

STRUCTURAL FEATURES OF FASHION TERMINOLOGIES IN ENGLISH

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Fashion terminologies are words and phrases denoting concepts, objects, things, phenomena, properties, activities... of the fashion industry. Based on theoretical background and actual surveys, the paper described and analyzed the structural features of fashion terminologies in English in terms of the following aspects: number of terminology elements, terminology formation methods and word classes, origin of terminology elements and structural model. As a result, specific analyses and assessments about the structural features of these terminologies were concluded.

Key words: Structural features; fashion terminologies; English.

1. Introduction

Together with the trend of deepening international integration, fashion has become not only an industry but also a thriving professional field in the current period. The concept of fashion has been around for a long time and has had a huge influence on all aspects of society. And like many other professional fields, fashion also contains distinct concepts and categories.

Those concepts and categories are represented by terminologies. The study on fashion terminology has had practical impacts on science and social life.

Due to the limited framework of the paper, the concept of fashion is applied to the study on fashion terms referring to popular and modern styles, trends, and designs of outerwear, footwear, accessories and jewelry as well as fashion terms referring people, things, events, materials and activities. Based on the terminology standards and specialized characteristics of the fashion industry, 1162 English terms are selected for the survey data. Of these, 12/1162 English terms are in abbreviated form. From here, we will describe, analyze and evaluate the structural features of 1150 English terms in terms of the following aspects: number of terminology elements, terminology formation methods and word classes, origin of terminology elements and structural model.

2. A research overview

Structural features of terminology are essential to the study on terminologies.

In the world, the studies on terminology theory and terminology analysis started in the 1930s. In "The General Theory of Terminology" (1931), Wuster, an Austrian linguist who studied terminology, gave some principles features of terminologies. At the same time, the most feasible methods of term analysis were presented. In 1990, Sager J.C. published his first research work titled "Practical Course in Terminology Processing", in which he analyzed and proposed methods of defining structural features from the linguistic view. In 2000, through "Terminology and language planning", Antia B.E., a professor of languages at University of Western Cape in South Africa, presented the general research direction. That was a fairly comprehensive overview of the birth, development and application of terminology in Africa. Thanks to the book, the author provided an in-depth analysis of defining structural features of terminology. Since then, the author has built a new strategies for terminology management and oriented to the language planning.

In Vietnam, the structural features of scientific terms have been discussed specifically in the research of Vietnamese linguists. Among them, there were outstanding scientific works such as "Using foreign terminologies" by Luu Van Lang (1968) [4] and "Principles for composing specialized nouns"[7] by Le Van Thoi (1970). In the above books, scientists have analyzed relatively fully and comprehensively the construction and development of scientific terms on a large scale and defined structural features of terms. In addition, Dissertations on features of terminology have also contributed significantly to the development of terminology research in our country today. Some outstanding works are: "Comparative analysis on the structure of economic and commercial terms in modern Japanese and Vietnamese" (Nguyen Thi Bich Ha, 2000); Comparative analysis on structural and semantic features of financial - accounting - banking terms in English and Vietnamese" by Nguyen Thi Tuyet (2011); "Structural features

and semantics of intellectual property law terms in Vietnamese" by Mai Thi Loan (2012); "Structural features of criminal science terminology in Vietnamese" by Nguyen Quang Hung (2016); "Structural and semantic features of art terms in Vietnamese" by Le Thi My Hanh (2019)... Dissertations clarified the structural features of specialized terminology systems and propose solutions to standardize the Vietnamese terminology system of different aspects.

Linguists make a general assessment in domestic and foreign studies on the structural features of English terms as follows:

(1) Terminologies composed of nouns and noun phrases account for a large number; terminologies composed of verbs/verb phrases, adjectives/adjective phrases account for a very small number;

(2) There are a lot of terminologies composed of single words, compound words, derivative words and abbreviated words;

(3) Term length indicates a maximum of 04 elements

Based on the collected documents, we find that the concept of *terminology element* (or *thành tố*) is suitable for the analysis of English and Vietnamese fashion terminologies. Each *terminology element* (or *thành tố*) contains a concept or a constituent part of the concept, or a conceptual characteristic of fashion. Each element contains lexical meaning in term construction. For example, *dress, house, pencil, skirt*, etc. are called *elements* the combined together into the terminologies: *house /dress , pencil/skirt*, etc.

