts.

All the previous researches applied the theory of nomination to consider a concrete matter. Up to now, thre have not been any researches on nominating the means of waterway transportation in Vietnamese. Therefore, this article takes their names as the objective of research.

#### 2.3. Theory of nomination

Nomination can be understood as the function of naming things by basically linguistic units, these are words. The nomination is one criterion to determine words. According to G.V.Consanski, nominating is "fixture or mounting for a language's inscriptions a concept – significant that reflect futures of a denotat - features, qualities and relationships of objects and processes of ingredient and spiritual, so that, language's units built in the content factors of communication (G.V.Consanski, follow Le. H. 2013). Whereas B.A. Sereprennhicop rebutted the view that the characteristics use naming things, phenomena which can't reflect the things' features and phenomena's (B.A. Sereprennhicop). Y said Nomination is the build language units with its functions naming, separate into the segment of objective reality on that basic to build the correspondent concept in the sharp of words, word phrases, idioms and sentences (Y, 2001).

In brief, there're many concepts of nomination but we accept that nomination is attaching for the language sound of a concept that reflect concrete features of a denotation. In other words, nomination is naming things, phenomena, acting, natures and people names... in languages.

#### 2.4. The basis of nomination

#### - Metaphor

Let A be a phonetic form, x and y are denotatums. A is originally the name of x (x is the main denotatum of A). The metaphorical method of semantic change is a method that takes the name A of x to name y (to denote y) if x and y are the same.

In this case, x and y are not subjectively related, they are in completely different categories. The name transfer takes place depending on the subjective awareness of people about the similarity between them. (Chau, 2007, p155-156).

Metonymy

Let A be a phonetic form, x and y are denotatums. A is originally the name of x (x is the main denotatums of A). The metonymy method of semantic change is the method that takes the names A of x to call y if x and y are in fact parallel. The correlation between x and y is true, not dependent on human perception. Therefore, metonymies are more objective than metaphors (Chau, 2007, p155-156)

The phenomenon of semantic change (metaphor and metonymy) of languages is not random phenomena, only governed by the rules of perception but firstly the linguistic phenomena. Therefore, the meanings of semantic change (metaphor and metonymy) and broader meanings of the new words have profound nationalism. They are both the result of a pragmatic national approach and the rules that govern the new meaning of words. Each method of semantic change has its own mechanism of semantic changing very diverse.

#### 3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1. The Objects of Research

The research will systematically study the nominating models of waterway transportation in Vietnamese.

#### 3.2. The Scope of Research

We use many sources of information on newspapers, books, dictionaries, internet and daily communication of Vietnamese to search and list the names of the means of waterway transportation in Vietnamese.

#### 3.3. Data collection and analysis

After have all the data, we statistic and separate those in to their classes and count the rate then compare the rate of them. We also generalize them into nominating models. Finally, discuss about classes and concrete samples for more clearly.

#### 3.4. Research Methods

To deploy the procudures mentioned above, we use methods and tactics as follows:

#### 3.4.1. Method of description

This method is used to describe the linguistic characteristics of the nomination on the means of waterway transportation, so that it can identify the specific characteristics of their names.

#### 3.4.2. Systematization method

Systemize different kinds of nominations of their name classes.

#### 3.4.3. The tactics of statistics and classification

These tactics helps us to statistic and classify the number and frequency of transportation names.

*3.4.4. Comparative tactics* 

To compare the rate of nomination forms that may have in Vietnamese.

In brief, these methods and calligraphies applied for analyzing the data on the scope of waterway transportation in Vietnam.

### 4. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Through a survey of all the names of the means of waterway transportation in Vietnamese, we have been able to export two main nominating models, namely single nominating model and complex nominating model. The single nominating model is understood as the way to select certain features to nominate the means of waterway transportation, while the complex nominating model is the way in which words combined by selecting two or more features to nominate waterway transportation. The results as follow.

#### 4.1. The methods of singlenomination

A single nomination is a way of selecting a feature to nominate a waterway transportation, which is the basic nomination to distinguish the different types of waterway transportations in their species. We found 10 single nominating frame types of waterway transportations and these have the following nominating models.

In Vietnamese, there are many types of waterway transportations such as: Tàu (ship), thuyền (boat), bè (raft), mảng (array), đò (boat), ghe (boat), mùng (scoop), xuồng (boat), nốc (boat), phà (ferry), ca nô (canoe), xà lan (barge) etc. Beside the above types also have single nominations, which select a feature in combination with a type names, namely: function; origin; form; quality; operating environment; mode of operation; materials and manufacturing method; trademarks, brands and owner; type of name; borrow foreign languages.

