

C510924 : MAJOR LINGUISTICS

KEY WORD: THAI/ SYNTACTIC CHANGE/ SUBORDINATE CLAUSE/ TEMPORAL ADVERBIAL CLAUSE

SAISAMORN WATTANASOMBOON : CHANGE IN THAI TEMPORAL ADVERBIAL CLAUSES DURING THE RATTANAKOSIN PERIOD. THESIS ADVISOR : ASSO. PROF. AMARA PRASITHRATHSINT, Ph.D. 104 pp. ISBN 974-583-921-3

The objective of this study is to investigate change in the category and use of temporal adverbial clauses in Thai during the Rattanakosin period (1782-1993). The analysis is based on approximately twenty A4 pages of academic writing systematically sampled from the written material of every tenth year from 1782-1993.

Temporal adverbial clauses in Thai are classified on semantic and syntactic bases. Five semantically distinguished categories of Thai temporal adverbial clauses are discovered. They are temporal adverbial clauses of simultaneity, initial boundary, terminal boundary, precedence, and subsequence. Four syntactically distinguished categories of Thai temporal adverbial clauses are found. They are 1) temporal clauses marked by subordinate clause constructions; 2) temporal clauses marked by relative clause constructions; 3) temporal clauses marked by sentential complement constructions; and 4) a mixed type of temporal clauses with two categories of temporal adverbial clause markers.

The study indicates that there is change in the syntactic structure of Thai temporal adverbial clauses. They display less finite verbs and more nominalized verbal constructions. The study also verifies that there are increases in the categories and the use of Thai temporal adverbial clauses during the Rattanakosin period.

A comparison between the use of temporal adverbial clauses in Thai academic writing and in academic writing translated from English shows that the difference is not statistically different, but the data show that more nominal constructions of temporal adverbial clauses are used more frequently in academic writing translated from English than in Thai academic writing. The finding supports the claim that the influence of English is an important factor in the increased use of more nominal constructions of Thai temporal adverbial clauses.