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**AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE REALISATION OF
“ĂN” AS A CATEGORY IN VIETNAMESE IDIOMS IN
RELATION TO “MEOKDA” IN KOREAN IDIOMS,
UNDER THE LENSE OF COGNITIVE LINGUISTICS**

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THESIS SUMMARY

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**LIST OF SCIENTIFIC WORKS PUBLISHED BY THE
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2. Hoàng Phan Thanh Nga (2021), “Metaphors and metonymies about life in some idioms containing the element ‘eat’ in Vietnamese - relation to Korean”, *Korean Journal* 4 (38), pp.75-81.
3. Hoàng Phan Thanh Nga (2022), “Study of idioms with the element ‘eat’ in Vietnamese and the element ‘mok-ta’ in Korean from a cognitive linguistics perspective”, *Korean Journal* 3 (41), pp.29-37.

INTRODUCTION

1. Reasons for choosing the topic

From the perspective of cognitive linguistics in Lakoff & Johnson (1980), idioms are products of our cognitive system and idioms are not just a matter of language. An idiom is not just an expression with a special meaning in the linguistic relationship with the elements put together, but it originates from our background knowledge about the world. According to Kovecses & Szabo (1996), there is much evidence to suggest that it is the cognitive domain, not the individual words, that creates idioms. Individual words only reveal a deeper process of cognition. “In other words, idioms are essentially a matter of cognition, not a matter of language.” [112, p.330]. Based on these foundations, the thesis chooses to study the semantic field “ăn” (eat) in Vietnamese idioms from a cognitive linguistics perspective. The study of the semantic field “eat” in Vietnamese idioms is placed in relation to the semantic field “meokda” in Korean idioms, which can connect semantic fields, reflect and create a larger picture, helping us to discover some similarities and differences, thereby enriching our understanding of the semantic field “eat”.

2. Research object and scope

The research object of the thesis is the semantic field “ăn” (eat) expressed in idioms containing the element “ăn” (eat) in Vietnamese according to the theory of cognitive linguistics, in relation to the semantic field “meokda” in Korean idioms containing the element “meokda” (eat).

The thesis focuses on one-way comparative research (related) on the semantic field “ăn” in Vietnamese idioms and Korean idioms in terms of: conceptual metaphor, conceptual metonymy, based on the cognitive linguistics theory of Lakoff & Johnson (1980), the Idealized Cognitive Model (ICM) of Lakoff (1987) with the data scope being idioms containing the element “ăn”(eat) in Vietnamese and idioms containing the element “meokda” in Korean.

3. Research objectives and tasks

The objective of the thesis is to research, compare one-way (related) to clarify the characteristics of conceptual metaphor, cognitive metonymy, and the idealized cognitive models of the semantic field “eat” in Vietnamese idioms in relation to the semantic field “meokda” in Korean idioms..

The thesis carries out tasks to ensure the achievement of research objectives: collecting, classifying and analyzing linguistic data on idioms containing the element “ăn”(eat) in Vietnamese and idioms containing the element “meokda” in Korean. Next, based on the basic theoretical framework, the thesis finds expressions of ADTN and HDTN, from which to build idealized cognitive models.

4. Research methods and approaches

The thesis intends to use the descriptive analysis method to carry out research tasks with statistical, classification and conceptual analysis techniques. The thesis chooses the main approaches to be qualitative research, combined with quantitative in some research contents.

5. Contributions of the thesis

This is the first study on the category of “eating” in Vietnamese idioms with the element “eating”, related to the category of “meokda” in Korean idioms with the element “meokda”. The thesis goes deep into analyzing the cognitive metaphors, cognitive metonymies and constructing the idealized cognitive models. In addition, the thesis also explores the phenomenon of blending between cognitive metaphor and cognitive metonymy in the same linguistic expression, which is an issue that has not received much attention.

