**TẠP CHÍ NGHIÊN CỨU NƯỚC NGOÀI  
VNU JOURNAL OF FOREIGN STUDIES**ISSN 2525-2445  
*Xuất bản 01 kỳ/02 tháng*

Ấn phẩm của **Tạp chí Nghiên cứu nước ngoài,** Trường  
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***Số 550/GP-BTTTT ngày 09/12/2016  
của Bộ Thông tin và Truyền thông***

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**VNU JOURNAL OF FOREIGN STUDIES**Vol.34, No.3, 2018

**PRIMARY BILINGUAL EDUCATION:  
INSIDERS’ VIEWS**Nguyen Thi Thu Ha, Nguyen Thuy Nga  
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**Abstract**: Bilingual education (Vietnamese - English) at primary level attracts attention of all stakeholders such as educators, managers and parents. In many schools, English is included in the curriculum since grade 3 or even grade 1 in some private schools. Some schools have piloted using English to teach Mathematics and Science from grade 1 to foster bilingual education. By using questionnaire and interview, this study investigates two private primary schools to  
figure out their education model and perspectives of school leaders, and teachers on bilingual education. The results show that although school leaders and teachers support bilingual education, the current models focus on enhancing English proficiency due to the curriculum and ratios of English subjects.  
*Keywords*: bilingual education, bilingual model, primary school, English

**CHANGES OF FILIAL PIETY: A COMPARATIVE  
STUDY OF VIETNAMESE AND KOREAN SOCIETIES**Cao Thi Hai Bac  
*Faculty of Korean Language and Culture, VNU University of Languages and International Studies,  
Pham Van Dong, Cau Giay, Hanoi, Vietnam*

**Abstract:** Under the influence of the industrialization and globalization era, many family values are being transformed, including the value of filial piety. Conceptual transformation of filial piety not only occurs among offspring, but also in the minds of parents, which has been relatively prevalent in both Vietnamese and Korean societies with so many similarities in culture and history of social development. Such similarities enable the two countries to share and learn from each other in solving social problems. However, comparative studies between Vietnam and Korea on the change of family values in general and the changing perceptions of piety in particular still have many gaps. Realizing this drawback, this paper will synthesize and analyze existing studies as well as comparing data to show specific manifestations, similarities and differences of conceptual  
changes in filial piety among Vietnamese and Korean children and parents.  
*Keywords:* filial piety, democracy, caring for parents, comparative study of Vietnamese and Korean

**DECODING QUESTION HEADLINES  
IN RUSSIAN NEWSPAPERS**Vu Thi Chin  
*Faculty of Russian Language and Culture, VNU University of Languages and International Studies,  
Pham Van Dong, Cau Giay, Hanoi, Vietnam*

**Abstract:** The relations between journalists and readers can clearly be seen in question headlines. Questions in newspapers do not aim at receiving feedback; rather, they contain important information. They are just a means used by journalists to help them get closer to readers, engage them, and act as a questioner and interlocutor. This is also a method used by journalists to prepare some information for readers in order to encourage them to read their articles, and  
seek for readers’ agreement. This paper aims to analyze different types of questions in newspaper headlines and find out messages, implications… which journalists want to express.  
*Keywords:* journalistic style, headline, question, message

**NAMING CHARACTERS - AN ARTISTIC TECHNIQUE  
IN COMPOSING LITERARY WORKS (IN “BIG  
BREASTS AND WIDE HIPS” BY MO YAN)**Pham Ngoc Ham1, Pham Huu Khuong2  
*1Faculty of Chinese Language and Culture, VNU University of Languages and International Studies,  
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2Hanoi Metropolitan University, 98 Duong Quang Ham, Cau Giay, Hanoi, Vietnam*

**Abstract**: A character is the soul of a literary work. During the writing process, a writer is much concerned about choosing names for their characters. Naming characters is considered an artistic device to convey content and ideas in literary works. “Big Breasts and Wide Hips” by Mo Yan is well-known in Chinese literature, and even in Vietnam. Characters’ names in “Big Breasts and  
Wide Hips” are meaningful and concise, urging the readers to ponder. The article attempts to clarify characteristics of over 20 characters’ names in this work and to highlight the significance of naming characters in expressing ideas and content of literary works as well as the writer’s talents.  
*Keywords*: naming, nomenclature, “Big Breasts and Wide Hips”, Mo Ya

