

Rodsarin Dittabanjong 2007: The Use of Language, and Reflections on Society and Culture from an Online Diary. Master of Arts (Thai Language), Major Field: Thai Language, Department of Thai Language. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Boonlue Chaimano, Ph.D. 271 pages.

The purpose of this thesis is to study the use of language and reflections on society and culture from an online diary. The study of the language is focused on words, communicative sentences, idiomatic expressions, writing style and figures of speech. The social and cultural reflection is focused on value, belief and tradition.

The material and data for this research work are the online diary appeared in five web-site: www.storythai.com, www.yenta4.com, www.bloggang.com, www.googig.com, www.diaryhub.com. For the last six months of ten diaries from each website (50 diaries in total) have been collected but only half of the resource has been chosen. It can be said that 50 diaries and 7,419 subjects have been used to study the research for 405 days.

The research work resulted as follows: in the words usage, the repeated words are found most. The others are misspelled words, foreign words, intervened words, compound words, supported words, words used among people in group, slang, rude words and dialects respectively; among communicative sentences, informative sentence are found most. The others are questions and requests respectively; among idiomatic expression; old idiomatic expressions are found more than the new ones; among writing style, narrative composition are found most. The others are teaching composition, simile composition, demonstrative composition and descriptive composition respectively; among figures of speech, rhetoric questions onomatopoeia is found most. The others are hyperbole, simile, alliteration, personification, metaphor, metonymy, symbol and allusion respectively. Besides, three types of the social and cultural reflection are found: reflection of value about material, behavior and person; reflection of religions belief, astrological belief, occultism and prophetic sign; reflection of Thai and foreign tradition.

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