3. Approaches and methodology

The article analyzed the structural features of the term fashion in English based on the methodology of linguistics. To meet the given requirements, we used the following research methods:

(1) *Descriptive method* was used to describe structural features of fashion terminologies in English.

(2) *Statistical tactic* was used to systematize fashion terminologies in English: surveying words, calculating the percentage of elements of fashion terminology formation, structural model of terminology... The tables would summarize the survey data in order to clarify the typical features of fashion terminologies in English in terms of structural features. The survey data would be analyzed and evaluated for conclusions of the research results.

In addition to the above methods and tactic, modeling and tabulation were also used to illustrate the research results.

4. Research results

4.1. Structural features of fashion terminologies in English in terms of number of terminology elements

4.1.1. The fashion terminology in English composed of a single word

About the concept of single words, Plag I. (2002) defined: “A single word is a word with only an original unit... Single words can be nouns, verbs, adjectives..., and they are independent morphemes”[6, p.4]. In English, each terminology consists of an independent morpheme and each terminology contains an element.

According to our survey, of 1150 surveyed terminologies, there are 143 terminologies composed of one element (accounting for 12.43%). For example: *beret, vedette* ...

4.1.2. The fashion terminology in English composed of a derivative word

The derivative word is formed by the combination of a free morpheme and one or more bound morphemes. A derivative word consists of at least two terminology elements. The derivative word containing the two terminology elements is formed by the combination of a root and a prefix or a suffix. For example: *monochrome, backless, supermodel*... There is only one derivative word containing the three terminology elements: *monochromatic*

Based on the survey data, we found 39/1150 English terms composed of derivative words. The number of elements in the derivative words is described in the following table:

Table 1: Number of structural elements of English terminologies composed of derivative words

Number of structural elements	Number of terminologies composed of derivative words	Percentage (%)
Two elements	38	3,3
Three elements	01	0,08
Total	39/1150	

According to Table 1, 38 fashion terminologies in English (3.3%) that are derivative words composed of two elements have been surveyed. These are also terms formed by a free morpheme (original word) combined with a prefix or a suffix. For example: *monochrome, backless, supermodel*, etc. In these terms, each element is equivalent to a morpheme, for example: *supermodel = super + model, designer = design + er*...

There exists only one terminology that is derivative word composed of three elements, accounting for a very small proportion (0.08%): *monochromatic*. Accordingly, this term will

contains three elements, equivalent to three morphemes combined as follows: *monochromatic* = *mono* + *chromate* + *ic*.

4.1.3. The fashion terminology in English composed of a compound word

Based on the structural features of English lexicology, each term is a compound word composed of two or more elements. With 1150 fashion terminologies in English, we surveyed 652 terms that are compound words (56.11%). These terms are composed of two to three elements. The number of specific elements is illustrated in the following table:

**Table 2: Number of structural elements of English terminologies
composed of compound words**

Number of structural elements	Number of terminologies composed of derivative words	Percentage (%)
Two elements	423	36,78
Three elements	229	19,91
Total	652/1150	

According to Table 2, we find that the English fashion term has a maximum length of three elements. There appeared 423/1150 terms composed of two components (accounting for 36.78%), for example: *catwalk* = *cat/walk*, *dress shirt* = *dress/shirt*, ...; There are 229/1150 terms with 3 components (19.91%), for example: *boyfriend jeans*= *boy/friend/jeans*, *black tie dinner* = *black/ tie/ dinner*,...

4.1.4. The fashion terminology in English composed of a nominal phrase

Based on the definitions of phrases, we find that a fashion terminology in English composed of a nominal phrase contains at least two elements.