We generalize the nominating methods that select a feature into the following model:

## Name type + function / origin / form / quality / operating environment/ mode of operation / materials and manufacturing method / trademarks, brands and owner/ type of name / borrowed from foreign languages

As we all know, all natural or artificial objects have appearance. Therefore, people can cognitive the shape of an object in the most intuitive way, thereby choosing the feature of the shape to nominate them. And the means of waterway transportation in Vietnamese also follow that rule, we have listed the words indicating the means of transport nominated by shape, such as thuyền rồng (dragon boat), thuyền thúng (basket boat), ghe bầu (bau boat), tàu nhỏ (small boat)... One other feature that the Vietnamese perceives to nominate with the largest number of waterway transports is their function such as: Tàu du lịch (cruise ship), tàu lai dắt (tugboat), tàu dầu (oil tanker), tàu cá (fishing boat)... One of the other characteristics also used by Vietnamese to nominate means of transport is the mode of operation: thuyên buồm (sailing boat), xuồng máy (motor boat), tàu hat nhân (nuclear ship), đò máy (motorboat) ... All items made by humans that necessary use one or a number of certain materials, so that people also choose the name of the material to produce means of transportation to nominate them: tàu gỗ (wooden ship), thuyền nan (bamboo boat), tàu sắt (iron ship), thuyền nhôm (aluminum boat) ... Another feature that is also commonly used by Vietnamese to nominate the means of transportation is the operating environment of the waterway transportations, such as: Tàu biển ("sea" ship), tàu sông (rivers ship), ghe kênh rach (canal boat), bè sông (river raft) ... Another interesting thing is, Vietnamese people not only choose the features mentioned above but also choose to combine the two types of names together to nominate the types of waterway transportations in general such as: Thuyền bè (raft - boat), tàu thuyền (ship - boat), tàu phà (ferry boat), bè mảng (raft array)... One feature that when the economy was underdeveloped, the country hasn't opened to trade with the outside world, underdeveloped science and technology. Vietnamese people have not nominated by this feature, which is the brand and trademark of means of waterway transportation such as: Tàu Sài Gòn (Sai Gon ship), tàu Ba Son (Ba Son ship), ghe Cửa Đai (Cua Dai boat) and tàu Hải Dương (Hai Duong ship). In addition, there is also a final type of nomination based on the origin of the means of waterway transportation: Tàu hải ngoại (overseas ship), tàu Panama (Panama ship), tàu Trung Quốc (Chinese ship), tàu Singapore (Singapore ship).

The above is a single nominating model and we have presented each model with specific examples. The following is a summary of the data on this model:

No	Type of Nomination	Quantity	Rate
1	Function	552	36.92
2	Origin	287	19.20
3	Form	152	10.17
4	Quality	120	8.03
5	Operating environment	108	7.22
6	Mode of operation	96	6.42

Table 1. Methods of single nominating the means of waterway transportation

No	Type of Nomination	Quantity	Rate
7	Materials and manufacturing method	93	6.22
8	Trademark, brand and owner	61	4.08
9	Type name	13	0.87
10	Borrowing foreign languages	13	0.87
	Total		100

The statistical table shows that the feature chosen to nominate the most popular waterway protocol means is the function, which shows that for the Vietnamese, the perception of the function is somewhat superior to the other characteristics, the selection of functional features has up to 552 names of waterway transport means, accounting for 36.92%. The second type with a large number is the origin of waterway transport means, with 287 names, accounting for 19.20%. This is guite understandable because the means are produced in many different countries, many different localities and belonging to many different owners, so the number of names nominated by the origin is much. In essence, this kind of nomination has the potential to be unlimited. Another feature widely used is the form of the waterway transport means, with 152 names, representing 10.17%. As we all know, Vietnamese people attach great importance to appearance not only with their own appearance, but also with respect to objects and means of waterway transportation. Therefore, Vietnamese people have chosen the appearance characteristics of the means to name. The characteristics of the names are nearly equal, such as the quality feature has 120 names, accounting for 8.03%, the operating environment feature is 108 names with 7.22%, the mode of operation is 96, 6.42% and Characteristics of materials and manufacturing method has 93 names with 6.22%. A new feature selected for nominating but up to 61 names and accounting for 4.08% that is the brand name, trademark and owner. In addition, Vietnamese people also choose a kind of nomination with another feature is to combine the two types name together to indicate the total type of the two types of means of transport, the number of names has 13, accounting for 0.87%. Finally, the names borrowed from foreign languages have 13 names and account for 0.87%. It should be added that, among the 10 features selected for nomination above. There are fixed and less volatile characteristics such as: function, form, quality, operating environment, operation mode, materials and manufacturing and joining two names of species. These are intrinsic features, perceived by cognitive psychology and the laws of language, so they are highly stable. On the contrary, there are three characteristics that have the least number of names, but these are essentially the characteristics that generate many names from them, namely origin, brand and borrowed from foreign languages. These features will be more selective in nominating the names of waterway transports in this day.

