

LINGUISTICS AND VIETNAMESE LINGUISTICS

**NOMINAL GROUPS IN SELECTED CHAPTERS FROM
“PRIDE AND PREJUDICE” BY JANE AUSTEN:
A SYSTEMIC - FUNCTIONAL ANALYSIS****NGUYEN THI LAN PHUONG***

ABSTRACT: This study provides an insight into the selected nominal groups in “Pride and Prejudice”, one of the most enduringly popular novels in the world literature, by Jane Austen, in the light of Systemic Functional Grammar. While the make-up of the nominal groups in the original work is revealed and described, an analysis of English nominal groups and Vietnamese equivalents in the two Vietnamese translated versions by Diệp Minh Tâm and Thu Trinh is also presented. The research findings highlight similarities and differences in the treatment of nominal groups by the two translators, offering implications for future translators of this masterpiece.

KEY WORDS: nominal groups; systemic functional grammar; Pride and Prejudice; Jane Austen; translation.

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1. Introduction

A fundamental shift in linguistic research from focusing on forms to exploring both forms and functions has been seen in recent years by linguistics. The big change represents an attempt of viewing and treating language as a communication activity rather than blocks of isolated grammar sets. With the introduction of Systemic Functional Grammar by Halliday, the functional exploration and analysis of texts helps us understand the way texts work by applying what we know about the meaning of grammatical resources.

When it comes to syntactic analysis, noun phrases are considered to be common cross-linguistically, which may result in the fact that they seem to earn the place of the most frequently occurring phrase type. The same case applies to literary works where a huge distribution of noun phrases, termed as “nominal groups” by Halliday, are observed. One of the most worldwide famous literature masterpieces, “Pride and Prejudice” by Jane Austen, long lives with readers not only because of the excellent plot. The considerable attention to the linguistics of the timeless novel has always been paid by scholars across the nations. One of the most loved linguistic aspects debated is the abundance of sophisticated nominal groups exploited in this work of art. As a consequence, loads of researches have been conducted to make an analysis of the aforementioned topic.

Boasting the vivid and superb language, “Pride and Prejudice” earns a huge popularity in Vietnam and the work, therefore, enjoys the circulation of the so far two different versions of translation. Since their introduction, both of the versions by Diệp Minh Tâm and Thu Trinh have gained noticeable success in winning the hearts of the keen readers.

The study explores the use of nominal groups in the novel in the light of Systemic Functional Grammar and also an analysis of their Vietnamese equivalents in the two Vietnamese translation versions to examine whether there exists any differences between the two versions due to perceptions of life and culture as well as to bring a fresh investigation into the bicentenary literary treasure.

2. Objectives

The study will be conducted with a view to describing the nominal groups in selected chapters, owing to the small scale, in “Pride and Prejudice” following the framework of Systemic Functional Grammar by Halliday. Besides, a contrastive analysis of the nominal groups and their Vietnamese equivalents in the two Vietnamese translation versions are provided in the hope that readers may have a better understanding and their own judgment over which version gains more success in transmitting the message of the author in the literary work.

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The research questions, therefore, are posed as follows: 1/ What are nominal groups? ;2/ How are the nominal groups in selected chapters in “Pride and Prejudice; 3/ structured in the light of Systemic Functional Analysis?; 4/ What changes are made to the structure of the English nominal groups in the two translated versions? ;5/ What are the similarities and differences between nominal groups in English and their equivalents in the two Vietnamese versions?

3. Literature review

3.1. Schools of grammar

- *Traditional grammar*: It is common knowledge that every language has a grammar, which is understood as the rules for constructing words and sentences. Amongst the schools of grammar that are known to linguists around the world is the Traditional grammar, “the body of grammatical work that was done in Europe and America before the rise of modern linguistics in the twentieth century” (Trask & Stockwell, 2007). The work of the grammarians at this time is still believed to form the foundation of modern grammar, though a number of changes and extensions have been introduced.

- *Systemic Functional Grammar*: Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG), introduced by Halliday and consolidated in later works (1985, 1994; Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004), focuses on the functional aspects of language, emphasizing how grammatical resources convey meaning in communication. Malmkjær (2010) describes SFG as rooted in British and European linguistic traditions, particularly J.R. Firth’s work.

3.2. Basic notions

- *Noun*: Crystal (2008) defines nouns as items that exhibit inflection (e.g., case, number) and perform syntactic roles such as subjects or objects. Nouns are generally categorized into common and proper types and analyzed for features like number, gender, case, and countability.

- *Noun phrases in Traditional Grammar and Nominal groups in SFG*: The constructions into which nouns most commonly enter, and of which they are the head word, are generally called Noun phrases or nominal groups. The structure of a noun phrase is featured minimally by the noun while the constructions preceding and following the noun are put under the name of pre- modification and post-modification, which would be discussed in the next parts. (Crystal, 2008)

3.3. Noun phrases in traditional grammar

In their book, A University Grammar of English, Quirk and Greenbaum (1987) revealed that noun phrases are believed to typically function as subject, object, complement of sentences and as complement in prepositional phrases, as exemplified in these following sentences:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| (a) The girl | <i>is Mary Smith.</i> |
| (b) The pretty girl | <i>is Mary Smith.</i> |
| (c) The pretty girl in the corner | <i>is Mary Smith.</i> |
| (d) The pretty girl who became angry | <i>is Mary Smith.</i> |

In this approach, noun phrases are subclassified into basic noun phrases and complex noun phrases.

- *Basic noun phrase*: The basic noun phrases are characterized as nouns with articles or other closed-system items that can occur before the noun head; those are the Determiners.

