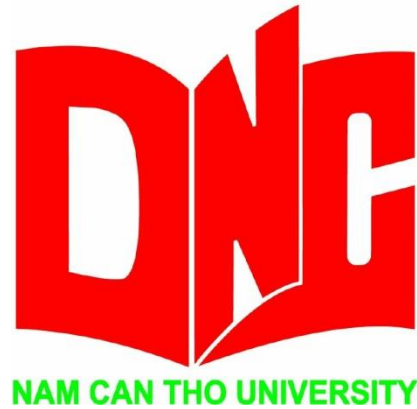


NAM CAN THO UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES



LY MY HAO

DIFFICULTIES IN USING COLLOCATIONS
IN WRITING AMONG
ENGLISH-MAJORED STUDENTS
AT NAM CAN THO UNIVERSITY

BACHELOR'S THESIS

Program: English Studies

Code: 7220201

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ABSTRACT

Learning languages in general and English in particular is extremely important in today's urbanized countries. English is globally popular, and EFL rotates through four skills: Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing. Among them, learners' ultimate skill is writing, which is also the skill learners have the most difficulty with based on the results of the Academic IELTS test (2019). To hone writing skills, learners need grammatical and rich vocabulary knowledge. In order to make words and sentences more vivid, applying collocations is not useless. With the purpose of promoting EFL students' use of collocations, this study explored the challenges that major students at Nam Can Tho University have to face when applying collocations in writing. A mixed quantitative and qualitative method was applied to this study. The data was collected through a 26-question questionnaire with 200 participants and a semi-structured interview including 7 questions with 8 English majors at Nam Can Tho University. The results showed that the difficulties faced by students were at a high level, more specifically, majored- students faced the most challenges in two factors: Cultural and Putting collocations in the right contexts factors. Based on these results, several strategies have been proposed for students and lecturers to improve the use of collocations.

Keywords: Collocations, applying collocations, difficulties in using collocations.

TÓM LƯỢC

Học ngôn ngữ nói chung và tiếng Anh nói riêng là cực kỳ quan trọng trong các quốc gia đô thị hóa ngày nay. Tiếng Anh phổ biến trên toàn cầu và người học tiếng anh như ngôn ngữ thứ hai xoay quanh bốn kỹ năng: Nghe, Nói, Đọc và Viết. Trong số đó, kỹ năng cuối cùng của người học đạt đến là kỹ năng Viết, cũng là kỹ năng mà người học gặp nhiều khó khăn nhất dựa vào kết quả của kì thi IELTS năm 2019 . Để trau dồi kỹ năng viết, người học cần có kiến thức ngữ pháp và từ vựng phong phú. Để làm cho từ ngữ và câu văn trở nên sinh động hơn, việc áp dụng cụm từ đi chung với nhau không phải là vô ích. Với mục đích thúc đẩy việc sử dụng các loại cụm từ này của sinh viên học tiếng anh như ngoại ngữ, nghiên cứu này đã khám phá những thách thức mà sinh viên chuyên ngành tại Đại học Nam Cần Thơ phải đối mặt khi áp dụng cụm từ đi chung với nhau. Một phương pháp hỗn hợp định lượng và định tính đã được áp dụng cho nghiên cứu này. Dữ liệu được thu thập thông qua một bảng câu hỏi gồm 26 câu hỏi với 200 người tham gia và một cuộc phỏng vấn bán cấu trúc gồm 7 câu hỏi với 8 sinh viên chuyên ngành tiếng Anh tại Đại học Nam Cần Thơ. Kết quả cho thấy những khó khăn mà sinh viên phải đối mặt ở mức độ cao. Dựa trên những kết quả này, một số chiến lược đã được đề xuất cho sinh viên và giảng viên nhằm cải thiện việc sử dụng các cụm từ cố định.

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ABBREVIATIONS

EFL: English as a foreign language

ESL: English as a second language

L2: Second language

L1: First language

SPSS: Statistical Package for the Social Sciences