

AN ANALYSIS OF IDIOMATIC AND LITERAL MEANINGS OF PHRASAL
VERBS USED IN THE BANGKOK POST FRONT-PAGE HEADLINES

A MASTER'S PROJECT
BY
MISS NAMTAN KITTIKOOL

Presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the Master of Arts degree in Business English for International
Communication at Srinakharinwirot University

November 2004

Copyright 2004 Srinakharinwirot University

การวิเคราะห์ความหมายทางสำนวนและทางตรงของกริยาวลีที่ใช้ในหัวข้อหน้าแรกของ
หนังสือพิมพ์บางกอกโพสต์

บทคัดย่อ
ของ
นางสาวน้ำตาล กิตติกุล

เสนอต่อบัณฑิตวิทยาลัย มหาวิทยาลัยศรีนครินทรวิโรฒ เพื่อเป็นส่วนหนึ่งของการศึกษาตามหลักสูตร
ปริญญาศิลปศาสตรมหาบัณฑิต สาขาวิชาภาษาอังกฤษธุรกิจเพื่อการสื่อสารนานาชาติ
พฤษภาคม 2547

น้ำตาล กิตติกุล. (2547). การวิเคราะห์ความหมายทางสำนวนและทางตรงของกริยาวลีที่ใช้ในหัวข่าวหน้าแรกของหนังสือพิมพ์บางกอกโพสต์. สารนิพนธ์ ศศ.ม. (ภาษาอังกฤษธุรกิจเพื่อการสื่อสารนานาชาติ). กรุงเทพฯ: บัณฑิตวิทยาลัย มหาวิทยาลัยศรีนครินทรวิโรฒ.
อาจารย์ที่ปรึกษาสารนิพนธ์: ผู้ช่วยศาสตราจารย์ ดร. อัมพร ศรีเสริมโภค.

การศึกษาในเชิงคุณภาพทั้งปริมาณนี้มีจุดประสงค์เพื่อวิเคราะห์ความหมายทางตรงและความหมายทางสำนวนของกริยาวลีที่ใช้ในหัวข่าวหน้าแรกของหนังสือพิมพ์บางกอกโพสต์ซึ่งเป็นหนึ่งในหนังสือพิมพ์รายวันภาษาอังกฤษที่โดดเด่นและมีชื่อเสียงมากที่สุดในประเทศไทย การศึกษาค้นคว้าครั้งนี้ประกอบไปด้วย การจำแนกประเภทของกริยาวลีตามลักษณะทางความหมาย, ความถี่ของการปรากฏของกริยาวลีที่จำแนกประเภทตามความหมายแล้ว และลักษณะทางความหมายใดของกริยาวลีที่เป็นสาเหตุให้เกิดปัญหาและความยุ่งยากแก่ผู้อ่านซึ่งไม่ใช่เจ้าของภาษาในการเข้าใจหัวข่าวหน้าแรก ทั้งนี้ผู้วิจัยได้รวบรวมหัวข่าวหน้าแรกประกอบไปด้วยกริยาวลีจำนวน 94 หัวข่าวในระหว่างวันที่ 1 มกราคม ถึง วันที่ 30 มิถุนายน 2546 อย่างไรก็ตามในหัวข่าวบางหัวข่าวมีการใช้กริยาวลีมากกว่า 1 คำ ดังนั้นรวมทั้งหมดจึงมีกริยาวลีที่ใช้เป็นข้อมูลในการวิเคราะห์ทั้งหมด 95 คำ

กระบวนการศึกษาของการวิจัยนี้แบ่งออกได้เป็น 4 ขั้นตอนหลัก ดังนี้:

1. การเก็บรวบรวมหัวข่าวหน้าแรกของหนังสือพิมพ์บางกอกโพสต์ที่ประกอบไปด้วยกริยาวลี
2. การจำแนกว่ากริยาวลีที่ใช้ในหัวข่าวมีความหมายทางตรงหรือทางสำนวน
3. การคำนวณความถี่ของการปรากฏของกริยาวลีที่ได้จำแนกประเภทตามความหมาย
4. การคัดเลือกหัวข่าวที่มีการใช้กริยาวลีที่มีความหมายทางตรง 10 หัวข่าว และหัวข่าว

ประกอบไปด้วยกริยาวลีที่มีความหมายทางสำนวน 10 หัวข่าว เพื่อใช้ในแบบสอบถามที่ตอบโดย นิสิตชั้นปีที่สี่ของมหาวิทยาลัยศรีนครินทรวิโรฒซึ่งเรียนวิชาเอกภาษาอังกฤษ แบบสอบถาม ดังกล่าวนี้นี้มีจุดประสงค์เพื่อศึกษาว่ากริยาวลีที่มีความหมายทางตรงหรือความหมายทางสำนวนของหัวข่าวหน้าแรกเป็นสาเหตุให้เกิดปัญหาและความยุ่งยากแก่นิสิตในการเข้าใจหัวข่าว

ผลการวิจัยพบว่ากริยาวลีทั้งที่มีความหมายทางตรงและทางสำนวนปรากฏอยู่ในหัวข่าวหน้าแรกของหนังสือพิมพ์บางกอกโพสต์ เมื่อพิจารณาในแง่ของความถี่ในการปรากฏ กริยาวลีที่มีความหมายทางสำนวนคิดเป็น 66.32% พบมากเป็นสองเท่าเมื่อเปรียบเทียบกับกริยาวลีที่มีความหมายทางตรงซึ่งคิดเป็น 33.68%

ผลการวิจัยยังแสดงให้เห็นว่านิสิตชั้นปีที่สี่ของมหาวิทยาลัยศรีนครินทรวิโรฒซึ่งตอบแบบสอบถามเพื่อวัดความเข้าใจเกี่ยวกับความหมายทางตรงและทางสำนวนของกริยาวลีที่ใช้ในหัวข่าวหน้าแรกของหนังสือพิมพ์บางกอกโพสต์มีปัญหาในการเข้าใจกริยาวลีที่มีความหมายทางสำนวน

มากกว่ากริยาวลีที่มีความหมายทางตรง คะแนนที่นิสิตได้จากการตอบแบบสอบถามเกือบจะเป็นอัตราส่วนที่กลับกัน นิสิตได้คะแนนสูง (7-8 คะแนน) ในความทางตรง แต่ได้คะแนนค่อนข้างต่ำ (3-4 คะแนน) ในความหมายทางสำนวน

นอกจากนี้ผู้วิจัยยังพบว่าผู้เขียนหัวข้อานิยมใช้กริยาวลีที่มีความหมายทางสำนวนในหัวข้อหน้าแรกเนื่องจากลักษณะความเป็นสำนวนของกริยาวลีชนิดนี้ ช่วยให้หัวข้อไพเราะ สละสลวย และจับใจผู้อ่าน อย่างไรก็ตามกริยาวลีที่มีความหมายทางสำนวนซึ่งใช้ในหัวข้อเป็นสาเหตุให้เกิดปัญหาและความยุ่งยากแก่ผู้อ่านที่ไม่ใช่เจ้าของภาษาในการเข้าใจหัวข้อเนื่องจากผู้อ่านไม่สามารถคาดเดาความหมายทางสำนวนของกริยาวลีได้โดยการนำความหมายของกริยาและส่วนที่เป็นส่วนประกอบ (particle) มา รวมเข้าด้วยกัน แต่ผู้อ่านจะต้องเข้าใจความหมายของกริยาวลีที่มีความหมายทางสำนวนในลักษณะที่เป็นหน่วยเดียวกันของความหมาย

Ref
428.1
Na174A

AN ANALYSIS OF IDIOMATIC AND LITERAL MEANINGS OF PHRASAL
VERBS USED IN THE BANGKOK POST FRONT-PAGE HEADLINES

AN ABSTRACT
BY
MISS NAMTAN KITTIKOOL

Presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the Master of Arts degree in Business English for International
Communication at Srinakharinwirot University

November 2004

CD-1

1
254342

T.B.A. 2549

Namtan Kittikool. (2004). *An Analysis of Idiomatic and Literal Meanings of Phrasal Verbs Used in the Bangkok Post Front-Page Headlines*. Master's Project, M.A. (Business English for International Communication). Bangkok: Graduate School, Srinakharinwirot University. Project Advisor: Asst. Prof. Dr. Amporn Srisermbhok.