Complex Noun phrase: It is easily seen that the complicated structure of the sentence is reshaped because of the complex noun phrase. Then it comes to how a complex noun phrase could be realized:

Figure 1. Complex noun phrase

Complex Noun Phrase		
Pre-Modification	Head Noun	Post-modification
Comprising all the items placed before the head – remarkably nouns and adjectives	Around which the other components cluster and which dictates concord and other kinds of congruence with the rest of the sentence outside the noun phrase	In which reside all the items after the head – notably prepositional phrases, non-finite clauses and relative clauses

3.4. Nominal groups in systemic functional grammar

- *Terminology in Systemic Functional Grammar in contrast to Traditional Grammar*: It is remarkable that though a “nominal group” is widely accepted as synonymous to a “noun phrase”, Halliday (1994) drew quite a line between the term “group” and “phrase”, and argued that a group is a combination of words built up on the basis of a particular logical relation whereas phrase is a contraction of a clause. Similarly, the term ‘nominal’ denotes a wider class of phenomena than the term ‘noun’, so that is the reason why Halliday adopted the name. For this study is based on the framework of Halliday and his followers, “nominal group” would be henceforth employed instead of the term “noun phrase”.

- *Structure of Nominal groups*: Halliday (1994) describes nominal groups as comprising a Head (Thing) accompanied by pre-modifiers (Deictic, Numerative, Epithet, Classifier) and post-modifiers (Qualifiers). These components enrich the semantic and syntactic complexity of nominal groups.

- *Deictic*: This term derives from the Greek word for ‘pointing’. In this manner, the Deictic function is realized by determiners (e.g. this, that, these, those, the, etc.) or possessive nouns or pronouns, such as ‘Sony’s’ in ‘Sony’s latest model’, or ‘your’ in ‘your home’.

- *Numerative*: In the clause above, the numerative is ‘five’. This is to say that numeratives can be realized by such numerals. This functional element may be realized either by a quantifying numeral (with exact number like “two” or inexact ones such as “many”) or by the ordering numerals (e.g. “second”).

- *Classifier and Epithet*: The word ‘Jonathan’ functions as a Classifier with a view to putting the modified item into a subclass of such items. Another case in point may be: ‘bus’ in ‘bus station’ in which the Classifier ‘bus’ is put before the item ‘station’ to distinguish it from other types of stations. The word ‘beautiful’ and ‘shiny’ may serve another purpose in the mentioned nominal group. These features may not classify the items into subtypes; they tell us some other things about the characteristics of those apples. Hence, those are labelled Epithet. However, it is of great importance to put the nominal groups into context; otherwise, this would blur the line between Classifier and Epithet.

- *Thing*: When it comes to the head noun of the nominal group, Halliday termed it the Thing. Yet, it is also revealed in his book that there is one very common type of nominal group where Head and Thing do not coincide. This case is featured by the ‘measure’ of something.

- *Qualifier*: While the part preceding the Head may be words or word complexes, what follows the Thing is either a phrase or a clause, which are often referred to as the Qualifier. For most cases, Qualifier is featured with embedded clauses. With the function of characterizing the Thing, Qualifier may be a major process (i.e. a relative clause) or a minor one (i.e. a prepositional phrase) in which the thing would be a participant though directly or not.

3.5. Nominal groups in Vietnamese

Nguyen Tai Can (1997) outlines Vietnamese nominal groups as consisting of front elements, a noun nucleus, and end elements.

Figure 2. Nominal groups in Vietnamese

<i>Front elements</i>	<i>Nucleus</i>	<i>End elements</i>
Ba	người	này
Tất cả những cái	chủ trương	chính xác đó

It is remarkable that noun nucleus in Vietnamese nominal groups are notably characterized with a classifier. From this feature, it is obviously seen that this element, though sharing the name with the Classifiers in nominal groups in the light of Systemic Functional Grammar, bears the different function. Tuong Hung Nguyen (2004) carefully examined the use of Classifiers in the Vietnamese language. Though a classifier is used with a noun, a nominal group may not contain a classifier. It, therefore, is indicated in the study the numerative cannot precede the noun without “an intervening classifier”.

3.6. Similarities and differences between Vietnamese nominal groups and English nominal groups

Though the structure of Vietnamese noun phrases is carefully examined by Le Thi Hong Phuong (2011), she seemed to introduce an incomplete contrastive analysis when pointing out just two main differences between the two languages in word order, which emphasizes the position of Adjective after the head, and the usage of classifiers as a specific lexical class.

Cao Thi Thu Giang (2005), while putting the two language systems together, investigated the similarities and differences of the nominal groups in terms of numerals and quantifiers, adjectives and nouns, relative clauses, non-finite clauses and prepositional phrases as post-modification. The first and second matters to be discussed seem to be easily observed. Yet, the study impressively underlines that in the case of non-finite clauses, they tend to be much more common in English than in Vietnamese whereas the passive voice with “bị” and “được” are employed in Vietnamese though the Vietnamese people have a preference for the active voice. Similarly, when it comes to prepositional phrases as post-modification, it is highlighted that the genitive “của” in Vietnamese bears the tendency to be omitted.

3.7. *Pride and Prejudice* - Analytical Background

- *About the author Jane Austen*: Jane Austen's novels, including *Pride and Prejudice* (1813), explore themes of social class and relationships. Known for her sophisticated language, her works remain celebrated worldwide.

