Sakuntala Karalai 2006: An Analytical Study of Figure of Speech Appeared in Thai Country Songs: A Case Study of Phumpuang Duangchan, Queen of Thai Country Songs. Master of Arts (Applied Linguistics), Major Field: Applied Linguistics, Department of Linguistics. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Kitima Indrambarya, Ph.D. 181 pages.

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The thesis focuses on the analysis of the figure of speech types in Thai country songs of Phumpuang Duangchan. This thesis also studied the reflection of Thai country songs in culture and values.

The populations in thesis are popular Thai country songs sung by Phumpuang Duangchan. The samples selected are popular, resung and on-line songs, totaling 90 songs.

The research revealed 3 most frequent figure of speech as follows: rhetorical question appeared the most frequently. Then, simile is in second rank, followed by metaphor. However, symbol is not found. These songs reflected the Thai ways of life in the rural area on their cultures, traditions, beliefs, values as well as their habits. The research concluded that the Thai country songs can reflect: Buddhism as the Center of Thai ways of life, the preservation of the Thai tradition, Thai ways of life and habits in upcountry, Thai values as well as the problems in Thai upcountry's society.

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