**A RESEARCH ON THE EFFECTS OF GROUP  
PRESENTATIONS ON SPEAKING SKILL  
OF FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS AT VIETNAM MILITARY  
MEDICAL UNIVERSITY**Nguyen Thi Thu Hien  
*Department of Foreign Languages, Vietnam Military Medical University,  
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**Abstract:** Speaking skill plays a fundamental part in learning foreign languages in general and English in particular. Proficiency in speaking skill is the result of constant effort of both teachers and learners. Consequently, in the role of instructors, all English teachers of Foreign Languages Department, Vietnam Military Medical University always try their best to apply various teaching  
methods in order to enhance students’ speaking skill, which includes group presentation. With the aim of assessing the effects of group presentations on speaking skill of military students, we carried out a research on 88 first-year students of Vietnam Military Medical University using such methods as survey questionnaires, observation and intervention. The results show that doing group  
presentation has contributed considerably to learners’ speaking skill in terms of Pronunciation, Vocabulary, Grammar and Fluency.  
*Keywords:* group presentation, speaking skill, first-year students

**STUDENTS’ ENGLISH COMMUNICATIVE SKILLS  
AT THE PEOPLE’S POLICE UNIVERSITY  
IN THE ERA OF INTEGRATION**Le Huong Hoa  
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No.36, Nguyen Huu Tho, Tan Hung, District 7, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam*

**Abstract:** English communicative skills plays an important role for every student at the People’s Police University to widen their knowledge and their professional practice, especially when Vietnam is integrating into the world. However, via exploring and analysing the practice of English communicative skills of students at the People’s Police University, the author can find that student’s achievements of English are quite good but there are still many limitations. Students are not self-confident to communicate in English or they can express their thoughts with  
short and simple sentences. Within this paper, the author would like to show the results of the research and some solutions to further improve students’ English communication skills to meet the requirements of the university and international cooperation.  
*Keywords:* communication, English communication skills, students

**ARE TEACHERS TEACHING TO HIGH-STAKE  
LANGUAGE TESTS?**Nguyen Thuy Lan  
*Academic Affairs Department, VNU University of Languages and International Studies,  
Pham Van Dong, Cau Giay, Hanoi, Vietnam*

**Abstract:** When the pressure of a high-stake test is too high, does the teacher teach only to help students pass the test? The researcher attempted to find the answer by observing three classes representing three basic English modules: TACS1, TACS2 and TACS3 at Vietnam National University Hanoi (VNU). The context here is that TACS1 and TACS2 equip students with basic language knowledge, and at the end of the TACS3 module, students will have to take the VSTEP (Vietnamese Standardized Test of English Proficiency). Only those who have reached Level 3 can qualify for graduation. Initial research findings show that VSTEP had an impact on the teachers’ selection of class organization, content, material and students’ contribution. Teachers seemed to focus more on how to help students become accustomed to the paper format and test-taking strategies than develop their general language ability. However, the findings are only exploratory and can give suggestions for more studies on the issue in the future.  
*Keywords:* high-stake test, teaching methodology, washback effect

**THE 2014 GAZA CONFLICT IN *THE NEW YORK  
TIMES* NEWS HEADLINES**Trinh Hong Nam  
*Faculty of Post-Graduate Studies, VNU University of Languages and International Studies,  
Pham Van Dong, Cau Giay, Hanoi, Vietnam*

**Abstract:** Language plays an important role in conveying the writers’/speakers’ ideal to readers/audiences in terms of structures and potential expression usage at different linguistic functions. The article is a survey research of 50 news headlines analyzed in terms of linguistic characteristics, structures and stylistic devices that journalists/editors used in *The New York Times* news headlines to cover the 2014 Gaza conflict between the Israelis and Palestinians. The finding shows that the journalists tended to choose some linguistic characteristics such as capitalizing the first letter of each lexical or content word, shortening articles and auxiliary  
verbs. Most verbal headlines with a finite clause are used in the news headlines. Some stylistic devices as metaphor, metonymy, rhetorical questions and parallelism are also effectively used by journalists to construct the news headline coverage of the 2014 Gaza conflict. These journalists’ choices also help *The NYT* to update the latest news headlines on online newspaper versions and to run their news headlines on social media platforms like Facebook or Twitter. The article makes contributions to practical teaching and research of news headlines with  
various topics in terms of linguistic characteristic, structure and stylistic device usage. This article is hoped to help learners to use these linguistic characteristics, structures and stylistic devices effectively in writing compositions and translating news headlines at school and to read and to fully understand English news headlines in general as well.  
*Keywords:* structure, news headline, stylistic device, conflict, Israel, Palestine, Gaza