6. Structure of the thesis

In addition to the Introduction, Conclusion, References and necessary Appendices, the thesis consists of 4 chapters as follows:

- 1/ Chapter 1: Overview of research and theoretical basis
- 2/ Chapter 2: The mechanism of conceptual transfer of “eating” in Vietnamese, related to Korean.
- 3/ Chapter 3: Cognitive metonymy in idioms containing the element “eating” of Vietnamese, related to Korean.
- 4/ Chapter 4: Cognitive metaphor in idioms containing the element “eating” of Vietnamese, related to Korean.

CONTENT

CHAPTER 1. OVERVIEW OF RESEARCH

1.1. INTRODUCTION

1.2. OVERVIEW OF RESEARCH SITUATION

1.2.1. Domestic research

1.2.1.1. Studies on the category of “ăn” (eat) in Vietnamese

There have been some domestic research works related to the word “eating”, including some comparative studies with foreign languages. These works mainly focus on vocabulary - semantics, functional grammar such as: Nguyen Thi Huong (2016), Ngo Minh Nguyet (2018); studies on cognitive semantics, category - concept such as: Nguyen Thi Bich Hop (2015); studies on cognitive grammar such as: Nguyen Thi Huong (2017), ...

1.2.1.2. Studies on Vietnamese idioms from the perspective of cognitive linguistics

The studies on idioms in the country are quite diverse from the aspects of structure, semantics or syntax such as: Cu Dinh Tu (1994), Nguyen Thien Giap 1996), (2009), ...; studies on the origin of idioms such as: Do Huu Chau (1986), Nguyen Duc Dan (1986), Hoang Van Hanh (1987), ... and comparative studies such as: Le Thi Huong (2009), Manh Tri Dong (2019), ...

Recently, research works on idioms under the perspective of cognitive linguistics have begun to increase such as: Nguyen Ngoc Vu (2008), Tran Ba Tien (2012), Vi Truong Phuc (2007), Nguyen Thi Kim Anh (2016), Tran The Phi (2016), Phan Phuong Thanh (2019), Hoang Phan Thanh Nga (2021), (2022), ...

Thus, so far, there has been no comprehensive and comprehensive study on the category of “eating” within the scope of idioms with the element “eating”. The thesis hopes, with its research objectives, through the research methods, the thesis

will explore deeper the category of “eating” and the concepts related to “eating” placed in the linguistic expressions that are Vietnamese idioms.

1.2.2. Foreign research

1.2.2.1. Studies on the category of “meokda”(eat) in Korean

The studies related to “meokda” are very diverse on many aspects. The studies on the aspect of traditional grammar such as the research work “A study of Semantic and Functional Change of the Korean Verb “eat” (먹다 [mek-ta])” by 이양혜 (Lee Yang Hye) (2012); studies on the aspect of semantics such as comparative studies of the polysemous word “meokda” of Korean with the word ‘吃’ (ngāt) of Chinese by 장웨이췌 (Jang Wei Lee Sein) (2012), comparative studies of “meokda” with “eating” of Vietnamese placed in the theory of frame (frame) and parameters of Hoang Phan Thanh Nga (2013), Ahn Myong Chul, Hoang Phan Thanh Nga (2013), ...

The study of “meokda” at the aspect of cognitive linguistics of Korea is still quite new and the number of research works is relatively modest. It is possible to mention the study on “Conceptual Metaphorical Extensions of ‘Eat’ and ‘Drink’ in English and Korean” by Kim Jong Bok, Kim Jungsoo, Kim Rok (2018), the study on the word “meokda” and compound words with the element “meokda” by 안혁 (Ahn Hyug) (2022), ...

