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KEY WORD: DISCOURSE MARKER "NA"

PATTAMA VASAVARNOND : DISCOURSE MARKER "NA" IN BANGKOK THAI CASUAL CONVERSATIONS. THESIS ADVISOR : ASSIST. PROF. PEANSIRI VONGVIPANOND, Ph.D. 228 pp. ISBN 974-636-206-2

The objective of this research is to study the distribution, the functions, and the variants of the discourse marker "NA", and to study the co-occurrence of discourse marker "NA" and other discourse markers in Bangkok Thai casual conversations. Data include 60 minutes of casual conversations in Bangkok Thai recorded on audio tapes and transcribed into Thai scripts. Only representations of discourse marker "NA" are transcribed into phonetics scripts. The data consist of 8 conversations in different communicative situations. The theoretical framework in this research is that presented by Schiffrin (1987).

The study shows 27 variants of discourse marker "NA". These variants show the speaker's attitude, mood and the feeling. Moreover, it is found that these 27 variants are in fact variants of 3 discourse markers : $na^{\uparrow 41}_{(1)}$, $na^{\uparrow 41}_{(2)}$ and na^{45} . Discourse markers $na^{\uparrow 41}_{(1)}$ and na^{45} are topic marker and comment marker respectively and function in the plane of ideational structure. Discourse marker $na^{\uparrow 41}_{(2)}$ functions in the plane of information state. It signals the semiactive state of information. Each of the discourse markers "NA" affects the meaning of the turn construction unit which it occurs with. As for the co-occurrence with other discourse markers, discourse marker "NA" can co-occur with other discourse markers in the preceding and the following position except discourse marker $na^{\uparrow 41}_{(1)}$ which can co-occur with other discourse markers only in the preceding position.

ภาควิชา.....ภาษาศาสตร์

สาขาวิชา.....ภาษาศาสตร์

ปีการศึกษา..... 2539

ลายมือชื่อนิติกร..... ปัทมา อสุวานนท์

ลายมือชื่ออาจารย์ที่ปรึกษา..... อ.เปانسิริ วองวิพานนท์

ลายมือชื่ออาจารย์ที่ปรึกษาร่วม..... -