The purpose of this qualitative-quantitative study was to analyze literal and idiomatic meanings of phrasal verbs used in front-page headlines of the Bangkok Post, one of the most outstanding English daily newspapers in Thailand. The study included classification of phrasal verbs according to the meaning they convey, the frequency of occurrence of categorized phrasal verbs, and which sense of meanings of phrasal verbs pose more difficulties for non-native readers in understanding the headlines. In this study, 94 front-page headlines were collected as data from January 1 to June 30, 2003. However, certain headlines contained more than one phrasal verb. As a result, there are 95 phrasal verbs being analyzed in total.

The procedures of this study were divided into four major steps:

1. Collection of front-page headlines of the Bangkok Post containing phrasal verbs
2. Identification of phrasal verbs according to the sense of meaning they convey: literal or idiomatic
3. Calculation of frequency of categorized phrasal verbs
4. Selection of 10 headlines containing literal meaning phrasal verbs and 10 headlines with idiomatic meaning phrasal verbs used in questionnaires with 4th year SWU undergraduate students majoring in English with the purpose of discovering whether literal or idiomatic meaning phrasal verbs used in the front-page headlines cause difficulties for them in understanding the headlines.

The results of the study showed that the Bangkok Post front-page headlines contained both literal and idiomatic meaning phrasal verbs. Considering the frequency of occurrence, idiomatic meaning phrasal verbs, which totaled 66.32%, appeared two times more often than literal meaning phrasal verbs, which totaled 33.68%.

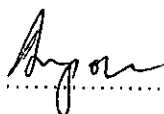
The results also identified that the 4th year SWU undergraduate students answering the questionnaires on literal and idiomatic meanings of phrasal verbs used in the Bangkok

Post front-page headlines have more difficulties with idiomatic meaning phrasal verbs than they do with literal meaning phrasal verbs. The scores they got from completing the questionnaires were almost in inverse proportion. The students scored high (7-8) on literal meaning but low (3-4) on idiomatic meaning.

Further, the researcher learned that idiomatic meaning phrasal verbs were used more frequently in the front-page headlines than literal meaning phrasal verbs as their idiomatic nature helped headline writers make an eloquent and dazzling headline which attracts and catches the eyes of readers. Nevertheless, idiomatic meaning phrasal verbs used in the front-page headlines posed difficulties for non-native readers in understanding the headlines since the meaning the phrasal verbs convey cannot be guessed by simply putting together the meanings of their individual units: a verb and a particle, but the verb-particle combination must be understood as a single unit of meaning.

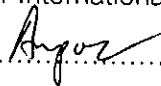
The Project Advisor, Chair of Business English for International Communication, and Oral Defense Committee have approved this Master's Project as partial fulfillment of the requirements of the Master of Arts degree in Business English for International Communication of Srinakharinwirot University.

Project Advisor



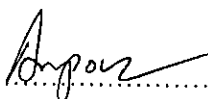
(Assistant Professor Dr. Amporn Srisermbhok)

Chair of Business English for International Communication



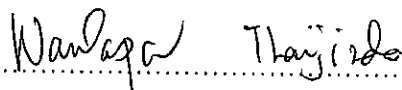
(Assistant Professor Dr. Amporn Srisermbhok)

Oral Defense Committee



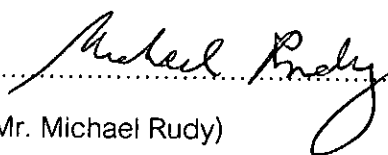
Chair

(Assistant Professor Dr. Amporn Srisermbhok)



Committee

(Dr. Wanlapa Thaijinda)



Committee

(Mr. Michael Rudy)

This Master's Project has been approved as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master of Arts degree in Business English for International Communication of Srinakharinwirot University.



Dean of the Faculty of Humanities

(Associate Professor Supha Panjaroen)

22 November 2004

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my deep gratitude to Asst. Prof. Dr. Amporn A. Srisermbhok, my chair and master's project advisor. I feel very thankful for her valuable comments, helpful suggestions and encouragement she has given me throughout this project.

I am deeply grateful to Ms. Nicole Lasas, a generous native English instructor for her suggestions, practical help and proof reading.

I would like to thank Mr. Michael Rudy and Dr. Wanlapa Thaijinda, my oral defense committee for their valuable comments and useful suggestions.

Without all of them, this study would have never been completed.

I also would like to express my appreciation to the Bangkok Post, for every headline I used as data in this study. Many thanks are given to Mr. Charoen Kittikanya, a rewrite reporter of the Bangkok Post for the opportunity of an interview and Ms. Kanokpatra Pramnak, a Bangkok Post information Center officer for useful information.

Finally, I am grateful to my family who provide me with love, understanding and support in the attempt to help me complete this project successfully.

Namtan Kittikool

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter	Page
1 INTRODUCTION.....	1
Background.....	1
Objectives of the Study.....	3
Research Questions.....	4
Significance of the Study.....	4
Scope of the Study.....	5
Expected Outcomes.....	5
Definition of Terms.....	6
2 REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE.....	7
General Aspects of News and Newspapers.....	7
Newspaper Headlines.....	10
Verbs and Their Features.....	15
Previous Research.....	21
3 METHODOLOGY.....	24
Data Collection.....	24
Procedures.....	24
Analysis Presentation.....	25
4 FINDINGS.....	26
5 CONCLUSIONS, DISCUSSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	50
BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	54

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

Chapter	Page
APPENDIX.....	59
APPENDIX A.....	60
APPENDIX B.....	64
APPENDIX C.....	67
APPENDIX D.....	72
VITAE.....	76

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
1 Classification of phrasal verbs of Bangkok Post front-page headlines according to the terms of meaning they convey.....	26
2 Frequency of occurrence of categorized phrasal verbs according to terms of meaning.....	47
3 Score of SWU undergraduate students answering the post Questionnaire.....	47

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Page
1 Chart of score of SWU undergraduate students answering the post questionnaire.....	48
2 Graph of score of SWU undergraduate students answering the post questionnaire.....	48

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Background

In this world of communication, various kinds of information are provided to serve a myriad of consumers at all times. The mass media can play this role well. It informs most of the world's population through several means of information distribution: books, films, television, radio, computer programs and games as well as other forms of visual and print communication (Wood, 2000:244). Phothi-on (1997:83-84) indicates that the mass media refer to media that bring news and information to a large number of people in a very short time. Among the various forms, newspapers are considered one kind of popular information outlets, as they are cheap and convenient to carry. According to Somchit Laumsupanimit (1986:6) and Reah (2002:1), newspapers are also deemed an up-to-date information resource since most newspapers are out of date as soon as the next day's news is printed. In other words, yesterday's news is no longer news.