According to our survey, the number of fashion terminologies in English composed of nominal phrase accounts for a relatively high proportion (316 terms). The number of structural elements of these terms are presented in the following table:

**Table 3: Number of structural elements of English terminologies
composed of nominal phrase**

Number of structural elements	Number of terminologies composed of derivative words	Percentage (%)
Two elements	74	6,43
Three elements	219	19,04

Four elements	23	2,0
Total	316/1150	

According to Table 3 , it can be seen that a fashion terminology in English is composed of a nominal phrase with a maximum length of 4 elements. Of 316 terminologies that are nominal phrases, there are 74/1150 terminologies composed of two components (accounting for 6.43%), for example: *belted jacket = belted/jacket, minimal pleat = minimal/pleat...*; there are 219/1150 terminologies composed of three components (18.04%), for example: *double breasted coat = double/breasted/coat, espadrille wedge sandals = espadrille/wedge/sandals...* Fashion terminologies composed of nominal phrase with four elements account for 2% (23/1150 terms), for example: *hidden button down collar = hidden/button/down/collar; multicolor maxi dress = multi/color/maxi/dress...*

4.2. Structural features of fashion terminologies in English in terms of terminology formation methods and word classes

The survey was conducted for 1150 English fashion terminologies (excluding 12 abbreviated terminologies).

4.2.1. The fashion terminology in English composed of a single word

Among 1150 fashion terminologies in English, we identified 143 terms that are composed of single words. Table 4 will present the word classes of fashion terminologies in English composed of single words .

Table 4: Word classes of fashion terminologies in English composed of single word

Terminology	Word class	Number of terminologies	Percentage (%)
Single word	Noun	134	11,65
	Verb	05	0,43
	Adjective	04	0,34
Total		143/1150	

We find out 143/1150 terminologies composed of a single word. Among them, 134/1150 terminologies are nouns such as *agate, belt...*; 05/1150 terminologies are adjectives such as *nude, chic...*; and 04/1150 terminologies are verbs such as *match, mix,...*

As a result, of fashion terminologies in English composed of single words, there appear a large number of nouns and a very small amount of verbs and adjectives.

4.2.2. The fashion terminology in English composed of a compound word

The surveyed result of word classes of fashion terminologies in English composed of a compound word has been described as follows:

Table 5: Word classes of fashion terminologies in English composed of compound word

Terminology	Word class	Number of terminologies	Percentage (%)
Compound word	Noun	645	56,08
	Verb	01	0,08
	Adjective	06	0,52
Total		652/1150	

Among 652 terminologies composed of a compound word, 645 terminologies are nouns (56.08%), for example: *catwalk*, *ankle boots*..., there are six terminologies are adjectives (0.52%): *handmade*, *secondhand*, etc. and one terminology is verb: *tie-dye*, accounting for 0.08%.

Among fashion terminologies in English are compound words, nouns still account for a large number; while verbs and adjectives appear in insignificant proportions.

4.2.3. The fashion terminology in English composed of a derivative word

Fashion terminologies (derivative words) only exist in English language. *Fashion terminologies composed of derivative words with a prefix* is formed by a combination of a root and a prefix. For example: *monochrome* = mono + chrome, *multicolor* = multi + color... *Fashion terminologies composed of derivative words with a suffix* is formed by a combination of a root and a suffix, namely *stylist* = style + ist, *collection* = collect+ ion, *backless* = back + less, *classic* = class + ic. *Fashion terminologies composed of derivative words with both a prefix and a suffix* is formed by a combination of a root, a prefix and a suffix, namely *monochromatic* = mono + chromate + ic

Table 6: Word classes of fashion terminologies in English composed of a derivative word

Terminology	Word class	Number of terminologies	Percentage (%)
Derivative word (with a prefix)	Noun	04	0,34
	Noun	23	2,0
Derivative word (with a suffix)	Adjective	11	0,95

Derivative word (with both a prefix and a suffix)	Adjective	01	0,08
Total		39/1150	

The survey data in Table 6 shows the presence of four terminologies that are derivatives with prefixes, 34 terminologies are derivatives with suffixes, and 01 terminology is a derivative word with both prefixes and suffixes.