- *Pride and Prejudice*: Initially named “First Impressions”, then “Dignity and Perception” before finally transformed into “Pride and Prejudice”, this first novel of Jane Austen since its advent soon attracted a wide range of audience, and earned Jane her place as one of the most influential writers of all time. Portrayed as a gem of novels, it came second in “The Big Read” by BBC (2003) and was the runner-up “UK's best loved book”.

- *Vietnamese translated versions*: Two Vietnamese translations, by Diệp Minh Tâm (2003) and Thu Trinh (2008), have brought Austen's work to Vietnamese readers, each reflecting distinct approaches to linguistic and cultural adaptation.

- *Previous studies*: While many studies have explored *Pride and Prejudice*, few have focused on its syntactic aspects. Giang's (2005) thesis stands out for its analysis of noun phrases and their Vietnamese equivalents under translation criticism.

4. Methodology

As the research is undertaken with the aim of investigating the nominal groups in the novel, the descriptive and contrastive analysis with the qualitative data will be employed. Also, the Vietnamese equivalents in the two translation versions are put together for the purpose of comparison in terms of structure. In this way, the use of nominal groups in this work will be extensively investigated while the Vietnamese equivalents are correspondingly reviewed.

The task of examining every nominal group in the original version would be considered infeasible due to the big number of the chapters in the literary work compared to the small scale of the research. As the name of the study suggests, the author would like to make a thorough exploration in the nominal groups in selected chapters only. The chosen ones would be Chapter 1, Chapter 3, Chapter 4, Chapter 6, Chapter 8, Chapter 10, Chapter 11, Chapter 33, and Chapter 34. While keen readers of this incomparable novel would observe the very popularity of nominal groups throughout the whole novel, the most primary and influential ones which make a generous contribution to the success of the work by depicting the settings as well as visualizing the characters are seen here in the chapters.

Also, the focus of the study would be to the nominal groups which are believed to be complicated in structures and worth analyzing as well as debating. It would, therefore, account for the fact that the data would be 123 nominal groups scattered in the novel.

5. The analysis

5.1. Features of nominal groups in “*Pride and Prejudice*” by Jane Austen

5.1.1. Overview on the nominal groups in “*Pride and Prejudice*” in the selected chapters

In general, the nominal groups in this literary work would be recognized with ease because of their full structure with the modification preceding and following the head noun.

- (1). ... *a most disagreeable, horrid man, not at all worth pleasing.*
- (2). ... *(take) an eager interest in that gentleman's concerns?*
- (3)... *the last man in the world whom I could ever be prevailed on to marry.*
- (4). ... *a single man in possession of a good fortune*
- (5). ... *the second-hand intelligence of their neighbour Lady Lucas.*

However, when it comes to details, most nominal groups are more heavily modified by the Qualifier than by the Pre-modification with Deictic, Numerative, Epithet, and Classifier.

- (1). ... *a judgment too unassailed by any attention to herself.*
- (2). ... *(married) a man more of fashion than fortune.*
- (3). ... *the belief of my being impelled by unqualified, unalloyed inclination.*
- (4). ... *the man who has been the means of ruining, perhaps for ever, the happiness of a most beloved sister.*
- (5). ... *your manners impressing me with the fullest belief of your arrogance, your conceit, and your selfish disdain of the feelings of others.*

5.1.2. Pre-modification: A look at Deictic, Numerative, Epithet and Classifier

In terms of Deictic, the popularity of articles “a” and “the” might catch the eyes of keen readers. Yet, the difference in the usage of the two articles result in the fact that in a number of cases, “the” would mostly be exploited to modify the head noun followed by a prepositional phrase with “of” whereas the other would also be seen with the ones post-modified by a some kind of process.

Figure 3. “The” and “a” as Deictic

THE	A
(1). ... <i>the power of their conversation</i>	(1). ... <i>a something about her more woring and reprehensible</i>
(2). ... <i>the injustice of her implied doubt</i>	(2). <i>A very great favourite with some ladies of my acquaintance</i>
(3). ... <i>their chance of marrying men of any consideration in the world</i>	(3). ... <i>a circumstance which Darcy of course would not wish to be generally known</i>
(4). ... <i>the notion of doing a very gallant thing</i>	(4). ... <i>an attention which it had hardly received on the first purusal.</i>
(5). ... <i>the enjoyment of all her original dislike</i>	(5). ... <i>a warmth which seemed due to the consequence he was wounding</i>

Beside the widespread employment of the articles “a” and “the”, a number of cases are detected where possessives also make up the Deictic in the nominal groups.

- (1). ... ***his** sense of her inferiority;*
- (2). ... ***his** reason for his interference*
- (3). ... ***Darcy's** leaving Kent;*
- (4).***your** idea of an accomplished woman*

Similarly, instances of Epithet constituting as part of the pre-modification are found. Though there is no clear-cut between Epithet and Classifier, some few cases in which the bolded part is believed to be Classifier being employed are provided.

- (1). ... *our **surest** way of disappointing him;*
- (2). ... *the **smallest** objection to explaining them*
- (3). ... *the **beautiful** expression of her dark eyes;*
- (4). ... *some **vert strong** objections against the lady*

Though there is no clear-cut between Epithet and Classifier, some few cases in which the bolded part is believed to be Classifier being employed are provided:

- (1). ... *the **usual** price of an Earl's son ;*
- (2). ... *my little **recent** piece of modesty*

Here is the case of Numeratives when examples of them are easily discovered:

- (1). ... ***every** reason in the world to think ill of you;*
- (2). ... ***many** in my rank of life who can afford ...*
- (3). ...***two** motives for their choosing to walk up and down...*

5.1.3. Qualifier

What follows the Thing seems to be very common in the nominal groups in the selected chapters of the work, with the main types of Qualifier appearing in the text.

