

## C310854 : MAJOR LINGUISTICS

KEY WORD: VARIATION/KHAM MUANG/CHIANG MAI DIALECT/A STUDY OF LEXICAL ITEMS  
PATIMA PARAMASIRI : DEGREE OF USAGE OF KHAM MUANG LEXICAL ITEMS IN  
CHIANG MAI : A STUDY OF GEOGRAPHICAL VARIATION. THESIS ADVISOR :  
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The purpose of this study is to investigate the relationship between the degree of usage of Kham Muang lexical items and the location of the Kham Muang speakers' residence, focusing specifically on communication facility. Fifty semantic units were used in this study consisting of utensil names, animal names, plant names, and verbs. The data used in this study came from 66.8 percent of the questionnaires sent to a headmaster of a village school in each of the 196 tambons in Chiang Mai. Communication facility is divided into three levels: very convenient, convenient, and not convenient. Four criteria are used in determining the degree of communication facility: distance from Amphur Muang, road condition, number of the bus changes, and frequency of bus service.

It is found that the relationship between communication facility and degree of usage of Kham Muang lexical items is statistically significant at the 0.01 level. Those living in the areas with higher degree of communication facility use fewer Kham Muang lexical items than those living in the areas with lower degree of communication facility. In addition, a distribution analysis displayed on maps shows quite clearly that the tambons within the city center use less Kham Muang than the other areas.