A newspaper as a kind of mass media has five distinctive functions, which seem to attract readers well enough as stated by Dominick (2002:33-43). Firstly, its "Surveillance" function warns people about threats and, therefore people use this information to prepare themselves for such problems as depressed economic conditions, increasing inflation, military attacks, erupting volcanoes and so forth. Secondly, "interpretative" comments and opinions found in the editorial page can meet the readers' requirement of an added perspective on the news stories appearing on other pages. Thirdly, the readers are "linked" and can be in contact with the community's opinion via newspapers. Fourthly, a "transmission of values" is presented by newspapers such as a concept of wearing seat belts while driving. Finally, "Entertainment", many kinds of columns such as gossip, games and comics are provided in a newspaper to entertain readers. From the advantages of newspapers mentioned above, people can use them as an ideal information resource. In reading a newspaper, readers not only learn what is going

on around them and what is happening in other countries but it also lends to developing many kinds of skills and knowledge bases.

Apart from many well-known newspapers all over the world, Lent states in *Newspaper in Asia: Contemporary Trends and Problems* (1982:322) that the Bangkok Post is considered the most credible and dependable for national and international news. It is one of the biggest and most famous English daily newspapers in Thailand. Furthermore, the Audit Bureau of Circulation (ABC) certifies it has the largest circulation. According to the Bangkok Post (2003:Online), its style and content are very similar to those of quality English newspapers around the world. With the same writing styles and the same basic news matters presented each day, the Bangkok Post is more readable for readers when compared to other kinds of English reading materials.

Nevertheless, owing to limited time, readers particularly business people read only what interests them in a newspaper, hence they skim through headlines and expect to find a summary of all stories and then make decisions on which ones to read in entirety. For these hasty newspaper readers, a headline therefore becomes a major source of information on the current events. According to Somchit Laumsupanimitt (1986:41,48), the headline is an integral part of a news story, telling the readers what the news story is all about and helping the readers find what interests them at a glance. Specially, front-page headlines play a significant role in providing the most newsworthy stories of the day by packing a great deal of information into a limited space and calling the readers' attention to the stories.

Gilmore & Root (1971:41) point out that on newsstands in competitive cities, front-page headlines tend to sell one newspaper instead of another. Headlines have been compared to road signs, advertising slogans, and store windows. They all share the task of seizing attention and putting a message across swiftly.

Using phrasal verbs in the headlines is an effective way to achieve the purpose of informing quickly as the phrasal verb is a familiar word, containing colloquial tone and perhaps most importantly this kind of verbs is short, simple, and to the point. It can express an action or state of being as informatively as its longer lexical counterparts. For example, the phrasal verb

"go around" sounds more natural and much easier to understand than its counterpart "circumvent", to go or travel around something that is blocking one's way. According to Charoen Kittikanya, a rewrite reporter of the Bangkok Post, phrasal verbs are deemed catchy and concise words. They can readily and completely describe what is happening in a news story. Charoen Kittikanya added that usually the Bangkok Post as well as other newspapers tries to use 'reader friendly language' or language that is rather informal and readily understandable and phrasal verbs are very useful to serve this purpose (Charoen Kittikanya. Interview. 2004)

The use of phrasal verbs in the headlines also helps a headline writer grab the reader's attention as phrasal verbs are strong, emotive words and most of them can be used idiomatically. Charoen Kittikanya noted that to put a phrasal verb such as 'call for' in headlines instead of common words such as 'demand or ask' makes the headlines more interesting. Additionally, some phrasal verbs such as 'hit out at' help add sensational tones to headlines (Charoen Kittikanya. Interview. 2004).

Regardless of usefulness of phrasal verbs mentioned above, it is not always easy for a non-native reader and speaker of English to understand the headlines containing a phrasal verb. This is due to the fact that the meaning a phrasal verb conveys can be either idiomatic or non-idiomatic. Accordingly, the aim of this study is to explore the semantic usage of phrasal verbs of front-page headlines in the Bangkok Post.

Objectives of the Study

1. To explore whether the phrasal verbs used in front-page headlines of the Bangkok Post are employed most in literal meaning or idiomatic meaning.
2. To find out which meanings pose difficulties for non-native readers in understanding the headlines.

Research Questions

This study aims to answer the following questions:

1. Which sense of meaning is found more frequently in the phrasal verbs of the front-page headlines?
2. Do non-native readers have more difficulties understanding idiomatic meaning of phrasal verbs used in the front-page headlines than they do with literal meaning?

Significance of the Study

Apparently, most newspapers try to create their unique front-page characteristics to attract readers and increase their sales figures. Using phrasal verbs in different aspects when headlining is considered one way to enhance the front page to readers as they are contemporary words and can speak for the headline eloquently. Nevertheless, the use of phrasal verbs in the front-page headlines cause difficulties for non-native readers in understanding the headlines. From 150 questionnaires completed by SWU undergraduate students, who are representatives of average Thai readers of the Bangkok Post, 136 respondents, which totaled 90.67% answered that they have difficulties understanding headlines with phrasal verbs. Whereas 14 respondents, which totaled 9.33% replied that they have no problem.

Since a phrasal verb is varied in semantic features and causes difficulties for non-native readers in understanding the headlines, the researcher would like to investigate this area specifically to help non-native readers read and understand the headlines with phrasal verbs more accurately and rapidly. For readers who are business people this will help them get information useful for their business and their decision-making in a short time because a headline is a key summary of a news story especially the front-page headlines are considered the most newsworthy story of the day. As importantly, this study can serve as a tool for readers who want to promote their lifelong learning of English via reading English newspapers because phrasal verbs are bombarded in almost every part of a news article.

Scope of the Study

This study focuses on the analysis of phrasal verbs used in the front-page headlines of the Bangkok Post. The reason the researcher selects the news headlines for analysis is because the headlines, having been read by many people, are the summary or the key to current events and also attractions, influencing readers' decisions to read further or buy a newspaper. The researcher considers the Bangkok Post a case study because it is a quality English newspaper in Thailand. At the time of conducting this study, the researcher collected 94 front-page headlines of the Bangkok Post containing phrasal verbs from January 1 to June 30, 2003.

There are five chapters to be discussed in this study. Chapter One presents the introduction and an explanation of the study. Chapter Two reviews the related literature. Chapter Three describes research procedures. Chapter Four reports the findings of the study. Finally, Chapter Five presents conclusions, discussions, and recommendations for further study.

Expected Outcomes

It is expected that the information from this study will be beneficial to the following areas:

1. Audiences can utilize the knowledge of phrasal verbs and headline writing to help them read and understand a headline more accurately and rapidly.
2. The comprehension and knowledge of phrasal verbs will help audiences reinforce their English communicative skills because phrasal verbs are very common in English. Specifically, in terms of conversation, the ability to use phrasal verbs will empower audiences to speak English more naturally.
3. Interested audiences would be able to use this study as a reference for further study.

Definition of Terms

1. **Front-Page Headline** is a summary of a front-page news story, normally printed in large bold type and placed above the story. In this study, front-page headlines refer to every main headline, and sub-headlines.
2. **Phrasal Verb** is the two or three word verb with particles. It functions grammatically and semantically as one unit.
3. **Phrasal Verb Idiom** is a kind of phrasal verb with a meaning that cannot be surmised from the meaning of its individual parts.
4. **Particle** is a component of a phrasal verb. It can be a preposition or an adverb. However, in accordance with the usage of the Oxford Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs (1993), in this study "**Particle**" is referred to an **adverbial particle**.
5. **Remark** refers to the meaning of headlines with phrasal verbs, which the researcher understands from their context.
6. **Literal Meaning** is a usual, unimaginative meaning of the words combined.
7. **Idiomatic Meaning** is a particular meaning that sounds natural to native speakers of the language and not literally derivable from its component words.