5.1.3.1. Minor process as Qualifier

It is worth noting that the majority of the selected nominal groups has their own head noun post-modified by a minor process (i.e. a prepositional phrase). Amongst them, the most prominent type of minor processes boasts the adoption of the phrases with the preposition “of” while the other prepositions together share other cases.

Figure 4. Minor process as Qualifier

Minor process with “of”	Minor process with other prepositions
(1). ... <i>the whole range of my acquaintance</i> (2). <i>A thorough knowledge of music, singing</i> (3). ... <i>the perpetual commendations of the lady</i> (4). ... <i>the discretion of his behaviour</i> (5). ... <i>a mixture of sweetness and archness in her manner</i>	(1). ... <i>a something about her more wrong and reprehensible</i> (2). ... <i>fine woman with an air of decided fashion</i> (3). ... <i>a very strange creature by way of a friend</i> (4). ... <i>two motives for their choosing to walk up and down</i>

5.1.3.2. Major process as Qualifier

With respect to major process, relative clauses and non-finite clauses almost have the same share of cases in which they play the role as a qualifier. In either of them, the task of giving additional information to the head is very well preserved.

Figure 5. Major process as Qualifier

Relative clauses as major process	Non-finite clauses as major process
(1). ... <i>the friend who is supposed to desire his return to the house</i> (2). ... <i>the very great pleasure which a pair of fine eyes in the face of a pretty woman can bestow</i> (3). ... <i>a silence which might make him fancy her affected with what had passed</i> (4). ... <i>a circumstance which Darcy of course would not wish to be generally known</i>	(1). ... <i>a great inclination (Miss Bennet), to seize such an opportunitie of dancing a reel?</i> (2). ... <i>every sentence conveying the idea of uneasiness</i> (3). ... <i>the measures taken to separate Mr Bingley and Jane</i> (4). <i>Darcy's leaving Kent</i>

5.1.3.3. Multiple embeddings in Qualifier

Few nominal groups identified in selected chapters possess the special structure as analyzed below:

- (1). ... *hopes [[of being admitted to a sight of the young ladies, [[of whose beauty he has had heard much.]]]]*
(2). ... *the attempt [[to be amused with her own book [[which she had only chosen because it was the second volume of his.]]]]*

In (1), a relative clause is seen within a prepositional phrase, which also lies in a prepositional clause in a nominal group. Similarly, a case of multiple embedding is introduced where there is a relative clause in a prepositional phrase which lies in a finite clause which serves as a qualifier in a nominal group.

5.1.3.4. Multiple Qualifier

Though the number of Multiple qualifier is fairly limited in the selected chapters, it is of great importance to mention them as one of the most noticeable features of the nominal groups in this literary work.

Figure 6. Multiple Qualifier(1).

... his sense	of her inferiority,	of its being a degradation,	of the family obstacles
	Qualifier 1	Qualifier 2	Qualifier 3
Head	Qualifier		

(2).

... the	only	means	of dividing them from each other	of exposing one to the censure of the world for caprice and instability, the other to its derision for disappointed hopes
			Qualifier 1	Qualifier 2
Deictic	Classifier	Head	Qualifier	

5.1.4. Nominal Group Complex in Minor process

One of the most striking features of the use of nominal groups in the selected chapters of “Pride and Prejudice” is the employment of nominal group complexes in the prepositional phrases which are believed to be functioning as a Qualifier. The identified nominal group complex are provided for illustration:

(1). ... the influence of friendship and affection.

NG1 NG2

(2). ... a woman of mean understanding, little information and uncertain temper

NG1 NG2 NG3

Qualifier is the functional element which boasts the characteristics of adding more information to the referred in the form of post-positioned items. This particular space seems to be spared for endless chains of information, which enables the writer to specify as much as possible the previous head noun.

5.2. Treatment of nominal groups in Vietnamese translated versions

5.2.1. Treatment of nominal groups as a whole

It would be a demanding task to translate the selected nominal groups due to their complication. Their original chunky structure of the whole group makes a huge contribution to the semantic meaning of a clause, which requires a thorough treatment based on the comprehension of translators.

Table 1. Treatment of nominal groups as a whole

Original NG	Diệp Minh Tam version	Thu Trinh version
(1). ... the disturbance of his mind	...sự xáo trộn trong tâm tư anh	...sự rối loạn của trí óc
(2). ... the last man in the world whom I could ever be prevailed on to marry	...người cuối cùng trên thế gian này tôi muốn lấy làm chồng	...người đàn ông cuối cùng trên thế giới này tôi muốn lấy làm chồng
(3). ... an object of some interest in the eyes of his friend	...đối tượng đáng lưu ý trong con mắt anh bạn của Bingley	...đối tượng đáng chú ý trong mắt Darcy
(4). ... a great opposition of character	Tính cách hai người trái ngược nhau.	Tính cách khác nhau hoàn toàn.
(5). ... the attempt to be amused with her own book, which she had only chosen because it was the second volume of his.	Cô không thấy thú vị đọc quyển sách mà cô chọn chỉ vì nó là tập hai tiếp theo tập anh đang đọc.	Quyển sách Caroline đã được cô cố tình chọn vì nó là tập kế tiếp của quyển sách Darcy đang đọc.
(6). ... (not) many in my rank of life who can afford to marry without some attention to money	Không có mấy người trong tầng lớp của tôi có thể cưới hỏi mà không bận tâm đến tiền bạc.	Cùng ngang địa vị như tôi, nhưng không quá nhiều người có thể đủ sức cưới vợ mà không phải lo nghĩ về tiền bạc.
(7). ... a lively, playful disposition, which delighted in anything ridiculous	Tính (cô) thích năng nỏ đùa cợt, lấy làm vui với mọi chuyện kì khôi.	(một cô gái) có tính cách phóng khoáng và vui tươi, năng biết cách biến những chuyện lố bịch thành khôi hài.
(8). ... the report which was in	Trong vòng năm phút sau khi	Chỉ chừng năm phút sau khi Darcy