1.2.2.2. Research on Korean idioms from a cognitive linguistic perspective

The research on Korean idioms from a cognitive linguistic perspective can mention the works of 이동기 (Lee Dong Kee) (1997), 김양옥 (Kim Yang Ok) (2003), 심지연 (Sim Ji Yeon) (2009), 최지훈 (Choi Ji Hoon) (2010), ... The in-depth studies on cognitive metaphors and metonymies within the scope of Korean idioms in comparison with English, Chinese, ... are also quite diverse. For example, the study of 김수인 (Kim Su In) (2014) compares conceptual metaphors related to “meokda” in Korean and English, the study of Wang Yu Ling (2017) on idioms expressing sadness in Korean and Chinese, focusing on metonymic expressions with body parts, the study of 조근학 (Jo Gun Hak) (2017) on idioms expressing “joy” in Korean by the theory of cognitive metaphors and metonymies.

Thus, until now, the research on the category “meokda” and the research on idioms with the element “meokda” have achieved relatively important results, raising linguistic issues related to “meokda”. However, conceptual metaphors and metonymies in Korean idioms with the element “meokda” have not yet been clearly studied. In particular, the construction of idealized cognitive models for conceptual metaphors or metonymies as well as the in-depth analysis of the blending phenomenon of conceptual metaphors and metonymies in the same linguistic expression are not available.

1.3. THEORETICAL BASIS

The research aspects of the thesis are developed in the spirit of cognitive linguistics. The thesis chooses to introduce the following related aspects.

1.3.1. Idioms

1.3.1.1. Idioms from the perspective of traditional linguistics

1.3.1.2. Idioms from the perspective of cognitive linguistics

For a long time, the view that the meaning of idioms cannot be predicted based on the meaning of the constituent elements of traditional linguistics became the guideline for many research works on idioms in the country and the world. However, Lakoff & Johnson (1980) showed that expressions with idiomatic characteristics are related to the cognitive process and have a systematic nature. The authors also denied the explanation of dead metaphors and raised the issue that the metaphorical meaning of idioms is formed from the metaphorical knowledge that humans possess and idioms can be studied systematically. Most idioms are not just a matter of language but a product of the human conceptual system. In most cases, the meaning of idioms is something that can be explained by human experience and knowledge of the world.

1.3.2. Cognitive linguistics

1.3.2.1. The concept of “cognition”

1.3.2.2. Cognitive linguistics

1.3.2.3. Concepts and conceptualization

1.3.2.4. Categories and categorization

1.3.2.5. Embodiment

1.3.2.6. Radial categories

1.3.2.7. Cognitive metaphors

Cognitive metaphors are a cognitive mechanism, distinguished from rhetorical metaphors of traditional linguistics. If rhetorical metaphors are a figurative way of speaking based on the similarity between two things, phenomena, then cognitive metaphors are a way of thinking, a tool to conceptualize the world. According to Lakoff and Johnson (1980), cognitive metaphors are systematic cognitive mappings between two conceptual domains: the source domain is an experiential category that maps onto the target domain - another experiential domain. The source domain is concrete, physical, clear, derived from our everyday experience. The target domain is abstract, non-physical, unclear, and is an unstructured experience. In other words, cognitive metaphors are a cognitive mechanism that conceptualizes from a familiar source domain to an unfamiliar target domain.

According to Lakoff & Johnson (1980), cognitive metaphors have three main types as follows:

- Structural metaphors
- Ontological metaphors
- Orientational metaphors

1.3.2.8. Metonymic metonymy

Cognitive linguistics accepts a part of the view that metonymy is a phenomenon of changing names, but it is one of the characteristics of cognition in which the rule of projection from one entity to another entity in the same conceptual domain is used. According to Lakoff & Johnson (1980), metonymic metonymy is also similar to metaphorical metonymy, which is a cognitive mechanism. Kovecses & Radden (1998) defined “metonymy is a cognitive process in which a conceptual entity (means) provides mental access (aspect) to another conceptual entity (target) in the same domain or the same idealized cognitive model” [113, p.39].