The fashion terminologies in English is a derivative word with a prefix formed by a combination of a free morpheme (original word) and a prefix. According table 6, there are four derivative words with prefix (0.34%), all of which are nouns, for example: *monochrome = mono + chrome, multicolor = multi + color... .*

The fashion terminologies in English is a derivative word (with a suffix) is composed of a combination of a free morpheme (the word root) and a suffix. According Table 6, there are 34 derivative words with suffix, including 23 nouns (2%), for example: *stylist (designer)= style + ist, collection (collection)= collect + ion...*, and eleven adjectives (0.95%), for example: *backless = back + less, classic = class + ic....*

The fashion terminologies in English is a derivative word (with both a prefix and a suffix) is composed by a combination of 01 main element combined with 01 prefix and 01 suffix. Accordingly, we surveyed 01 English terminology composed of a derivative word (adjective) with both a prefix and a suffix (0.08%): *monochromatic = mono + chromate + ic.*

4.2.4. *The fashion terminologies in English composed of a nominal phrase*

In English, a nominal phrase is formed by a combination of words. A nominal phrase is also called a word combination or a phrase. According to the survey, fashion terminologies in English composed of nominal phrases are noun phrases, for example: *wide spread collar, waist tie dress...* However, there is no fashion terminology composed of a nominal verb phrase or a nominal adjective phrase

A fashion terminology (a nominal phrase) makes up at least two terminology elements. The survey results show that there is a relatively high rate of nominal phrases among fashion terminologies in English.

Table 7: Word classes of fashion terminologies in English composed of a nominal phrase

Terminology	Word class	Number of terminologies	Percentage (%)
Nominal phrase	Noun phrase	316	27,47

	Verb phrase	0	0
	Adjective phrase	0	0
Tổng		316/1150	

According to table 7, a nominal phrase in English contains up to four terminology elements. For example: *belted jacket*= belted/jacket, *minimal pleat* = minimal/pleat, *double breasted coat* = double/breasted/cat, *espadrille wedge sandals* = espadrille/wedge/sandals, *hidden button down collar* = hidden/button/down/collar; *multicolor maxi dress* = multi/color/maxi/dress...

4.3. Structural features of fashion terminology in English in terms of the origin of terminology elements

According to the survey, we found that some fashion terminologies in English are made from the origins of Latin, Greek and old English.

- * The origin of Latin language: *anima-*; *aqua-*; *semi-*; *bi-*; *form-*; *-able*; *-ible*; *neutr-*;
- * The origin of Greek language: *mono-*; *graph-*; *-ism*; *-ist* ;
- * The origin of old English: *-less*; *min-* ;

The origin of fashion terminologies in English have been performed in table 8 as follows:

Table 8: The origin of fashion terminologies in English

	Origin	Example	Number of terminologies
1.	<i>Latin language</i>		
	<i>Anima</i>	<i>animal print</i>	01
	<i>Aqua</i>	<i>aquamarine</i>	01
	<i>Semi</i>	<i>semi-circular skirt</i>	01
	<i>Bi</i>	<i>bifold long wallet purse</i>	01
	<i>Form</i>	<i>flatform</i>	08
	<i>Able</i>	<i>fashionable</i>	04
	<i>Neutr</i>	<i>neutral heels</i>	01
2.	<i>Geek language</i>		

	<i>Mono</i>	<i>monochromatic</i>	03
	<i>Graph</i>	<i>graphic gown</i>	03
	<i>Ism</i>	<i>minimalism</i>	01
	<i>Ist</i>	<i>Stylist</i>	01
3.	<i>Old English language</i>		
	<i>Less</i>	<i>sleeveless</i>	10
	<i>Min</i>	<i>mini skirt</i>	09
4	<i>English language</i>	<i>dress, runway</i>	1106
Tổng			1150

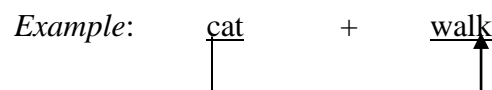
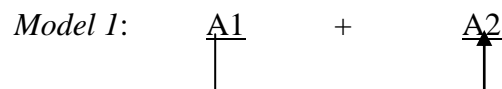
Thus, modern English, which is widely used today, has undergone a long history of development and is a combination and interference of many other languages in the world.