<i>general circulation within five minutes after his entrance</i>	anh bước vào đã có lời xầm xì ...	xuất hiện, tin tức đã lan truyền nhanh chóng quanh phòng ...
(9). <i>Mr Darcy, whose pride, she was convinced, would receive a deeper wound from the want of importance in his friend's connections ...</i>	(Cô tin rằng) tính kiêu hãnh của anh sẽ bị tổn thương nặng do anh bạn thiếu vị thế trong xã hội.	Lòng kiêu hãnh của chàng đã bị tổn thương sâu xa khi cảm thấy chàng đã bị mất đi chỗ đứng quan trọng trong quan hệ với bạn mình.

It is apparent from the table that the nominal groups (1), (2), and (3) share the same method of translating despite few differences in lexical choice.

Yet, while the structure of the English original nominal group tend to remain unchanged in (1), (2), and (3), a change in structure is seen in the others. In (4), it is agreed by both translators to replace the nominal group by a finite clause in which the head noun “opposition” becomes “trái ngược nhau” or “khác nhau hoàn toàn” in Vietnamese, which are classified into the adjective word class. Likewise, the nominal group “the report which was in general circulation” in (8) turns into a finite clause whereas the adjunct “within five minutes after his entrance” is now put at the beginning of the clause sticking to the same function. In the same way, the rest are examples to illustrate the transformation from a nominal group to a clause or clauses.

Nevertheless, readers may have caught sight of several differences between the two versions. Though the two translators seem to employ the same previously mentioned method, Diep Minh Tam appears to misinterpret the prepositional phrase “from the want of importance in his friend’s connections” in number (9) when making it “do anh bạn thiếu vị thế trong xã hội”, which do not correspond to the meaning of the original phrase. In the meanwhile, the version of Thu Trinh is more comprehensible and therefore, is more successful in keeping the content intact.

5.2.2. Treatment of the Head/Thing

It is quite common that a word class would be replaced by another in translated versions. In a number of cases, it is no challenge to find the relevant word class in the target language; yet, another class is still employed.

Though there is a difference in the lexical choice between the two versions, such as “khinh ghét” and “ghét bỏ”, or “muốn” and “hứng thú”, it is agreed that the noun would be ousted and substituted by a verb, which reinforced the assumption that verbs are more privileged in the language of Vietnamese compared to that of English where nominal groups earn the preference. Besides, it is noteworthy that most cases above boast abstract nouns as the core, which may result in another inference that abstract nouns tend to be translated to another word class in Vietnamese.

As presented in the theoretical background, one of the most significant things about Vietnamese nominal groups is that the core is believed to consist of two different elements: a classifier and a head noun. When the two versions being put together, it is apparent that much attention has been given by the translators to classifiers on the process of translation. Here is an example to illustrate the point:

Table 2. Treatment of the Head/Thing

Original NG	Diep Minh Tam	Thu Trinh
<i>Judgment</i>	<u>Trí</u> phán đoán	<u>Sự</u> phán quyết
<i>Mixture</i>	<u>Sự</u> pha trộn	<u>Sự</u> kết hợp
<i>Rashness</i>	<u>Sự</u> vội vàng	<u>Tính</u> hấp tấp vội vàng
<i>Boast</i>	<u>Lời</u> khoe khoang	<u>Sự</u> kiêu hãnh
<i>Refinement</i>	<u>Thú</u> tinh tế	<u>Sự</u> tao nhã

It is revealed from the table that the translators both favour the use of classifiers when translating the nominal groups. However, Diep Minh Tam tends to master a wide range of classifiers (e.g. “sự”, “trí”,

“lời”, and “thú”) while Thu Trinh appears to stick to the traditionally standard “sự”, which would never fail in any case of translation.

5.2.3. Treatment of Pre-modification

Though not many nominal groups in the selected chapters bear the complicated pre-modification worth analyzing, the differences are worth debating.

Needless to say, the most remarkable to distinguish the original version and the translated equivalents that the Epithet in English is always put after the head noun in Vietnamese. Also, it is necessary to add that Thu Trinh, again, adopts a finite clause to replace the original nominal group, while Diep Minh Tam does a great job in managing to keep the initial item. The difference in dealing with these nominal groups now reflects the undeniable truth that Diep Minh Tam is more faithful in his translation.