The author Norrick (1981) distinguished 18 types of metonymy related to 18 different metonymic principles, including six main groups: Cause - Effect, Action - Main Participants, Part - Whole, Container - Contained, Experience - Convention, Owner - Owned. (Cited from Ta Thanh Tan (2012), [44, pp.10-11])

1.3.2.9. Distinguishing between metaphorical metonymy and metonymic metonymy

1.3.2.10. Interaction of metaphor and metonymy

Studies often focus on analyzing metaphorical metonymy or metonymic metonymy separately and independently. In reality, in many cases, they interact with each other and appear together in a linguistic expression. Goossens (1995) distinguished four basic types of metaphors as follows:

- Metaphor from metonymy
- Metonymy within metaphor
- Metaphor withn metonymy
- Metaphonymization in a metaphorical context

1.3.2.11. Idealized cognitive model

The idealized cognitive model (ICM) originated from cognitive linguistics through the views on the theory of metaphor and metonymy of Lakoff & Johnson (1980), followed by the view on the structure of sentences as “frames” (frame semantics) in semantics of Fillmore (1985), then the theory of mental spaces of Fauconnier (1987) and finally the view on cognitive grammar of Langacker (1987). Lakoff (1987) argued that the idealized cognitive model is created in human cognition, not existing in the real world. Each ICM creates our mental space with the elements: propositional structure, image-schematic structure, metaphoric mapping and metonymic mapping.

1.4. SUMMARY

CHAPTER 2. THE MECHANISM OF CONCEPTUAL TRANSFER OF “EAT” IN VIETNAMESE, RELATED TO KOREAN

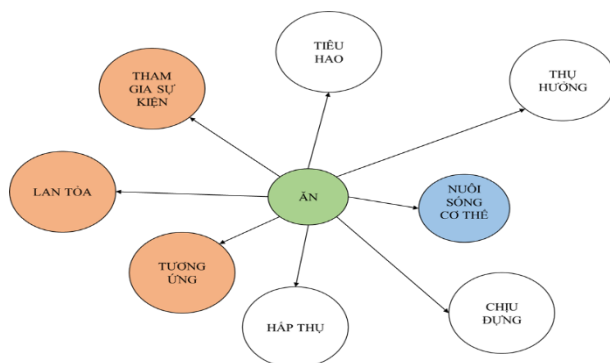
2.1. INTRODUCTION

2.2. SEMANTIC STRUCTURE OF THE WORD “EAT” IN VIETNAMESE, RELATED TO KOREAN

2.3. CONCEPTUAL TRANSFER OF “EAT” IN VIETNAMESE, RELATED TO KOREAN

Evans & Green (2006) argued that the approaches of cognitive semantics to word meaning differ from both the traditional and the recent formal approaches to word meaning, especially in developing the argument that polysemy is a phenomenon that is essentially conceptual and that the structure of vocabulary at the mental level determines the phenomenon of polysemy as it is seen in language use. Based on that, we analyze the semantic features and identify the mechanism of meaning transfer of the word “eat” and we construct the radial diagram of “eat” as follows.

Figure 2.1. Radial diagram of “eat”

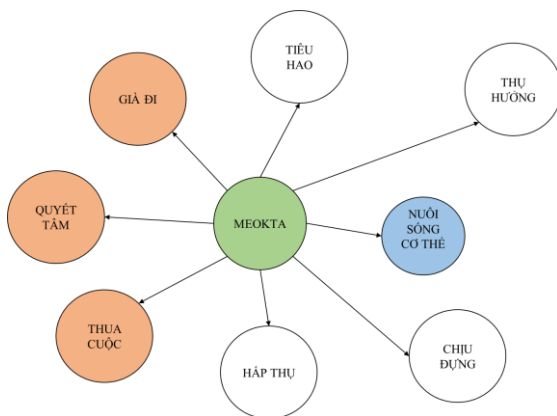


2.4. RELATION TO KOREAN

The word “meokda” in Korean is a polysemous word, with one basic meaning and 18 derived meanings. From the

perspective of cognitive linguistics, we find that “meokda” has 9 concepts, of which 8 are target concepts, which are projections from the source concept of “meokda” as in the following ray diagram.