CHAPTER 2

RELATED LITERATURE REVIEW

Related literature in this chapter is categorized into the following four main topics: 1) General aspects of news and newspapers, 2) Newspaper headlines, 3) Verbs and their features and 4) Previous research.

1. General Aspects of News and Newspapers

Definitions of news

According to Johnston (1979:33), news is defined as original, distinctive, dramatic, romantic, thrilling, unique, curious, quaint, humorous, odd and prone to be talked about. While Agee (1983:23) defines news as the report of an event, development, or opinion that reporters and editors, acting as agents for the public, believe that it will interest some or a great many of those receiving it. News, however, is never merely the events, development or opinion itself. A forest fire is not news until someone reports it. Neither is a public official's expression of opinion that crime is increasing in a city nor the exodus of people from one community to another in search of jobs until they are reported. In other words, news is not news until someone makes it news. Furthermore, Agee noted that news is an abstract concept whose shape changes as the interests of humans change.

Likewise, Ferguson & Patten (1998:38) notes that it is difficult to define "news" since what is news today may not be news tomorrow and there has never been and probably never will be a satisfactory definition. To define is to limit, and some definitions are so limited that they fail to explain the existence of certain legitimate news stories in many respectable newspapers while other definitions go to the opposite extreme. Thus, anyone who wants to know what news is should buy a newspaper and read it.

After all, news essentially is an important fact, event, opinion, or information presented to the public, and it must interest or attract the readers.

Elements of news

Six elements of newsworthiness are as follows:

1. *Timeliness*. News is an immediate report of a happening to readers, and also fresh information of daily events (Dominick. 2002:327). Timeliness means the newness of facts. A newspaper should focus on advance items or stories about coming events (Ferguson & Patten. 1998:42).
2. *Proximity*. Readers are interested in events that occur in places where they live or have visited and also the events that they feel close to. It is necessary that there is no gap between news and the readers since sometimes the happenings affect their lives (Dominick. 2002:327).
3. *Prominence*. Names can make news but some names make more news than others (Ferguson & Patten. 1998:43). News of an unimportant person is less valuable than news of an important one (Anderson & Itule. 1988:21). Thereby, Ferguson; & Patten (1998:43) states that prominence means the newsworthiness of an individual.
4. *Consequence*. Events that affect a great many people have built-in news value. An increase in taxes, the decision to lay off thousands of workers, and inflation are of consequence (Dominick. 2002:327). Ferguson; & Patten (1998:44) defines consequence as the importance or impact of an event.
5. *Human interest*. News is events that make readers feel emotional and that relate to the human condition (Dominick. 2002:328).

Types of news

There are two types of news content "hard news" and "soft news". Stories that fall into the hard-news category report specific, tangible events such as a fire, the death of a prominent person, and the passage of a bill by Congress. Such stories are event-centered (Agee. 1983:26). According to Crump (1974:47), hard news is a story of primary or urgent importance. Additionally, the situations, which are considered hard news are all-important to the readers' expectation. Dominick (2002:330) mentions that hard news consists of basic facts: who, what, when, where and how of important public events such as government actions, international

happenings, social conditions, the economy, crime, environment and science. Hard news is obviously significant to a large number of people. Therefore, the front page of a newspaper is usually filled with this type of news.

Soft news, or features, on the other hand, may not be very timely or have much importance to the lives of readers. One thing soft news aims to do with the readers is to interest them for its news value. Soft news appeals to people's curiosity, sympathy, skepticism, or amazement. Such stories classified as soft news are the birth of a kangaroo at the local zoo, a teenager who mistakenly gets a tax refund check for \$400,000 instead of \$40, and so forth (Dominick. 2002:330). Anderson; & Itule (1988:16) similarly define soft news as events which are not immediately important or timely to a wide audience such as a luncheon to honor a retiring school custodian whereas Lorenz; & Vivian (1996:18) note that soft news is a news story whose purpose is more to entertain than to inform.

Definitions of newspaper

Paneth (1983:328) defines a newspaper as a publication that usually appears daily or weekly, containing news, information and comments on current affairs, advice columns of various types, entertainment features (comic strips, puzzles), and classified as well as displayed advertisements.

In addition, Bhikul Punyaratabandhu (1998:3) states that a newspaper is a good source of information, keeping us informed of what is happening, or has happened, near and far. Usually, a newspaper contains various types of information other than news. It also allows readers to share their opinions on a variety of common interests.

Clearly the definitions of newspapers given by the two scholars cited are rather similar therefore, it can be concluded that newspapers are unbound publications issued periodically to convey information and opinions on current events to their readers as well as provide them with several kinds of entertainment.

The Bangkok Post

According to Bangkok Post's Information Center (2003), the Bangkok Post is Thailand's largest and most respected English-language daily newspaper, having been published since 1946. Its daily edition is published 7 days a week with four main sections:

First section includes local, regional, international news, analyses, and sports news.

Business section covers business, finance, and stock markets.

Outlook includes lifestyle, public interests, society news, entertainment, travel, fashion, and general features.

Classified includes classified advertisements.

The Bangkok Post issues additional special pullout sections to serve its special interest groups. The *Learning Post*, which appears on Tuesday, includes a wealth of activities and suggestions for readers who want to improve their English or their Thai. *Database*, which appears on Wednesday, covers local and international news and analyses concerning information technology and computers. *Shipping*, which appears every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, includes news of domestic and international marine transport and shipping industry. *Motoring*, which appears on Friday, covers news and features on the domestic and international automobile industry. *Horizons*, which appears on Thursday, includes timely features on domestic and international travel and tourism. *Real time*, which appears every Friday, concerns life in Bangkok today as well as provides comprehensive listings of all entertainments, cultural and social events in the city. The Sunday edition is published in 5 sections including domestic and world news, an expanded sports round-up, perspective, outlook, classified and Sunday comics. (Bangkok Post's Information Center. 2003)

2. Newspaper Headlines

Definitions of news headlines

According to Neal (1946:95), the headline is a summary of the whole story. It is necessary to build upon the central topic. The best and strongest goes into the headline, the minor and trivial stay out. Just like the lead story, the six questions: who? what? where? when?

why? and how? must be included. Reah (2002:13) stated that the headline is a unique type of text. It has a range of functions that specifically dictate its shape, content and structure, and it operates within a range of restrictions that limit the freedom of the writer. Additionally, Bhikul Punyaratabandhu (1998:5) remarks that the headline is like the title of a news story or news article. It tells readers what the news article is about.

To sum up, a newspaper headline is a key summary of the news story condensed into a concise phrase or sentence and placed above the news article. Usually its typeface is bigger than that of the news article so as to call the readers' attention and swiftly inform them the most important message of the news article.

Headline functions

Brooks & Sissors (2001:156) point out that the function of a newspaper headline should accompany five main purposes: to attract the reader's attention, to summarize the whole story, to help index all the news contents to the readers, to depict the mood of the news contents, as well as to set the tone of the newspaper and to make the reader feel relaxed from a typographic form. The first purpose is that good headlines should sell stories in many ways. If the headline fails to sell the day's important story, the story may have no impact to attract the daily readers. The second purpose is that the headline should summarize whole story as concisely and accurately as possible. The third purpose is that the headline should help readers decide what to read and what not to read or what to bypass. The fourth purpose is that the headline should help the readers determine whether the news story is serious or humorous and might disclose as much about the character or tone of a newspaper. The final purpose is that the headline should help separate the news contents and relieve the tedium that would exist with masses of text-sized type (Brooks; & Sissors. 2001:157-158).