Table 3. Treatment of Pre-modification

Original NG	Diep Minh Tam	Thu Trinh
(1). ... the <u>second-hand</u> intelligence of their neighbour Lady Lucas	...thông tin <u>gián tiếp</u> từ bà hàng xóm Lucas	... tin tức <u>nghe lại được</u> từ phu nhân Lucas
(2). ... the <u>proudest, most disagreeable</u> man in the world	trên thế gian anh là con người <u>kiêu hãnh nhất, khó chịu nhất</u>	Cá tính của chàng đã phơi bày thật lộ liễu, <u>cao ngạo và khó chịu nhất trên đời</u>
(3). a <u>most disagreeable, horrid</u> man, not at all worth pleasing	...hạng người <u>khó thương nhất</u> , một con người <u>đáng kinh tởm</u> , không đáng cho ai lấy lòng	... hãn <u>khó tính</u> quá đáng, chẳng đáng cho con gái mình lấy lòng.
(4). the <u>beautiful</u> expression of her dark eyes	...biểu hiện <u>đẹp đẽ</u> từ đôi mắt huyền của cô	... sự thể hiện của đôi mắt <u>đẹp đậm màu</u>
(5). ... my little recent piece of modesty	...cái cách khiêm tốn <u>nhỏ của tôi vừa rồi</u>	... lời nói <u>khiêm tốn của tôi</u>
(6). ... our <u>surest</u> way of disappointing him	... cách <u>tốt nhất</u> để làm anh ta thất vọng	... cách <u>tốt nhất</u> để làm anh ta thất vọng
(7). ... a <u>keener</u> sense of her sister's sufferings	...cảm nhận <u>rõ ràng</u> về nỗi đau khổ của chị mình	... có một cảm giác <u>mãnh liệt hơn</u> về những nỗi khổ đau chị mình đang phải chịu đựng
(8). ... her <u>deeply-rooted</u> dislike	... ác cảm thâm sâu	... trong lòng đang ghét bỏ Darcy <u>đến tận cùng</u>

It would be a shortcoming if the Deictic “a” element are not taken into consideration. The juxtaposition would have more to reveal.

Table 4. Treatment of the Deictic “a”

Original NG	Diep Minh Tam	Thu Trinh
(1). ... a <u>very strange</u> creature by way of a friend	... người lạ lùng so với bạn bè	Trên phương diện bạn bè chị thật lạ lùng.
(2). ... an <u>object of admiration</u> to so great a man	...đối tượng được một người thuộc tầng lớp thượng lưu như anh cảm mến	...mục tiêu ngưỡng mộ của Darcy
(3). ... a <u>silence</u> which might make him fancy her affected with what had passed	...bầu im lặng có thể khiến anh nghĩ cô đang bị xúc động với những lời nói vừa qua	...sự im lặng có thể khiến Fitzwilliam lầm tưởng rằng nàng đang bị ảnh hưởng vì những lời nói vừa rồi
(4). ... a <u>mixture of sweetness</u>	Tính cách của cô là sự pha trộn	Với bản tính dễ thương, ngọt

<i>and archness in her manner which made it difficult for her to affront anybody</i>	giữa ngọt dịu và hóm hình khiến cô khó đối đầu với ai được.	ngạo và tinh quái, Elizabeth khó nở lòng làm mất mặt bất cứ người nào.
(5). ... <u>a</u> something about her more wrong and reprehensible	Cô có điều gì đấy sai trái hơn và đáng trách hơn những người khác...	(Darcy đã tìm ra ở nàng) những điểm đáng chỉ trích

In terms of usage, the Deictic “a” (or “an”) is expected to refer to a non-definite thing, which leads to the fact that it is often translated as “một” when brought into Vietnamese. However, the previously mentioned samples are to indicate the undeniable truth that “a” is not translated in those cases, which is observed in both translated versions. That both authors tend to “ignore” the appearance of the Deictic “a” in the original items may pose a hypothesis that this element is of no importance in the meaning of the nominal groups.

A comment should be included is that Thu Trinh appears to be more prone to changes in structure. In (1), the version of Diep Minh Tam sticks to the structure of a nominal group; in contrast, that of Thu Trinh is rendered by the employment of a finit-clause in replacement for the head noun. Likewise, there is another rendering in (4) where the head noun in the original item is nowhere to be found in the translated item. Also with reference to head nouns, Thu Trinh makes a paraphrasing in (5) where “something” is inexplicably turned into “những điểm”, which indates a plurality in Vietnamese.

5.2.4. Treatment of Qualifier

As much complexity of most nominal groups in the selected chapters of “Pride and Prejudice” lies in Qualifier, a wide range of samples would be analyzed.

5.2.5. Treatment of Prepositional phrases as Minor process

The fact that the majority of Qualifier with a minor process is featured with the preposition “of” may enable them to represent the totality of prepositional phrases in “Pride and Prejudice” for the same methods would be applied to the phrases of other prepositions.

Table 5. Treatment of Prepositional phrases as Minor process

Original NG	Diep Minh Tam	Thu Trinh
(1). ... the sweetness <u>of</u> my temper	... tư cách mềm mỏng <u>của</u> tôi	... tính nết dễ thương <u>của</u> tôi
(2). ... the influence <u>of</u> friendship and affection	... ảnh hưởng <u>của</u> tình bạn hay lòng thương mến	... làm ảnh hưởng đến tình bạn hay tình cảm của anh
(3). ... our habits <u>of</u> expense	... thói quen chi tiêu <u>của</u> chúng ta	... thói quen tiêu xài <u>của</u> chúng ta
(4). ... the enjoyment <u>of</u> all her original dislike	... niềm thích thú <u>của</u> mọi ác cảm cô hướng về họ lúc đầu	Elizabeth bắt đầu ghét hai chị em trở lại như lúc trước.

Indicating possession, the of-genitive in English is often translated as “của” in Vietnamese. In his translation, Diep Minh Tam shows an endeavour to preserve the original structure with the conventional “của”, which, one more time, is the evidence of his faithfulness. On the contrary, Thu Trinh either sticks to the use of “của” in seemingly simple nominal group, or makes a total change in the original versions by replacing them with a non-finite.

