

## C411136 : MAJOR LINGUISTICS

KEY WORD: FUNCTION WORD / BODY-PART / PLANT-PART / NOUN / LANNA THAI

NANTARIYA LAMCIAKTET : FUNCTION WORDS DEVELOPED FROM BODY-PART AND PLANT-PART NOUNS IN LANNA THAI.

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The objectives of this study are to collect and classify the function words in palm-leaf documents that developed from body-part and plant-part nouns in Lanna Thai. The factors and processes that motivate body-part and plant-part nouns to develop into classifiers, relative markers, pronouns and prepositions are also studied.

Body-part and plant-part nouns develop into 4 types of function words: classifiers, relative markers, pronouns and prepositions. As for the body-part nouns, 10 develop into classifiers, 3 into relative markers, 4 into pronouns and 3 into prepositions. As for the plant-part nouns, 17 develop into classifiers, 2 into relative markers. It is found that body-part and plant-part nouns develop into classifiers more than into other function words.

The factors motivated these nouns to develop into function words were inherent semantic features in connection to quantity, single number, whole-part and space. The quantifying factor motivated the body-part and plant-part nouns to develop into classifiers. The single number factor motivated the body-part and plant-part nouns to develop into relative markers. The whole-part factor motivated the body-part nouns to develop into pronouns. The spatial factor motivated the body-part nouns to develop into prepositions. Syntactic and metaphorical factors also motivated the particular body-part and plant-part nouns to develop into function words.

There are 4 processes: decategorialization, generalization, specialization and metaphor. Decategorialization and generalization are found in action with the grammaticalization of body-part and plant-part nouns into classifiers, relative markers, pronouns and prepositions. Specialization is found in action with the grammaticalization of body-part nouns into classifiers. Metaphor is the first process of the grammaticalization of body-part nouns into prepositions.

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