4.4. Đặc điểm cấu tạo thuật ngữ thời trang tiếng Anh xét từ mô hình cấu tạo

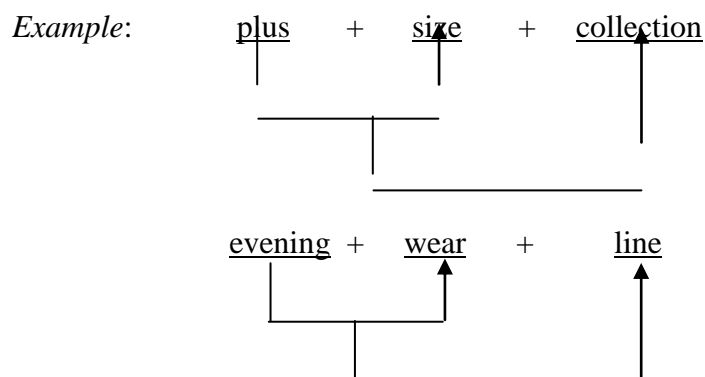
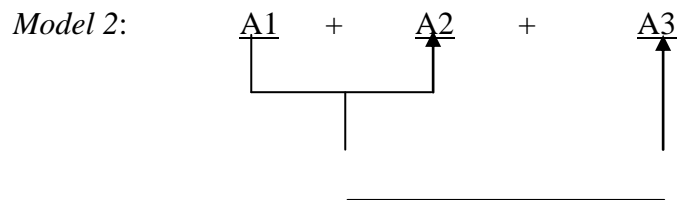
Structural model of the terminology is the combination of terminology elements form the fashion terminologies in English. The typical structural model of fashion terminology in English have been described in the paper. Structural models are used to describe terms that are composed of two or more elements, including compound words, derivative words, and nominal phrase. These structural models are capable of generating many new terms, contributing to the development of fashion terminology in both languages.

To conduct the analysis of structural models of fashion terminology, we call a structural element A. The structural elements will have the corresponding signs A1, A2, A3...An respectively.

4.4.1. Structural models of fashion terminologies in English composed of compound words

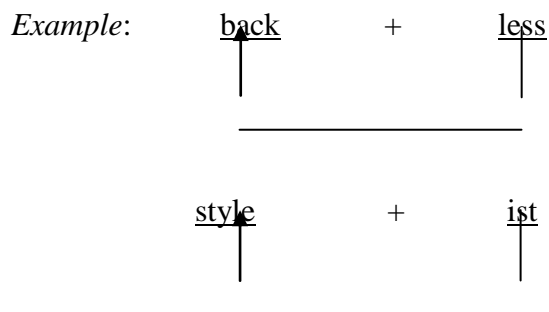


Model 1 describes the structure of fashion terminologies composed of compound words which consist of two terminology elements. For example: *catwalk*, *ankle boots* ...

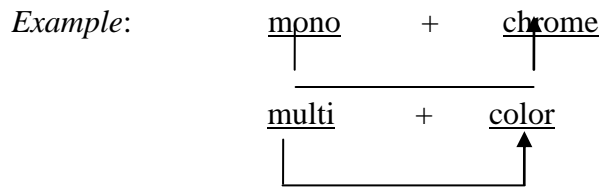
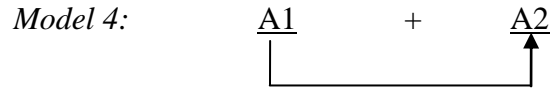


Model 2 describes the structure of fashion terminologies composed of compound words. For example: *plus size collection*, *eveningwear line*

4.4.2. Structural models of fashion terminologies in English composed of derivative words

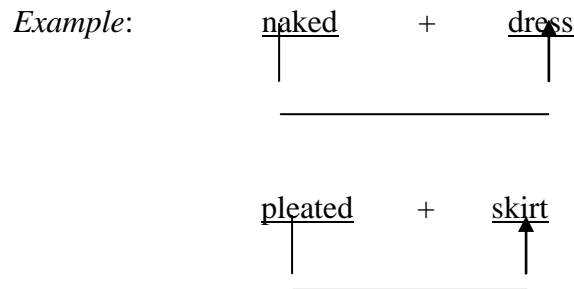
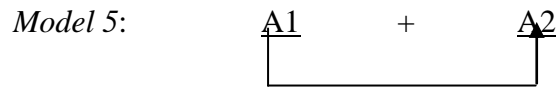


Model 3 describes the structure of fashion terminologies composed of derivative words with a suffix. For example: *backless*, *stylist*....