See the chart of single nominating models below:

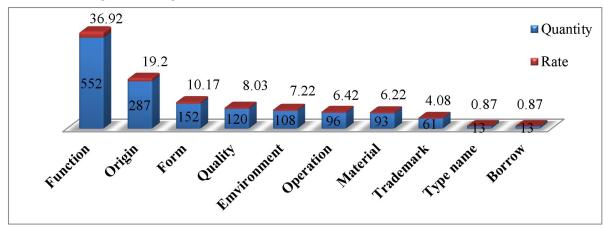


Figure 1. Number and ratio of single nominating models

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#### 4.2. The methods of complexnomination

For single nominating models there are usually certain models, but in complex nominating models, the situation is different. Because complex nominations are types of nominations that combine two or more than two features, so mathematically the ten types of single nominations combined will give us an extremely large number of names. Therefore, it is difficult to find all the words or types of nominations. So that, we have tried to gather from the Vietnamese people's real life how to use the combination of characteristics to nominating the means of waterway transportation in Vietnamese. From these names we model them into generic nominating models to affirm the diversity in the choice of Vietnamese nomination and cognition of the names of waterway transportation.

#### 4.2.1. The nominating model selects two features

The following are nominating models for selecting functional characteristics in combination with other specific features:

#### Type name + function + form/environment/function/origin/material

These are complex nominating models that select two attributes to nominate the names of types of waterway transportation in Vietnamese, we consider the type of means using functional features and forms such as: T*àu chiến nhỏ* (Small warship), *tàu chiến lớn* (large warship), *thuyền chiến lớn* (large warship). The type of means selected functional and environmental characteristics of the operating environment of water transport means such as: Tàu chiến đấu ven biển (Coastal combat ship), tàu nạo vét lòng sông (river-bed dredging vessel) or the nomination based on functional characteristics combined with a later feature which is also a function: Tàu dịch vụ - hỗ trợ (Service – support ship). Origin of means is also a feature to nominate with a functional feature such as names: Ghe cá Phước Hải (Phuoc Hai fishing boat), tàu chiến Mỹ (US warship), Phà khách Bến Hải (Ben Hai Guess Ferry) and the last type are the typical selection of manufacturing materials such as: Thuyền đánh cá gỗ (wooden fishing boat), tàu cá sắt (Iron fishing boat)

And the nominating model with the first characteristic is the form of means of transport combined with another characteristic, having the following model:

#### Type name + Form + Mode of operation/materials

We see the method of nomination that selects the first feature in combination with other features such as the mode of operations: *Tàu mini không người lái* (mini boat without captain), *Thuyền ngắn có mái chèo* (boat mounted oars), *thuyền rồng máy* (engine dragon boat) and *tàu nhỏ gắn máy* (small with engine boat). The second characteristic chosen to nominate is the material to produce the means such as: thuyền rồng vỏ composite (composite dragon boat), tàu mini hợp kim nhôm (aluminum alloy mini boat), thuyền rồng gỗ (wooden dragon boat).

The following model selects the manufacturing material and appearance of the means to nominate:

#### Name type + material + form / mode of operation

This model has the means that select material characteristics combined with the form to nominate such as: Đò gỗ nhỏ (small wooden boat), tàu sắt mini (mini iron boat), thuyền nhôm lớn (large aluminum boat), mảng nứa nhỏ (small cork array) and the means select the characteristics of manufacturing materials and modes of operation such as: Tàu gỗ máy (wooden with engine boat), thuyền nan máy (bamboo with engine boat), ghe sắt máy (iron with engine boat).

The next type of model uses the mode of operation with another feature as follows:

#### Name type + operation method + material/operation method/ environment / origin

The second characteristic selected is the material for the manufacture of means such as: Thuyền buồm nan (bamboo sailboat), đò máy gỗ (wooden with engine boat), tàu diesel hợp kim sắt (iron-alloy diesel ship), the second characteristic type is the operation method as following: Tàu điều khiển chạy xăng (gasoline powered boat), thuyền điều khiển chạy xăng (gasoline powered boat), tàu tự hành nhiên liệu hạt nhân (nuclear fuel self-propelled ship). Another type is operating environment such as: Tàu máy ngầm (Sub engine boat), thuyền buồm sông (river sailing boat), đò máy kênh

rach (engine canal boat), other types of characteristics of origin, such as:Thuyền năng lượng cải tiến Đồng Tháp (Dong Thap improved energy boat), Tàu hạt nhân của Mỹ (US nuclear ship), the next type is the second mode of operation such as: Thuyền điều khiển chạy bằng xăng (Gas-driven boat), Ca nô máy dầu (oil engine canoe), xuồng động cơ xăng (gasoline engine boat).