Figure 2.2. Ray diagram of “meokda”



In addition to the concepts similar to “eat”, “meokda” has some different concepts: GET OLD, DETERMINED, LOSE.

2.5. CONCLUSION

CHAPTER 3. COGNITIVE METAPHORS IN IDIOMS CONTAINING THE ELEMENT “EAT” OF VIETNAMESE, RELATED TO KOREAN

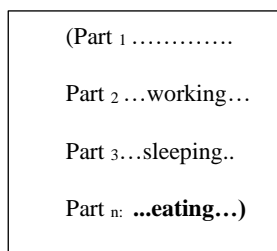
3.1. INTRODUCTION

3.2. EAT REPRESENTS LIFE

After surveying and analyzing the Vietnamese idioms containing the element “eat”, we found a relatively large number of idioms expressing different aspects of human life. We

construct the idealized cognitive model of the concept EAT REPRESENTS LIFE from the perspective of CM as follows.

Figure 3.1. ICM of CM EAT REPRESENTS LIFE



The source concept EAT is mapped onto the target concept LIFE by the structures of the characteristics, the objects related to “eat” to express different states of life. According to <Figure 3.1>, it can be seen that “ăn”(eating) is a basic activity of human beings, among many activities that human beings perform every day. And if we look at it from the perspective that: the action of “ăn” (eating) is a part that constitutes the “life” of human beings. In “life”, human beings perform countless actions to maintain, nourish and develop their own lives. From that perspective, we can see ĂN(EATING) REPRESENTS LIFE according to the mechanism A PART STANDS FOR A WHOLE ([132:178].

3.2.1. Attribute “peaceful”

3.2.2. Attribute “prosperous”

3.2.3. Attribute “idle, parasitic”

3.2.4. Attribute “hard”

3.2.5. Attribute “poor”

3.2.6. Attribute “power”

3.2.7. Relation to Korean

We have studied and screened 131 idioms containing the element “meokda” in Korean. Among them, there are 22 idioms that express the projection from the source domain MEOKDA to the target domain LIFE. However, the projection mechanism between the two source and target domains in the case of these 22 idioms is not entirely the projection according to the mechanism of CM, but CM, AM and the combination of both mechanisms.

3.2.7.1. Attribute “prosperous”

3.2.7.2. Attribute “poor”

3.2.7.3. Attribute “idle”

3.2.7.4. Attribute “power”

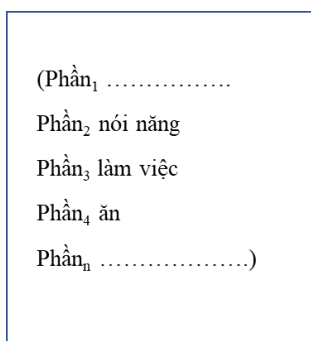
3.2.7.5. Other attributes

3.3. EAT REPRESENTS BEHAVIOR

In the process of collecting and analyzing data on idioms containing the element “eat” in Vietnamese, the thesis found some idioms that use the behavior of “eating” to refer to other behaviors of human beings in society. These are “speaking”, “working”, “hiding”, “wandering”, ... A common point that can be seen in the idioms containing the element “eat” is that the

behavior of “eating” represents other behaviors, mainly negative. From a basic behavior to sustain the body, bring life to human beings - a positive behavior, through the lens of projection of cognitive linguistics, the behavior of “eating” represents the negative behaviors, depicting a picture of the “bad” behavior of human beings. We identify this as CM ĂN REPRESENTS BEHAVIOR, according to the cognitive model: A PART STANDS FOR ANOTHER PART ([114, p.178]).