Crowell (1970:85-87) agree with the two writers above that the headline should grab the readers' attention, grade or evaluate the news contents, sell the story as well as tell the readers the factual and specific events of a news story.

Westley (1980:113 -114) assert that since the headline is the major source of information for hasty newspaper readers, a good headline should directly state what is in the story. It can guide the readers to the stories they are really interested in while steering them away from stories of no interest. As the headline scanners and also the readers rely mostly on the current affairs and the information presented in the headline, the headline must have not only concise but also precise information. Westley noted that another prime function of a good headline is to indicate the relative significance of the news story to the readers. This is done by using the relative size of the headline, and by furnishing the headline with colored ingredients.

Types of headlines

According to Fredrickson & Wedel (1993:64-66), there are five types of newspaper headlines as follows:

Straight Headline. This type of headlines informs the key subject matters of a news story straightforwardly. It is the most popular and most comprehensible type. For example,
Railroad workers strike in Argentina
Man jailed for murder

Question Headline. This type of headlines is not really designed to ask a question. Actually, it is written in a form of affirmative sentences (also reduced into phrases) yet, a question mark is added to show the assumption that the event might occur in the near future or to express the doubt in the news story (e.g. **New Cabinet today?**).

Quotation Headline. At times, what one says is deemed as important as what one does. Hence, this type of headlines is written by quoting any speech considered meaningful to be placed in the headlines. As a quotation headline usually reports the actual speech of the speaker, it can be written in various tenses depending on circumstances. Normally, a quotation headline is covered with quotation marks; however, a colon and a dash can also accompany it. For instance, **"We owe our lives to our pilot"**

Mother: Let my baby go

German summit urgent-Schmit

Feature Headline. This type of headlines is intended to interest the readers to the rest of a news story. It may be composed of attention-getting words which do not convey the main idea of the news story and sometimes may leave doubts to the readers so that they need to read the news story further to clarify the doubts.

For example: **The man who reigned over UK's Queen**

The word "reign", meaning to rule, used only with the king or queen is intentionally employed to call the readers' attention. The subject matter of the headline is actually about a captain of the English ship: The Queen Mary.

Complex Headline. This type of headlines consists of two headings in one subject matter. Complex headline usually occurs when a news story is considered prominent. In this case, the more important heading is presented in the larger type and should be read first. For example,

Expected to go to US

CASTRO TO FREE THOUSANDS OF PRISONERS

Writing newspaper headlines

Even though there is no fixed principle on how to write a newspaper headline, the following are common characteristics of headline writing compiled by several scholars and experts.

1. Headlines usually omit some types of words i.e. articles, personal pronouns and the verb "to be". For instance,

54 die as tour boat capsizes (54 people died when a tour boat capsized.)

(Bhikul Punyaratabandhu. 1998:69)

Boy on cliff rescued (A boy on a cliff is rescued.)

(Fredrickson; & Wedel. 1993:64)

Lowering of oil price for fishermen possible (A lowering of the oil price for fishermen is possible.) (*Teaching English with the Bangkok Post*. 1995:42)

2. On behalf of immediacy and timeliness, the Simple Present is used in a headline to indicate a past event or action. This form is known as the historical present (Brooks & Sissors. 2001:170). Bhikul Punyaratabandhu noted that when a headline reads "Police kill murderer" it means "The police killed the murderer". Similarly, "Killer escapes from courtroom" means "A murderer has escaped from a courtroom". (Bhikul Punyaratabandhu. 1998:70)

3. The infinitive form of a verb (to verb) is employed in a headline to represent a future happening. For example,

Mahidol to open new campus (Mahidol University will open a new campus.)

(Bhikul Punyaratabandhu. 1998:71)

Husband to sue wife (Husband is to sue wife.) (Fredrickson; & Wedel. 1993:63)

4. Headlines contain punctuation marks that have specific functions. A comma is often used to substitute the word "and". For example,

Volunteer, terrorist killed in ambush (Volunteer and terrorist were killed in ambush.)

(Fredrickson; & Wedel. 1993:64)

Apart from showing what a person says, quotation marks can be applied to indicate that the word inside them is being used in its unusual meaning. For instance, the headline:

Norse 'Invasion' does not refer to military intrusion but only means Norwegian people pour across Scotland border to go shopping. (Fredrickson; & Wedel. 1980:64-65)

According to Bhikul Punyaratabandhu (1998:71-72), a question mark is used in a headline both to indicate a question and to show anticipation (e.g. Oil price **to rise?** (Oil price may rise.)).

Furthermore, a dash can help identify causal relations of events in the headline (e.g. **Tornado hits Jamaica-6 die**)

5. In writing headlines, short words are preferable to longer ones. According to Bhikul Punyaratabandhu (1998:70), headline writers tend to use "hold" instead of "arrest" and "ban" or "bar" rather than "prohibit(ion)" or "prevent(ion)". The preference on using short words when writing headlines is asserted by Reah. Reah (2002:16) stated that over time, headline writers have developed a vocabulary that fulfils the requirements of the headline, using words that are

short, attention –getting, and effective. However, many typical words of headlines (i.e. rap, blast, slam, sleaze etc.) are probably rarely found outside this particular text type.

6. Since headline writers have such little space available, they also use abbreviations and acronyms wherever possible. For example,

Chirayu plans to improve PR system (Chirayu has planned to improve public relations system.)
(Bhikul Punyaratabandhu. 1998:72)

World Bank mission criticised by NGOs (The World Bank mission is criticized by non-governmental organizations.) (*Teaching English with the Bangkok Post*. 1995:42)

7. According to Bhikul Punyaratabandhu (1998:69), headlines may be made up of alliteration and rhyme. For example,

Stores drop stamps (Department stores and supermarkets will no longer give trading stamps.)

Comet's a joy for Roy (A man named Roy has discovered a new comet.)

3. Verbs and Their Features

Common verb features

Frank (1993:44) concludes that a verb, like a noun, has the grammatical properties of *person and number*, properties that require agreement with the subject. However, a verb also has several other grammatical properties that are not shared with other parts of speech. These properties are:

1. **Tense.** Special verb endings or accompanying auxiliary verbs often signal the *time* an event takes place.

2. **Voice.** Special verb forms are arranged in certain positions with nouns to indicate whether the grammatical subject of a sentence performs the action itself or the subject is acted upon.

3. **Mood.** Given verb forms mark: commands and requests; statements expressing wishes etc.

4. **Aspect.** Certain verb forms may indicate whether an event is to be regarded as a single

point on a time continuum, a repetition of points etc. Additionally, the definition given by Frodesen; & Eyring (1993:22) further elaborates that aspect is the relationship of the event to the time frame, whether the event occurs at a certain point in time or extends for a period of time.

Types of verbs

In general, the classification of verbs may vary depending on how they are categorized. According to Frank, verbs are divided into predicating or linking verbs, transitive or intransitive verbs, reflexive verbs, auxiliary or main verbs, and finite or non-finite verbs.

A linking verb is a verb of incomplete predication. It merely announces that the real predicate follows. The complemented words that can fulfill the predication to complete the sentence may be an adjective (**The girl is pretty**) or a noun (**She is a pretty girl**). Examples of a linking verb are: seem, look, remain, appear, be, become, get (in the sense of become).

