Wasamone Peansamer 2009: A Componential Analysis of Final Particles in Thai. Master of Arts (Applied Linguistics), Major Field: Applied Linguistics, Department of Linguistics. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor M.L. Jaralvilai Charunrochana, Ph.D. 125 pages.

The purposes of this study are 1) to analyze the semantic component of Thai final particles. 2) to verify the semantic components of Thai final particles.The data in this study is collected by recording forty-hour conversation in order to analyze the semantic components of final particle by method of componential analysis and collecting questionnaires from Thai informants in order to verify the semantic components of Thai final particles.

From the method of componential analysis, the result shows that there are thirty-two Thai final particles: châjmǎj/châjplàaw, plàaw, rɨ̌ʰ(1), rɨ̌ʰ(2), rɨ̌ʰ(3), máj, khráp, kháʔ, khâʔ, háʔ, cáʔ, câʔ, wáʔ, jáʔ, wɔ́əj, wâʔ, jâʔ, nâʔ, náʔ (1), náʔ (2), sìʔ, dìʔ, thɔ̀ʔ, làʔ, ʔàʔ, ŋaj, máŋ, nəʔ, rɔ̀ɔk(1), rɔ̀ɔk(2), rɔ̀ɔk(3) and lɛ̀ʔ which are differentiated by seventeen dimensions of contrast: sentence types, status, question making, negation, politeness, gentleness, speaker's prediction, force, participation, conflict, gender, certainty, spoken language, annoyance, new information, needed of answer and something happened as expected.

From the method of using questionnaires, the result shows that the informants support all the components of final particles.

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