Figure 3.8. ICM of CM ĂN (EATING) REPRESENTS BEHAVIOR



3.3.1. Attribute “speaking”

3.3.2. Attribute “working”

3.3.3. Other attributes

3.3.4. Relation to Korean

Among the 131 idioms containing the element “meokda” in Korean, the thesis found 10 idioms that project from the source domain MEOKDA to the target domain BEHAVIOR.

3.3.4.1. Attribute “speaking”**3.3.4.2. Attribute “working”****3.3.4.3. Other attributes****3.4. CONCLUSION**

**CHAPTER 4. COGNITIVE METAPHORS IN IDIOMS
CONTAINING THE ELEMENT “EAT” OF
VIETNAMESE, RELATED TO KOREAN**

4.1. INTRODUCTION**4.2. PERSONALITY IS ĂN (EATING)**

Through the analysis of Vietnamese idioms containing the element “ăn”, we have realized that there are many idioms that use the element “ăn” to project and highlight the attributes of human personality. The common point of these projections is the use of cognitive metaphor mappings as tools to form new concepts. The author has built a model of mapping the attributes of the concept ĂN to the concept PERSONALITY as follows.

4.2.1. Attribute “greedy”**4.2.2. Attribute “inclusive”****4.2.3. Attribute “patient”****4.2.4. Attribute “ungrateful”****4.2.5. Attribute “jealous”****4.2.6. Attribute “cruel”****4.2.7. Relation to Korean**

Among the 131 idioms containing the element “meokda” of Korean, there are not many idioms that represent the personality of human beings. We found a prominent and unique personality trait that idioms containing the element “meokda” express, which is cruelty: PERSONALITY [cruel] IS MEOKDA. This cruelty stems from linguistic expressions related to looting, taking away other people’s things, and turning them into one’s own.

4.3. CONCLUSION

CONCLUSION

1. Through the cognitive theoretical framework and the overview of research situation in Chapter 1 and by using specific research methods presented in Chapter 2, we have approached the research of the category “eat” in Vietnamese from the perspective of structure - semantics to cognition, to thereby clarify the mechanism of conceptual transfer of “eat” of the category “eat” and compare it with the category “meokda” in Korean. In both languages, “eat” and “meokda” both show quite diverse conceptual transfers. From the source concept EAT which is “putting food into the body to sustain the body”, the target concepts are created: ĂN REPRESENTS PARTICIPATING IN EVENTS (ăn cưới), CONSUMPTION IS ĂN(EATING) (xe ăn xăng), ENJOYMENT IS ĂN(EATING) (ăn hồi lộ), ENDURANCE IS ĂN(EATING) (ăn đòn), ABSORPTION IS ĂN(EATING) (da ăn phấn), SPREADING IS ĂN (EATING) (đất ăn về xã bên), CORRESPONDENCE IS ĂN (EATING) (một đồng won ăn 20 đồng Việt Nam). Here we find 5/8 concepts similar in the category “ăn” (eat) and the category

“meokda”. Thus, from one perspective, the linguistic thinking as well as the living context of the people of the two countries have many similarities, so that from a behavior of “putting food into the body”, through the human cognition of human beings, society and the world, new concepts are born.

In chapters 3 and 4, the dissertation analyzed the idioms containing the element “ăn” in Vietnamese and the element “meokda” in Korean. The survey showed that among 313 idioms containing the element “ăn”, there are 63 idioms representing the concept of LIFE, 9 idioms representing the concept of BEHAVIOR from the perspective of metonymic cognition and 44 idioms representing the concept of PERSONALITY from the perspective of metaphoric cognition. The dissertation also surveyed that among 131 idioms containing the element “meokda”, there are 22 idioms representing the concept of LIFE, 9 idioms representing the concept of BEHAVIOR and 4 idioms representing the concept of PERSONALITY. These numbers cannot summarize all the concepts represented by the idioms in both languages through the path of cognitive linguistics. However, the dissertation has discovered interesting things in each idiom, in each concept. Everywhere, cultural factors, historical space are the basis for using very ordinary linguistic materials, people of both nations have “assembled” vividly, creatively the linguistic expressions in which each concept reflects the way of thinking, the way of reasoning, the imprint of