Also functioning as linking verbs are the verbs of perception such as feel, taste, smell, sound.

A predicating verb, on the other hand, is the chief word in the predicate that says something about the subject. The predicating verb has traditionally been called a verb of "action" (e.g. **babies cry**; **she wrote a letter**). A transitive verb is a verb that takes a direct object (**He is reading a book**). In contrast, an intransitive verb does not require an object (**He is walking in the park**). Only transitive verbs may be used in the passive voice and obviously, all linking verbs are intransitive. A reflexive verb requires one of the compounds with –self (reflexive pronoun) as its object: express oneself; pride herself, etc. While a main verb carries the chief semantic content, an auxiliary verb acts as a "helping" verb to the main verb by adding either a structural element that marks differences in tense, voice, mood, and aspect or that signals questions or negatives. A finite or a non-finite verb is determined by the function the verb possesses in the sentence. A finite verb is a main verb. It can be or cannot be accompanied with an auxiliary yet, it is limited by the grammatical properties a verb may have: person, number, tense, voice, etc. Non-finite verbs are incomplete verb forms that function as other parts of speech than

verbs such as the infinitive form (to+ simple verb form) and the participial (-ing or -ed ending form). (Frank. 1993:44-48)

The importance of verb in headlines

Garst and Bernstein (1961:143-145) state that every headline should contain a verb since the headline gives the reader the initial impression of the story when it is seen at a glance. The verb is more crucial than any other factor as it is a key to the successful headline. A well-chosen, potent verb can fill the headline with energy. When the news is dynamic, it is necessary to use a forceful verb. Kessler; & McDonald (2000:14) assert the importance of verbs in the headline that a verb is considered a messenger of an action. It delivers the power of meaning. Without a verb, a headline is a hollow, impotent shell that cannot deliver a complete thought.

In the book "The Art of News Communication", Bush (1954:117-118) mentions the characteristics of using a verb in a headline should be an action verb instead of expressing only a state. For example, the headline should be "Search planes are looking for the missing plane." rather than "Search planes are out for the missing plane." In addition, a simple verb plus a simple adverb should be used in a headline in place of a long and unfamiliar verb. For example, instead of writing *supplement* and *append*, the phrasal verb *add to* is better and more familiar. Further, the verb and adverb may be combined to make a pair, which expresses abstract ideas, which are verbal nouns such as *breakthrough*, *sit-down*, *takeoff* as well as verbs.

Phrasal verbs

According to Frank (1993:174), English makes great use of a verb plus a prepositional form (give up, look over, drop in, find out, etc.) to expand the vocabulary item. The verb-preposition combination can be named in many ways such as two-part verbs, two-word verbs, composite verbs, and phrasal verbs.

The verbs in such combinations are mostly one-syllable words and the most common prepositions are those denoting place: in, out, on, off, over, up, down, through. The prepositional form used with the verb may be referred to as *an adverb* or in particular a *prepositional adverb*, an adverb that looks like a preposition but it does not govern a noun phrase, or by the more general term "particle".

Some phrasal verbs may be separated by their objects (Please hand in your paper or Please hand your paper in) whereas others may be non-separable (call on one's neighbors; run across an old friend).

The definition given in Longman Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs compiled by Courtney (1983) could further clarify the phrasal verb in another aspect. The Longman Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs describes phrasal verbs as having two kinds of meaning: literal and idiomatic. This means a verb-adverb or verb-preposition combination can have not only its denotative meaning but can also create a new meaning altogether. For example, the combination of *hold* and *up* can be used with normal meaning: *Hold up your right hand and repeat these words after me*, which means, "to raise something". Whereas, it can also have a completely different meaning, "to stop by force in order to rob", as in: *The criminals held up the train and stole all the passengers' money*. This idiomatic sense of phrasal verbs can cause difficulties to second and foreign language learners. Such a phrasal verb combination to form a new meaning was also defined by Makkai (1972:135) who called this kind of combination a "Phrasal Verb Idiom" which belongs to one of the many types of idiom structures.

However, Quirk; et al. gave their definition of phrasal verbs by dividing them into two criteria: semantic and syntactic. In regards to the semantic classification, a phrasal verb can be substituted by a single-word verb to identify the semantic unity: visit for call on; summon for call up. Furthermore, the phrasal verb can be divided into three subclasses to refer to the particle element. Firstly, the verb and the particle keep their individual lexical meanings, thus the individuality of the components appears in possible contrastive substitutions such as *bring in/out* and *take in/out*. Secondly, the verb alone keeps its basic lexical meaning and the particle has an 'intensifying' function e.g. *sweep up* the crumbs and *spread out* the rug. Finally, the

verb and the particle are fused into a new idiomatic combination: bring up (educate), come by (obtain). The values of the adverbial particle have been lost and a new entire verb-particle appears. Syntactic criteria, the transitive phrasal verb can be passivized (e.g. **The man was called up**). This indicates that the phrasal verb behaves identically with single word transitive verbs. The particle of a phrasal verb can stand before or after a noun direct object and it can only stand after a personal pronoun object: **call up the man; call the man up; call him up.** (Quirk; et al. 1972:812-815)

Types of phrasal verbs

According to the *Longman Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs*, compiled by Courtney (1983), a phrasal verb can be divided into three types:

Verb + adverb, as in: The old lady was taken in (=deceived) by the salesman.

Verb + preposition, as in: She sets about (=starts) making a new dress.

Verb + adverb + preposition, as in: I can't put up with (=tolerate) him.

However, the *Oxford Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs*, compiled by Cowie; & Mackin (1993), divided phrasal verbs into six basic grammatical patterns according to transitivity. The six patterns include:

Intransitive verb + particle, as in: The prices came down.

Intransitive verb + preposition, as in: All our hopes rested upon this venture.

Intransitive verb + particle + preposition, as in: An outsider had come in on our private arrangement.

Transitive verb + particle, as in: These entertainers make their stories up.

Transitive verb + preposition, as in: Peter foists all his problems on his unfortunate friends.

Transitive verb + particle + preposition, as in: You can put the shortage down to bad planning. Note that the term **particle** here is referred to as **an adverbial particle**.

In addition, the transitive verb with particle pattern can be further subdivided into three subclasses according to whether (i) a noun or a short noun phrase direct object can be placed on either side of the particle (e.g. The shops put the prices up; The shops put up the prices); (ii) such an object must appear between the verb and the particle (e.g. The police moved the spectators along); or (iii) it must be placed after the particle (e.g. The authorities trumped up a case against Smith). Nevertheless, if a personal pronoun is substituted for a noun direct object, it will always be placed before the particle. For example, many households take in lodgers; many households take them in. (Cowie; & Mackin. 1993:449-470)

Various aspects of idioms

Larson (1984:115) states that the expressions of at least two words which cannot be understood literally and which function as a unit semantically are called "idioms". They are special collocations or fixed combinations which possess a meaning as a whole but the combination of meaning is hardly the same as the meaning of the individual words.

Mcmodie (1978:1-7) provides a similar overview of idioms. English has plenty of idiomatic expressions. Whenever a number of words combined together mean something different from the individual words, they are all considered idioms. Idioms create big problems for non-native readers and speakers since they cannot guess the meaning of the combined individual words correctly. For example, to *get off* usually occurs together with "bus" or "bicycle" but in the idiomatic sense, this expression means to tell someone rudely and openly to stop touching you or stop touching something.