However, readers may catch sight of other cases where “of” is no longer of its traditional translation version. This presents another translation of the of-genitive in Vietnamese language. Concerning the original structure, the items by Diep Minh Tam remain that of a nominal group. The only change to be made in Diep Minh Tam version is the prepositions employed (e.g. “về” and “từ”). These prepositions are also exploited in Thu Trinh’s version yet with a smaller frequency observed. In addition, it is her flexibility in translation that more than once the structure is substituted.

Table 6. Treatment of the of-genitive: non-traditional translation with other prepositions

Original NG	Diep Minh Tam	Thu Trinh
(1). ... the beautiful expression of her dark eyes	...biểu hiện đẹp đẽ từ đôi mắt huyền của cô	...sự thể hiện của đôi mắt đẹp đậm màu
(2). ... every hope of happiness for the most affectionate, generous heart in the world	... mọi hi vọng về hạnh phúc của một con tim thiết tha, khoáng đạt nhất	...niềm hi vọng hạnh phúc của Jane
(3). ... his sense of her inferiority – of its being a degradation...	...nhận thức của anh về vị thế thấp kém của cô...	...những suy nghĩ của mình về địa vị thấp kém của Elizabeth
(4). ... the second-hand intelligence of their neighbour Lady Lucas	... thông tin gián tiếp từ bà hàng xóm Lucas	...tin tức nghe lại được từ phu nhân Lucas
(5). ... your idea of an accomplished woman	... ý tưởng của anh về một người phụ nữ toàn tài	...thế nào là một người phụ nữ đa tài

People may think that “of” should infer to “của” or at least some other prepositions which indicate the same meaning in Vietnamese; yet, the other truth is discovered by Diep Minh Tam.

Table 7. Treatment of the of-genitive: non-traditional translation with clauses

Original NG	Diep Minh Tam	Thu Trinh
(1). ... the belief of my being impelled by unqualified, unalloyed inclination	... mà tin rằng tôi đã bị thúc ép bởi tâm tư không vương bận, thuần khiết	... để cô tin rằng việc tôi tiến tới với cô là do từ lòng mong muốn thuần khiết không bị ràng buộc
(2). ... hopes of being admitted to a sight of the young ladies ...	... Hy vọng được phép gặp các cô gái ...	... hy vọng sẽ có dịp trông thấy mấy cô con gái ...
(3). ... the advantage of ascertaining from an upper window	... (các cô thì) may mắn hơn anh, vì có thể quan sát anh từ cửa sổ tầng trên	... (mấy cô thì) may mắn hơn, họ đã có dịp trông thấy Bingley lúc chàng mới đến bằng cách nhìn trộm qua cánh cửa sổ trên lầu
(4). ... their chance of marrying men of any consideration in the world	... cơ hội để lấy được một anh chồng có vị thế nào đấy trong xã hội	... cơ hội để họ lấy được những người chồng xứng đáng
(5). ... the principal, if not the only means of dividing them from each other, of exposing one to the censure of the world for caprice and instability, the other to its derision for disappointed hopes	... người chủ chốt, nếu không phải là người duy nhất, đã theo cách thức độc ác nhất để chia rẽ hai người, phơi bày người này cho thế gian chê trách về tính thất thường và thiếu kiên định, phơi bày người kia cho thiên hạ chế giễu về những ước vọng tan tành,	... yếu tố cơ bản, nếu không phải là nguyên nhân chính, chia rẽ hai người họ. Anh đã đưa một người vào trong tình trạng bị mọi người chung quanh phê bình chỉ trích là có tính tình thay đổi, không kiên định và đưa người kia vào tình trạng làm trò cười vì đã nuôi hi vọng hão huyền

The fact that these samples of minor process are characterized by the combination of the genitive “of” and a non-finite clause leads to the fidelity in Diep Minh Tam’s translation. He mostly replaced the prepositional phrases with a non-finite clause. However, an exception is identified when a finite clause is employed, for which the reason might be the appearance of the possessive “my” in the original version.

Thu Trinh, again, differentiates her own translation from that of Diep Minh Tam by the popularity of the exertion of finite-clauses.

5.2.6. Treatment of Major Process

Another example of the incomparable sophistication of the nominal groups in “Pride and Prejudice” is the complexity of their Qualifiers. These part is going to deal with the relative clauses as well as non-finite clauses which might have made a contribution to the complication recognized in Qualifiers.

Table 8. Treatment of Major process

Original Nominal Group	Diep Minh Tam	Thu Trinh
(1). ... a truth <u>universally acknowledged</u>	... một sự thật <u>mà ai cũng công nhận</u>	<u>Trên đời này ai cũng cho rằng...</u>
(2). ... a judgement <u>too unassailed by any attention to herself</u>	... trí phán đoán <u>không gì lay chuyển được</u>	... sự phán quyết <u>không quá khát khe hay quá chủ quan</u>
(3). ... a circumstance <u>which Darcy of course would not wish to be generally known</u>	... tình huống <u>mà Darcy dĩ nhiên không muốn mọi người đều biết</u>	... một trường hợp <u>mà Darcy không muốn ai biết tới</u>
(4). ... the very great pleasure <u>which a pair of fine eyes in the face of a pretty woman can bestow</u>	... niềm vui <u>mà một đôi mắt đẹp trên gương mặt của một phụ nữ đẹp có thể ban phát cho tôi</u>	... <u>đôi mắt đẹp trên khuôn mặt của một cô gái đẹp</u>
(5). ... a silence <u>which might make him fancy her affected with what had passed</u>	... bầu im lặng <u>(mà nó) có thể khiến anh nghĩ cô đang bị xúc động với những lời nói vừa qua</u>	... sự im lặng <u>(mà nó) có thể khiến Fitzwilliam lầm tưởng rằng nàng đang bị ảnh hưởng vì những lời nói vừa rồi</u>
(6). ... the man, <u>who has been the means of ruining, perhaps for ever, the happiness of a most beloved sister</u>	... một người <u>(mà anh ta) đã có ý đồ hủy hoại – có lẽ cho đến cuối đời – hạnh phúc của người chị mình thương yêu nhất</u>	... một người đàn ông <u>mà chính anh ta là nguyên nhân trung gian phá vỡ hạnh phúc của người chị thương yêu nhất đời tôi</u>

In terms of non-finite clauses in (1) and (2), the above table shows that Diep Minh Tam is very consistent in his treatment with the method of adopting a finite clause as substitution. In contrast, there is no similar evidence found in the version of Thu Trinh.