human life of each nation. Clearly, from a typical and basic behavior of human beings - the behavior of “eating”, sometimes by the path of metonymic cognition, sometimes by the path of metaphoric cognition, and even sometimes by the combination of both metonymic and metaphoric cognition, relatively many idioms are formed, depicting a vivid picture of life in which there are cultural features, values as deep marks in the language of each nation..

2. In his research, the author can affirm: by the behavior of “ăn”, by projecting the mappings of cognitive linguistics, we have important concepts: ĂN(EATING) REPRESENTS LIFE, ĂN (EATING) REPRESENTS BEHAVIOR and PERSONALITY IS ĂN (EATING). In other words, through the survey and analysis of idioms containing the element “eat” in Vietnamese and the element “meokda” in Korean from the perspective of cognitive linguistics, the dissertation has contributed some results as mentioned. Among those results, there are 3 major relationships summarized:

(1) [THE COGNITIVE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LIFE AND ĂN (EATING) ACTIVITY]

(2) [THE COGNITIVE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BEHAVIOR AND ĂN (EATING) ACTIVITY]

(3) [THE COGNITIVE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PERSONALITY AND ĂN (EATING) ACTIVITY]

These relationships are vividly expressed through the source and target domains, the conceptual metonymies and metaphors. The path of the cognitive mappings here is: “eating is absorbing, eating is enduring, eating is enjoying” then the next process of that mechanism must answer the question: “how will one become after absorbing/enduring/enjoying?”. All changes in human beings start from the question of “what do you absorb?”, “what will happen after enduring?” and “what is the result of enjoying?”. And “eating” or “meokda” is the starting behavior of that chain of change in human beings. From there, human beings create for themselves a living space, a living context and more broadly a life according to the way they receive: LIFE [prosperous], LIFE [idle], LIFE [hard], LIFE [poor], LIFE [powerful], ... Also from there, human personality is formed and developed: PERSONALITY [greedy], PERSONALITY [inclusive], PERSONALITY [patient], PERSONALITY [ungrateful], PERSONALITY [jealous], PERSONALITY [cruel]. An interesting point is that all the concepts of human personality in both idioms containing the element “eat” and idioms containing the element “meokda”, mostly are negative traits. The behavior of “eating” or food, a bite is the most basic thing to maintain human life, for human survival. The agricultural life of the Vietnamese and Korean people in the past may be the root for the people of the two nations to have such a humble view of “a bite”. People can sacrifice their own dignity for survival: “A bite is a

bite of shame”. Perhaps that is why, the concepts of human personality related to the behavior of “eating/meokda” in both languages only highlight the negative traits, worthy of being condemned in society. Certainly, more in-depth studies on the psychological characteristics of the nation, historical context, cultural values, ... are needed to make these concepts clearer. Through this study, in addition to the academic values we have gained, we also learned a great lesson: “eating” / a bite can be the basic thing for human existence, but not everything to form human life, personality. There are many more spiritual values that are great and precious that we need to preserve.

3. In fact, through the process of teaching foreign languages, the author realizes his limitations in the process of conveying the language knowledge of Korean to learners because language is not simply words. Language contains a deep and wide cultural treasure of the nation. Now, thanks to the approach of cognitive linguistics, specifically metaphorical cognition and metonymic cognition, we easily convey language knowledge to learners in a more interesting and profound way..

4. In this dissertation, the author realizes that there are some issues that need to be studied more deeply, such as: need to survey more idioms in everyday life that dictionaries of Vietnam and Korea have not fully listed; need to analyze more thoroughly the influence between the source and target domains of the concepts; need to study more deeply the combination and interaction of metaphorical cognition and metonymic cognition

on the same research data. These are also the research directions that can follow this dissertation in the future.