Moreover, based on the *Oxford Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs* compiled by Cowie; & Mackin, features of idiomaticity are discussed with a simple and familiar assumption. They stated that an idiom is a combination of two or more words which function as a unit of meaning. It corresponds to a wide range of grammatical types or patterns. Idioms can be found in patterns like "article+ adj. + noun": the last straw, "article+ past or present participle +noun": a foregone conclusion; a sitting duck or even "verb + particle": to step up; to take off which is the span of various structure types of idiomatic expressions. Cowie; & Mackin also introduced two

criteria to test whether a verb + particle expression behaves like a semantic unit and possesses idiomaticity.

- 1) The substitution with single words of equivalent meaning. For example, *step up* as used in the sentence: *His promotion has stepped up their social status*, is evidently idiomatic because it can be replaced by "improve" or "enhance".
- 2) The deletion of the particle. Cowie; & Mackin noted that breaking the unity of a verb + particle combination by removing the particle component should not be possible and make nonsense of the meaning for example, from the previous example, the deletion of the particle will make: *His promotion has stepped their social status*. (Cowie; & Mackin. 1993:422-425)

4. Previous Research

So as to accomplish the objectives of this study, the researcher collected previous studies from secondary sources that are related to this study in the form of case studies.

In the research report of Chomnong Wiboonsri; & Duangtip Woraphan (1983) entitled "*The analysis of English Daily Newspapers in Thailand*", the history of the English daily newspapers in Thailand along with their features and content were analyzed. The researchers learned that initially the sheet and leaflet were major newspaper productions commencing in the reign of King Rama IV (1868) and were first published by missionaries and Western merchants. Furthermore, the results of the study indicated that the feature and content of English daily newspapers in Thailand were similar to those of Western daily newspapers as they were quality newspapers, mainly reporting hard news.

In the study of Kruewan Chutchakul (1992) "*The Analysis of News Headlines' Presentation of Newspaper, Radio and Television*", the procedure of news headline presentation of newspapers, radio, and television was investigated based on the qualitative method and in-depth interviews. The findings indicated that the editors of those media are the ones who selected the screened news stories and then gave them priority as well as headlined them. Regarding the selection decision, the organization of the society was influential. The

editors did not simply use their own judgments, as there were two major constraints upon the selection decision-the internal and external constraints, which determined the worthiness of the news.

In addition, the researcher learned that the major role of newspapers was marketing, the role of radio was in informing, and television played its part both in marketing and informing.

In the study of Pussadee Thanomsak (1998) entitled "*An Analysis of Front Page News in an English Daily Newspaper: A Case of the Bangkok Post*", 279 front page news items of the Bangkok Post from April to August 1997 were selected with time intervals for content analysis for three specific purposes. Firstly, to identify what kind of hard news content was the most popular for front-page coverage. Secondly, to identify what styles of front-page news writing attract readers. And thirdly, to analyze the kinds of meaning the front-page news content particularly conveyed. The results of the study revealed that regarding popularity of hard news contents, foreign news was the first followed by political and economic news, crime news, telecommunications and transportations, accidents and disasters respectively. The styles of writing that frequently appeared in front-page news in the Bangkok Post were emphasized on an inverted pyramid: reporting the climax or main point of an event first and then providing the details, interesting and significant content, grammatical structure, and objectivity. Lastly, the results of the study indicated that potent adjectives were used most to convey the meaning of front-page news to readers as these adjectives were always concerned with amount, size, weight, power, and influence of events without human attitude and judgments. Thus, the high presentation of potent adjectives meant the Bangkok Post front-page contents presented the logical facts to readers and did not include the reporter's own opinions.

In Rochareg Charuchinda's study (2003) entitled "*An Analysis of Noun Phrases Used in The Bangkok Post Front-Page Headlines*", 292 front-page headlines with noun phrases were collected from March 1 to May 31, 2003. They were analyzed as to what structural types those noun phrases possessed as well as what other distinctive features could be found in the noun phrases. The results of the study revealed that all structural types of noun phrases appeared in the front-page headlines of the Bangkok Post. In terms of the frequency of occurrence, 'noun +

post-modifier' was most prominent, followed by 'pre-modifier + noun', 'pre-modifier + noun + post-modifier', 'determiner +noun', 'determiner +noun + post-modifier', 'determiner +pre-modifier +noun' and 'determiner +pre-modifier +noun +post-modifier' respectively. The results also identified that the majority of front-page headlines of the Bangkok Post were written in complete sentences. Furthermore, the researcher learned that embedding in modification, telegraphic syntax (omission of function words), nouns used as adjectives, and participles were also emphasized in writing front-page headlines as they were regarded as distinctive styles of newspaper headlining for the purpose of conveying messages to readers both economically and effectively.

Apparently, the literature in this chapter indicated that front-page headlines are crucial in appealing to readers' attention and helping them make decisions on what they will further read in the newspapers.

As Rochareg Charuchinda has already examined the usage of noun phrases in the Bangkok Post front-page headlines, the researcher is interested in conducting a further study focusing on phrasal verbs. The researcher intends to investigate the usage of phrasal verbs which are familiar in headlines and at times bring about semantic as well as grammatical difficulties to readers whose first language are not English. In this regard, the above-mentioned concepts and theories are applied as a potential framework for the study.

CHAPTER 3

METHODOLOGY

This chapter describes data collection and the procedures used in the study with the presentation of the analysis with illustration at the end of the chapter.

Data Collection

To find out whether phrasal verbs used in the Bangkok Post front-page headlines had caused difficulties for non-native readers in understanding the headlines, the researcher conducted a survey by using questionnaires. 150 questionnaires were completed by SWU undergraduate students represented the average readers of the Bangkok Post. The questionnaires were randomly distributed from March 3 to March 10, 2004 on the criterion that the respondents must have read the Bangkok Post. (see the questionnaire in Appendix A)

In this study, 94 front-page headlines of the Bangkok Post containing phrasal verbs were selected as data from January 1 to June 30, 2003 and then analyzed.

Next, the researcher further explored whether literal or idiomatic meaning of phrasal verbs used in the front-page headlines of the Bangkok Post posed difficulties for non-native readers of English in understanding the headline by developing post questionnaires completed by 4th year SWU undergraduate students majoring in English. (see the questionnaire in Appendix D)

Procedures

The procedures of the study were divided into four steps:

1. Collection of the Bangkok Post front-page headlines containing phrasal verbs.
2. Identification of phrasal verbs according to the sense of meaning they convey:

literal or idiomatic based on the definitions given in the Longman Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs (1983), the Oxford Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs (1993) and the Longman Phrasal Verbs

Dictionary (2000). Context of the phrasal verbs and suggestions of Ms. Nicole Lasas, a native English instructor are also considered.

3. Calculation of frequency of categorized phrasal verbs.

4. Selection of 10 headlines containing literal meaning phrasal verbs and 10 headlines with idiomatic meaning phrasal verbs to use in the questionnaires with the SWU undergraduate students with the purpose of discovering whether literal or idiomatic meaning of phrasal verbs of the front-page headlines caused difficulties for them to understand the headlines. The 20 headlines were selected on the basis of frequency of occurrence of certain phrasal verbs that is the phrasal verbs were applied at least 2 times in the Bangkok Post front-page headlines collected from January 1 to June 30, 2003.

Analysis Presentation

The findings of the study were presented in the tables together with discussion about the findings provided below. Additionally, the frequency of occurrence of the categorized phrasal verbs according to terms of meaning was shown in the frequency tables. Lastly, the post questionnaires completed by 4th year SWU undergraduate students were analyzed and discussed.