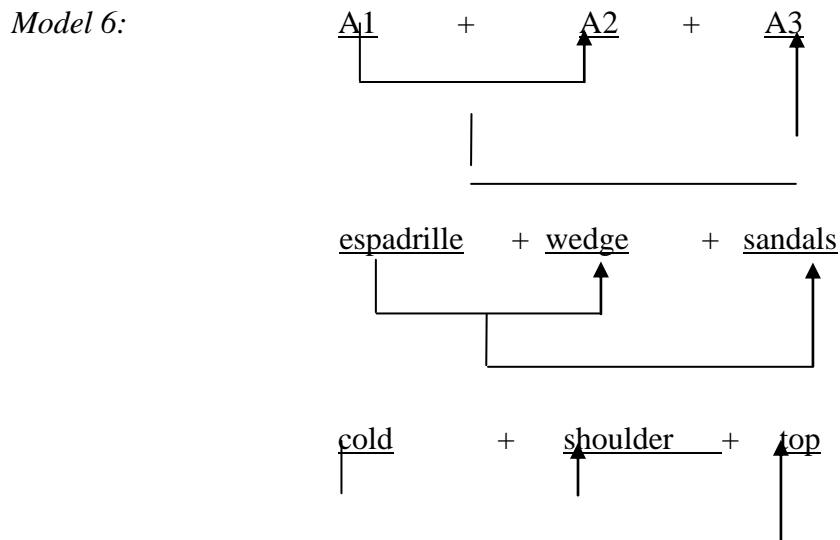


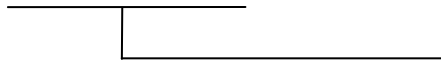
Model 4 describes the structure of fashion terminologies composed of derivative words with a prefix. For example: *monochrome*, *multicolor*...

4.4.3. Structural models of fashion terminologies composed of nominal phrases

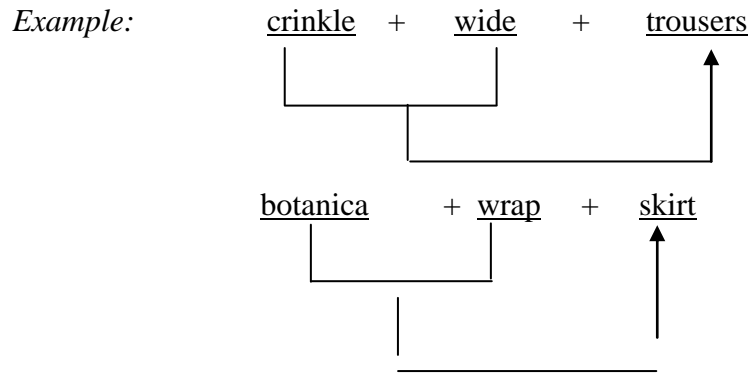
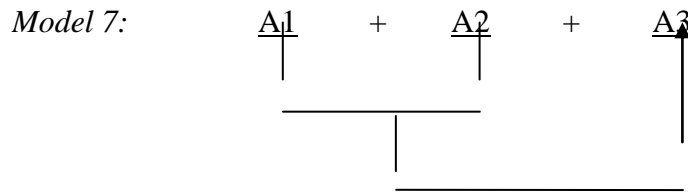


Model 5 describes the structure of fashion terminologies composed of nominal phrases including two terminology elements. For example: *naked dress*, *pleated skirt* ...