**DOCTOR TALK AT CONSULTANCY IN ENGLISH  
AND VIETNAMESE: AN INTERPERSONAL  
COMPARISON APPROACHED FROM THE  
PERSPECTIVE OF SUBJECT USES**Nguyen Thanh Nga  
*Vietnam Military Medical University, 160 Phung Hung, Phuc La, Ha Dong, Hanoi, Vietnam*

**Abstract:** This paper includes a detailed analysis of subject deployments realized in English and Vietnamese doctor talks at consultations with patients. The focus is to base on doctor’s uses of subject to compare interpersonal meanings hidden behind doctors’ consultation of the two selected languages. The theoretical framework used in the current study is the mood system of SFL (systemic functional linguistics) which includes four main types of subject: (1) subject explicits, (2) subject implicits, (3) subject interactants, and (4) subject non-interactants (Halliday  
& Matthiessen, 2004; Hoang Van Van, 2017). The data was collected by note taking and recording of 120 conversations (60 English conversations downloaded from Youtube; and 60 Vietnamese conversation recorded from real sites of consultation). This study not only finds out the similarities and differences of interpersonal meanings hidden behind doctors’ uses of subject but also confirms  
the necessity of change of subject deployments in medical discourse that lead to the movement of patient-centeredness mood.  
*Keywords:* consultation, doctor-patient consultation, interpersonal meanings, Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL)

**TEACHERS AND LEARNERS’ FEEDBACK ON THE  
ASSESSMENT OF 1A + 1B, 2A + 2B PROFICIENCY  
MODULES AT THE FACULTY OF FRENCH LANGUAGE  
AND CULTURE, UNIVERSITY OF LANGUAGES AND  
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES - VIETNAM NATIONAL  
UNIVERSITY, HANOI**Do Thi Bich Thuy  
*Faculty of French Language and Culture, VNU University of Languages and International Studies,  
Pham Van Dong, Cau Giay, Hanoi, Vietnam*

**Abstract:** This study presents the results of a teachers and learners’ feedback survey on the assessment of 1A + 1B, 2A + 2B proficiency modules in the academic year 2016-2017 at the Faculty of French Language and Culture, University of Languages and International Studies - Vietnam National University, Hanoi. The survey found that teachers and students had positive feedbacks on the assessment quality of 1A + 1B, 2A + 2B language modules, and especially appreciated the variety of assessment methods as well as the fact that the results were returned to the students in time for them to improve their learning. The article also offers some suggestions for enhancing the effectiveness of proficiency assessment.  
*Keywords:* teachers’ feedbacks, students’ feedbacks, assessment, proficiency, French

**CHARACTERISTICS OF KOREAN CULTURE  
IN HORSE-RELATED PROVERBS**Hoang Thi Yen  
*Faculty of Korean Language and Culture, VNU University of Languages and International Studies,  
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**Abstract:** This paper combines descriptive, analytical and synthetic methods in exploring 361 Korean proverbs containing or relating to the horse. The study finds that the horse is realistically depicted in Korean proverbs as a symbol of human life. Symbolic values of Korean horse-related proverbs are revealed through the appreciation of Truth, Goodness, and Beauty, educational maxims and experience about life and social relationships. Horse-related proverbs also vividly demonstrate  
strong yet sophisticated criticism against evils and negative features as well as satire of human vices. Korean people’s material and spiritual life and cultural patterns imbued with their worldview are densely packed in horse-related proverbs. A comparison with Vietnamese proverbs, plenty of which also contain the horse, enlightens us about the various similarities between the two languages.  
*Keywords*: Korean proverbs, horse, symbolic value