5. Finally, based on the research results of Chapter 3 and Chapter 4, we construct the radial diagram of the category “ăn” (eat) and the category “meokda” within the scope of Vietnamese idioms containing the element “ăn” (eat) and Korean idioms containing the element “meokda”. Clearly, the radial diagram of the category “ăn” (eat) and the category “meokda” within the scope of words studied in Chapter 2 is the premise for forming the category “eat” and the category “meokda” within the scope of idioms. There are some concepts at the word level that are not found at the idiom level, and vice versa, some new concepts only exist at the idiom level, not appearing at the word level. The expressive and general nature of idioms plays an important role in narrowing or expanding concepts from the word level to the idiom level.

Figure 5.1. Radial diagram of the category “ăn” (eat) surveyed within the scope of Vietnamese idioms containing the element “ăn”.

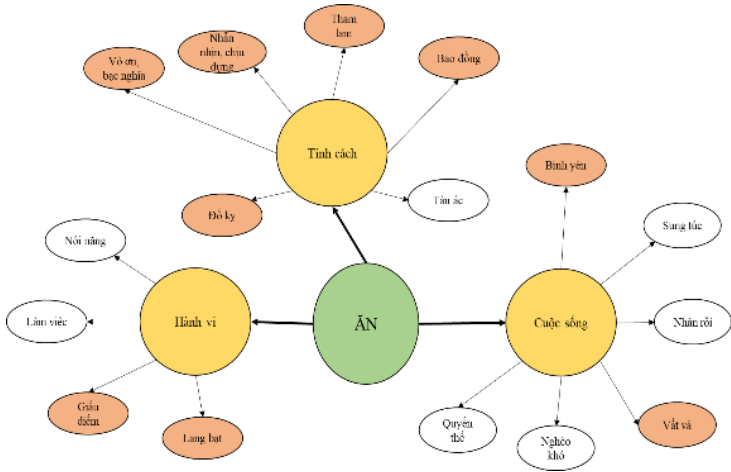
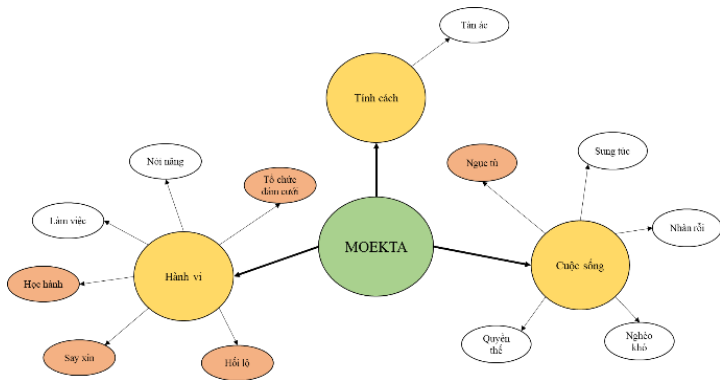


Figure 5.2. Radial diagram of the category “meokda” (eat) surveyed within the scope of Korean idioms containing the element “meokda” (eat)



We consider the radial diagram of the category “ăn” and the category “meokda” surveyed within the scope of Vietnamese

idioms containing the element “ăn” and Korean idioms containing the element “meokda” as a conclusion for the research that the thesis has implemented since building the theoretical framework, going through the process of surveying, statistics and analysis of linguistic sources, posing research problems and finding solutions for those research problems. Clearly, “ăn” (eat) - from a source concept - has projected the concept of various fields in life and closely related to humans: life, behavior and personality. The thesis considers the connection with Korean as an open path, so that we can see the category “ăn” not only limited in a cultural space, a cognitive context, but placed it in a system of reference with another culture and cognitive context, thereby seeing the similarities and differences in the cognitive thinking of people from different cultures.