Also, the samples exemplify the cases of a relative clause as a major process. We can identify no tendency in the way both authors deal with a relative clause. They either keep the original structure of a relative clause or turn it into a non-finite by omitting the word “mà” which seems to represent the relative pronouns in the Vietnamese versions. For most cases, the missing of “mà” is intentionally made with a view to providing a smooth and harmonious translated version to conform to the Vietnamese language while the meaning is semantically transmitted.

6. Discussion

To give readers an understanding of how nominal groups are used in selected chapters, a comparison is made between the original text and two Vietnamese translations.

When dealing with Head/Thing, very often is the word class substituted by another one. It is to say in this case that the head noun might be replaced by a verb or an adjective, which also reinforces the assumption that Vietnamese language boasts a preference for verbs while English is primarily contributed by nouns. It is also noteworthy that in a majority of Vietnamese nominal groups, the core element is built up by a classifier and the head noun, which are clearly illustrated in both translated versions. Hence, it is implied that classifiers play a significant role in Vietnamese nominal groups, which should be taken into consideration by translators.

Speaking of Pre-modification, samples of Epithet being put after the head noun in Vietnamese translated versions can be found with ease. As a consequence, Epithet becoming part of a post-modification enables the language of Vietnamese distinguishable from English. Likewise, considerable attention is paid to the Deictic “a” while it is nowhere to be found in the Vietnamese translation, which may pose the hypothesis that it makes no subtle contribution to the meaning of the clause. These dissimilarities should be fully aware of by translators who seek for a natural transition into the target language.

The most noticeable remark about Qualifier is for the translation of the prepositional phrases with “of”, which gains the popularity throughout the selected chapters. Though the genitive – of may appear in complicated combinations functioning as a nominal group in English, there are several ways in which they are translated into Vietnamese. Translators are expected to make their own decision of wisdom whether to stick to the original structure with the Vietnamese equivalent “của”, replace it with another preposition to please the ears of Vietnamese readers or transform it into a finite or non-finite according to the degree of complexity in the initial versions.

By putting them under scrutiny, the distinctive similarities and differences in the treatment of nominal groups between Diep Minh Tam and Thu Trinh are uncovered. The first translator has proven his big endeavour to stick to the original structure of nominal groups. In contrast, Thu Trinh has the tendency to provide a more flexible equivalent. Hence, it indicates that a translator of “Pride and Prejudice” should take the purpose of his translation into account. Whether it is to preserve the true beauty in terms of aesthetics for the sake of the literary work itself or it is to introduce a more comprehensible to readers would make an substantial influence on the treatment of nominal groups.

7. Conclusion

As the name of the study suggests, the nominal groups in selected chapters in “Pride and Prejudice” by Jane Austen are investigated in Systemic Functional Approach. The research questions which were posed are now answered. Beside the very well informative introduction to nominal groups in English examined in the light of Hallidayan approach in comparison with that in traditional grammar, the exploitation of nominal groups in the aforementioned literary work are also explored. As their structures are analyzed, a number of interesting facts are to be revealed. The features of multiple qualifiers, multiple embeddings in Qualifier and the flexible use of nominal group complex have earned “Pride and Prejudice” an outstanding name in the world literature map. Also, they have become the source of inspiration for those whose eager interest lies in challenging analyses of languages.

To provide readers with an insight of the employment of nominal groups in selected chapters, a comparison between the original version and the two Vietnamese translated ones is introduced. Concerning the treatment of nominal groups as a whole, the most striking thing is that a number of cases with complexity and sophistication see the change from the original nominal group into a finite clause.

The study, so far, has examined the limited number of nominal groups in selected chapters in this literary treasure. While the abundance of nominal groups in this novel is observed, a further research throughout the chapters could be conducted to provide keen readers with a more thorough insight as well as an invaluable access to the work.

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Cụm danh từ ở một số chương trong tác phẩm “Kiêu hãnh và Định kiến” của Jane Austen: phân tích theo quan điểm ngữ pháp chức năng hệ thống

Tóm tắt: Bài nghiên cứu này, từ góc nhìn của Ngữ pháp chức năng hệ thống, khảo sát cấu trúc cụm danh từ trong tác phẩm gốc và các cụm danh từ tương đương trong hai bản dịch tiếng Việt của Diệp Minh Tâm và Thu Trinh; chỉ ra những điểm tương đồng và khác biệt trong cách xử lý cụm danh từ trong hai bản dịch. Từ đó, tác giả đưa ra một vài đề xuất liên quan đến dịch các cụm danh từ trong sử dụng gắn với ngữ cảnh nói chung và trong tác phẩm văn học nói riêng.

Từ khoá: cụm danh từ; ngữ pháp chức năng; “Kiêu hãnh và Định kiến”; Jane Austen; dịch thuật.