**ONLINE TEST DESIGNS IN ALIGNMENT WITH  
LINGUISTIC DESCRIPTORS IN THE COMMON  
EUROPEAN FRAMEWORK OF REFERENCE (CEFR)**Nguyen Van Long  
*University of Foreign Language Studies, The University of Danang,  
131 Luong Nhu Hoc, Khue Trung, Cam Le, Danang, Vietnam*

**Abstract:** The paper aims to investigate and to locate solutions in building a criteria system for designing multiple-choice test bank in accordance with the Common European Framework for Reference (CEFR). It also projects to compile the (online) test bank for the knowledge of grammar and vocabulary in line with the CEFR standards so that the tests can be taken on the e-learning system, Moodle. Based on the two research problems mentioned, the research helps systemize the theoretical basis of building and designing the criteria system and the test bank for  
multiple-choice questions in accordance with CEFR. The research results include the linguistic criteria system for classification and the process of designing and setting up questions the learning management system of the university, Moodle.  
*Keywords:* linguistic descriptors, test designs, online test, criteria systems, test banks

**PHARMACOPOEIA OF TRADITIONAL CHINESE  
MEDICINE - A VALUABLE MATERIAL FOR  
TEACHING CHINESE & NOM SCRIPTS, AND  
KNOWLEDGE OF TRADITIONAL MEDICINE IN  
VIETNAM**Dinh Thi Thanh Mai  
*Faculty of Linguistics, Hue University of Sciences, 77 Nguyen Hue, Hue, Vietnam*

**Abstract:** *Pharmacopoeia of traditional Chinese medicine* is one of the documents in the pharmaceutical field classified by the Institute of Han-Nom Studies. This document has been widely accepted and appreciated. The readers are identified as traditional medicine practitioners, lovers for traditional medicine, Sino-Nom learners who want to understand traditional medicine, and monks who want to obtain more knowledge and experiences in disease prevention and treatment. Hence, while conducting a study of this book, apart from apparent values of *Pharmacopoeia of traditional Chinese medicine*, i.e. Sino-Nom scripts, we also focus on studying and evaluating this piece of literature, a valuable book for teaching Chinese and Nom scripts, and providing essential knowledge of traditional medicine in our country.  
*Keywords:* pharmaceutical, textbook, medicine, rich, literature

**CONSIDERATION OF THE TRANSLATION  
OF AN ACADEMIC UNIT INTO FRENCH**Nguyen Viet Quang  
*Faculty of French Language and Culture, VNU University of Languages and International Studies,  
Pham Van Dong, Cau Giay, Hanoi, Vietnam*

**Abstract**: This article discusses different French translations of *Khoa Ngôn ngữ và Văn hóa Pháp, Trường Đại học Ngoại ngữ - Đại học Quốc gia Hà Nội*, an academic unit of the University of Languages and International Studies (ULIS) under Vietnam National University, Hanoi (VNU). First of all, the author gives a descriptive historical account of the various names of this academic unit, along with inherent meanings of such Vietnamese concepts as *Pháp văn, Tiếng Pháp, Ngôn ngữ, Văn hóa, Văn minh* (which literally means *French language, French tongue, language, culture, civilization,* respectively). It then analyzes the views to translation by three linguists G. Mounin, R. Jakobson and D. Seleskovitche. Finally, it proposes a solution for the translation of the name of the unit into French.  
*Keywords:* translation, French, language, culture, civilization

**ISLAMIC RULES OF SEXUALITY, MARRIAGE  
AND FAMILY LIFE**Dang Thi Dieu Thuy  
*Division of Arabic Language and Culture, VNU University of Languages and International Studies,  
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**Abstract:** For Muslims, sex is a very natural and essential instinct for human beings but sexual intercourse is only considered pure and right when done in the sphere of marriage. Muslims also think that marriage is both a responsibility and a sacred act, while a family is the place where two hearts can love and share. In the family, the husband must treat his wife well, protect his wife, while the wife must listen to her husband, make efforts to please her husband, and parents must care for their children, while children must respect, and treat their parents well... To regulate the relationships among family members and keep the family’s happiness, Islam has given very specific and detailed rules of sexuality, marriage and family life.  
*Keywords:* Islam, regulations, marriage, family life

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