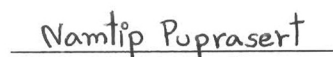Namtip Puprasert 2007: A Comparative Study of English and Thai Cohesion in News Articles. Master of Arts (English for Specific Purposes), Major Field: English for Specific Purposes, Department of Foreign Languages. Thesis Advisor: Mrs. Issariya Thaveesilpa, Ph.D. 227 pages.

This thesis is a comparative study of English and Thai cohesion in news articles. The purposes of this study are to search for the frequencies of occurrences, how English and Thai cohesion is used, and the similarities and differences between English and Thai cohesion.

The analysis was carried out on 20 English and 20 Thai news articles. Halliday and Hasan's (1976) and Wipah Chanawangsa's (1986) frameworks were mainly applied for the analysis of grammatical cohesion, while lexical cohesion suggested by Hasan (1984, cited in Hoey, 1991) was used for analyzing lexical data of both languages. Microsoft Excel program was employed for calculating the percentage of English and Thai cohesion; while comparative extracts were applied for exploring the similarities and differences between English and Thai cohesion.

The results of this study show that lexical cohesion is the highest preference, while substitution is the lowest preference among five types of cohesion in both languages. The data also suggests that cohesion in English and Thai is similar and different in some aspects. In creating a tie, cohesive devices can function as anaphoric and/or cataphoric references which may be immediate and/or non-immediate ties in English and Thai news articles. The differences of cohesion between English and Thai can also be found. The differences on the use of English and Thai cohesion are mainly the results of grammatical features; for example, auxiliary verbs can occur without any lexical verb in English; subjects can be omitted from Thai sentences.

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Student's signature	Thesis Advisor's signature	