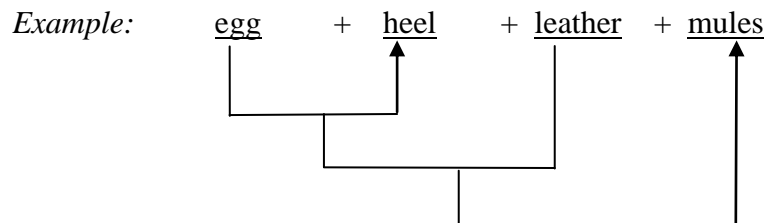
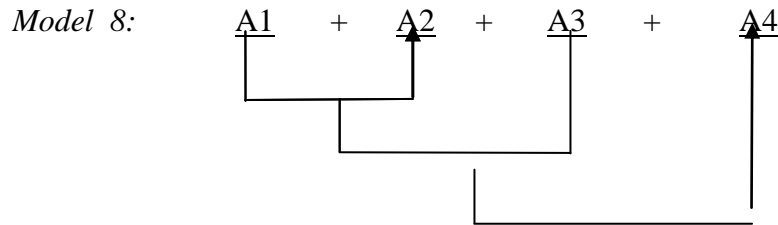


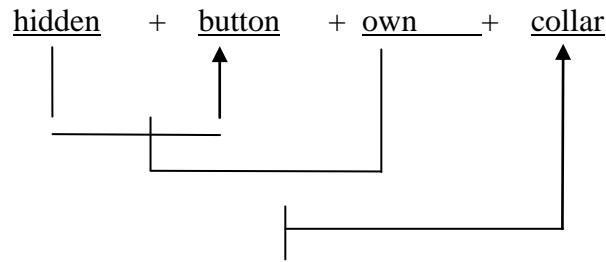


Model 6 describes the structure of fashion terminologies composed of nominal phrases including three terminology elements. For example: *espadrille wedge sandals*, *cold shoulder top*



Model 7 describes the structure of fashion terminologies composed of nominal phrases including three terminology elements. For example: *crinkle wide trousers*, *botanica wrap skirt*,





Model 8 describes the structure of fashion terminologies composed of nominal phrases including four terminology elements. For example: *hidden button down collar, egg heel leather mules....*

5. Discussion

5.1. In terms of number of terminology elements

Fashion terminologies in English have the longest structure of four terminology elements which provide the fashion terminologies in English with the best accuracy.

5.2. In terms of terminology formation methods and word classes

Compounding is the most common word formation method in English and Vietnamese. In addition, fashion terminologies in English are formed by other methods such as abbreviation and adding affix (prefix or suffix). Fashion terminologies in both languages are composed of single words, compound words and nominal phrases. However, there exist some abbreviated terminologies and some derivative words formed by adding an affix to a root.

5.3. In terms of origin of terminology elements

In English, some fashion terminologies are made from the origins of Latin, Greek and old English.

5.4. In terms of structural model

The fashion terminology system in English is mainly structured according to a model consisting of a main element and a minor element(s). The main element indicates the word class and the sub-element adds auxiliary meaning to the main element. The main-subordinate structure model has produced the most fashionable terms in English. This structural model always ensures the brevity and systematicity of the terminology because a main element (associated with the basic concept) is supplemented by minor element(s) (associated with the features, properties or features of the object) will likely derive many new terminologies.

6. Conclusion

The paper described and analyzed the structural features of fashion terminologies in English in terms of the following aspects: number of terminology elements, terminology formation methods and word classes, origin of terminology elements and structural model. Since then, some of the most specific comments and assessments about structural features of fashion terminologies in English are presented as follows:

In terms of number of terminology elements: Fashion terminologies in English have the longest structure of four terminology elements which provide the fashion terminologies in English with the best accuracy.

In terms of terminology formation methods and word classes: Compounding is the most common word formation method in English and Vietnamese. In addition, fashion terminologies in English are formed by other methods such as abbreviation and adding affix (prefix or suffix). Fashion terminologies in English are composed of single words, compound words and nominal phrases. However, there exist some abbreviated terminologies and some derivative words formed by adding an affix to a root.

In terms of origin of terminology elements: In English, some fashion terminologies are made from the origins of Latin, Greek and old English.

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