The last type of nominating model that chooses the two characteristics is operating environment characteristics in combination with another characteristic as follows:

#### Type name + environment + form / mode of operation

Types selects operating environment combine with the form feature are: Tàu ngầm hình con thoi (lozenge submarine), tàu biển cánh ngầm (hydrofoil ship); tàu ngầm tàng hình (invisible submarine), type using environmental characteristics and mode of operation have: Tàu ngầm điêzen (diesel submarine); Tàu ngầm năng lượng hạt nhân (Nuclear power submarine); tàu thủy chạy bằng hơi nước (Steam-powered ship)

#### 4.2.2. . The nominating model selects three features

We find that the method of nomination that selects three or more than three features can have many. Therefore, in the nomination of the three characteristics and the four characteristics, we provide only some of the most typical nominating models to prove how to select very diverse characteristics of Vietnamese people in nominating waterway transport in particular and in all other fields in general.

The following is the first nominating model with three characteristics:

#### Name type + environment + function + Form / Mode of manufacture / method of operation

This nominating model selects the operating environment characteristics associated with functions and forms such as: Tàu biển đánh bắt hải sản nhỏ (small fishing ship), đò ngang chở khách lớn (large passenger boat), or the third characteristic is the manufacturing method, such as: For example, Tàu thủy chiến đấu tự chế (self - construct combat boat), thuyền sông đánh cá tự chế (self - construct fishing boat). The third type of nomination that selects the mode of operation: tàu biển khai thác thủy sản chạy diesel (diesel-powered fishing boat), thuyền sông chở cát tự chế chạy bằng xăng (river self - construct boat carrying sand use gasoline).

And the second nominating model with three common characteristics is:

#### Type name + material + form + mode of operation/function/brand/origin

The nomination type select manufacturing materials combined with the form and the third characteristic is the mode of operation such as: Thuyền sắt nhỏ chạy xăng (Small iron boat running by gasoline), tàu gỗ lớn sử dụng xăng (large wooden boat using gasoline), or the third feature is function: Tàu hợp kim nhôm lớn đánh cá (large aluminum alloy fishing ship), tàu sắt nhỏ chở khách (small iron guess boat), the third characteristic is the brand: Tàu nhôm lớn bà Hải (Ba Hai large aluminum boat) or origin characteristics: Tàu sắt lớn xuất xứ Mỹ (large iron ship of US origin).

#### 4.2.3. The nominating model selects four features

The same as nominating model selects three features, in this section, we also choose to present a few typical nominating model:

#### Name type + material + form + mode of operation + origin

This model selects four features with the above model: Tàu sắt lớn chạy diesel của Đức (German big iron ship running diesel), thuyền nhôm nhỏ sử dụng diesel của Việt Nam (Vietnamese small aluminum boat using diesel).

One other nominating model selecting four features we present here is:

#### Type name + Operating environment + mode of operation + origin

There are names such as: Tàu ngầm chạy bằng điezen của Nga (Russian diesel-powered submarine), tàu biển chạy bằng năng lượng hạt nhân của Nga (Russian nuclear-powered ship) and tàu thủy chạy bằng hơi nước của Mỹ (American steam-powered ship).

#### 5. CONLUSION

The paper explored and presented the names of waterway transports in Vietnamese in terms of the linguistic nomination. In order to implement this paper, we have surveyed, analyzed and classified the data, thereby generalizing the most typical nominating models that Vietnamese people use to nominate means of waterway transportation. Over thousands of years in history, since the marine economy has not developed, the Vietnamese have also produced rudimentary boats to travel and transport in water. At present, Vietnam has gradually integrated, so modern means of transpotation have been imported; shipbuilding companies have been able to produce different types of boats, vessels, ships and so on, so they have to stick with the trademark. These entire practical needs require each means of waterway transportation has its attached name, so the derivative names were born and hugely formed in number. From the statistics, we have generalized ten single nominating models and twenty-four complex nominating models. These models are the typical ones, and of course it is difficult to offer all models. These modals may help us to have further investigationr in our subsequent works.

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