Example of analysis

"PM plays down murder of police"

The phrasal verb play down fall into the idiomatic category according to the semantic criteria which Quirk; et al. (1972:812) state that the verb and the particle are fused into a new idiomatic combination when its meaning cannot be deducible from its parts. Additionally, the Longman Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs (1983:429) gives the definition of the phrasal verb play down (= to reduce the seeming importance of something) only in terms of idiomatic meaning. Thus, in Remarks column of Table 1 in the Chapter 4, the meaning of the headline "PM plays down murder of police" is interpreted in idiomatic sense. (see page 39)

CHAPTER 4

FINDINGS

This chapter presents the results of the four main steps of the analysis in accordance with the following objectives:

1. To explore whether the phrasal verbs used in front-page headlines of the Bangkok Post are employed most in literal meaning or idiomatic meaning
2. To find out which meanings pose difficulties for non-native readers in understanding the headlines

The followings are lists of Bangkok Post front-page headlines with phrasal verbs categorized by the sense of meaning into which they fall. As stated the researcher collected 94 front-page headlines from January 1 to June 30, 2003. However certain headlines contain more than one phrasal verb as a result, there are 95 phrasal verbs being analyzed in total.

Table 1 Classification of phrasal verbs of Bangkok Post front-page headlines according to the terms of meaning they convey

Date/ Jan	Headline	Literals meaning	Idioms meaning	Remarks
1	Senate keen to set up own graft team		To establish; to start (something such as an organization)	The Senate wanted to form its own agency to take charge of corruption investigations.
3	Girl's parents plan to sue clinic for B10m	To make a legal claim against someone for		The girl's parents will file a lawsuit against the clinic for 10 million baht.

Table 1 (continued)

Date/ Jan	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
		injury to oneself		
5	PM fires up police as raid sparks complaints	To start (an engine)	To make someone become very excited, interested or angry	The Prime Minister motivated policemen to become more interested in drug suppression as a raid by Mae Rim police caused complaints by Human Right activists.
6	Thirayuth hits out at Thaksin	To deal strong blows, often without direction	To attack (someone) in words	Thirayuth strongly criticized Thaksin.
7	Carnage blamed on economy	To place the responsibility for (something wrong) on (someone or something)		The improved economy was said to be a cause of the high number of road deaths during the New Year holiday.
9	Robbery mastermind gives up		To surrender or yield (something, someone, or oneself) to	The suspected mastermind of a security van robbery surrendered to police.

Table 1 (continued)

Date/ Jan	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
11	Pyongyang pulls out of non-proliferation treaty, appeals to US	To depart (from a place); to leave	To withdraw; to stop doing or being involved in something To earnestly request or ask someone to give or grant something	North Korea has withdrawn from the nuclear non-proliferation treaty and has requested the US to resume the supply of fuel oil.
11	Kids living off garbage in slums find PM's slogan hard to digest	To have (something) as one's diet; to eat (certain food)	To get money from something and use it in order to live	Slum children earning their living from garbage dumps found PM's slogan on Children' Day meaningless.
12	KL overturns bid to impose curfew on teens	To place (something such as a tax or responsibility) on (someone or something)		KL (Kuala Lumpur = the Malaysian government) did not approve the plan to place a mandatory night curfew on teenagers under eight-teen years old.
15	Sombat denies rape, will sue for defamation	To make a legal claim against (someone) for injury to		Sombat denied rape and said he will make a legal claim (against his prosecutor) for defamation.

Table 1 (continued)

Date/ Jan	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
		oneself		
16	Phone bill adds to trawler mystery	To make a sum of	To increase	A telephone bill has increased the mystery on the fate of a missing fishing boat crew.
18	Fans turn out for star-studded opener		To appear; to be present at; attend	Fans appeared in large numbers to cheer their favorite movie stars attending the Bangkok International Film Festival.
20	Samak won't stand again for governor	To be a candidate for something	To represent a word, phrase, or idea.	Samak will not be a candidate for the Bangkok gubernatorial position.
22	Sanan accused of 'using the dead' in petition	To say someone is guilty (of something)		Sanan was said to be guilty of using dead people's names to support his petition.
22	20% ceiling put on entertainment venues	To place (usually something) on top of something	To place on; to impose on	A 20% maximum tax rate is to be imposed on entertainment venues.
26	Thai Rak Thai to bank on populism		To depend on; trust in (someone,	Thai Rak Thai trust that populism will help the party accomplish its goal.

Table 1 (continued)

Date/ Jan	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
			something, or doing something)	
28	Blix asks UN for more time	To request something		Chief United Nations arms inspector Hans Blix required more time to complete nuclear weapons inspections in Iraq.
Date/ Feb	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
2	Sam Rainsy denied entry, turned away at Don Muang airport	To move in a direction away from something or someone	To refuse someone admission; to refuse hospitality to someone	Sam Rainsy was not allowed to enter Thailand at Don Muang airport.
4	Princess puts off trip to Cambodia		To postpone something; to delay doing something	HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn has postponed her planned trip to Cambodia because of the anti-Thai riots in Phnom Penh.
5	PM warms to Khmer response		To become more interested in something; to	Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra was satisfied with Cambodia's response.

Table 1 (continued)

Date/ Feb	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
9	Thousands pour across border	To move quickly, in a continuous stream or in a crowd, across something		Thousands of Cambodian people moved quickly in a crowd across Thai border as the border reopened yesterday.
13	Schools told to lay off wine		To stop doing (something harmful, unpleasant or irritating)	Schools were told to stop making and selling wine.
15	Tens of thousands turn out in hope of securing dream homes		To appear; to be present at; attend	Tens of thousands of people were present to apply for Baan Ua-Arthorn, the government's low-cost housing project.
15	Phnom Penh to hand over \$50m	To give (something) to someone else by hand	To give something (officially) to another person	The Cambodian government is to give US\$50million for damage to Thai property as a result of the 'anti Thai' riots in Phnom Penh.
23	Opposition warns of debt from policy	To give warning or advice concerning		The opposition party told the government to be wary of debt from its policy.

Table 1 (continued)

Date/ Feb	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
		something such as a danger		
23	Chiang Rai Police step up drive to appease Wan Nor	To walk forward or to a higher level	To improve; to increase the amount of effort or increase the speed of something	Chiang Rai police has increased the amount of effort to meet Interior Minister Wan Muhamad Nor Matha's satisfaction.
28	British pensioner called up to fight Iraq	To shout so as to be heard by someone on a higher level	To summon for military or national service	A British pensioner was ordered to join armed forces to fight Iraq.
Date/ March	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
2	Buddha tooth relics head back to Beijing	To begin to return		Relics of the Lord Buddha's tooth were taken back to China.
3	Army pulls INN off the airwaves	To remove with some force		The Army banned the broadcast of INN (Independent News Network).
4	INN goes back on air	To return		The INN radio news station resumes its broadcast.

Table 1 (continued)

Date/ March	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
7	Hun Sen lashes out at Bangkok		To make a sudden and violent attack, physical or verbal upon someone	Prime Minister Hun Sen angrily criticized Thailand.
8	Ballistic tests clear policemen of killing nine-year- old boy	To prove that someone is not guilty of something; to declare someone to be free from something; to absolve		Ballistic tests have revealed that alleged policemen are not guilty of killing a nine- year-old boy.
9	We'll never give in to pressure, says PM		To allow oneself to be overcome by; to yield to	Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra said Thai people and himself will not yield to pressure to normalize relations with Cambodia.
10	PM advised to 'keep his cool' in dealing with reporters		To have a relationship with (someone); to	Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra was advised to not react with a rash display of emotion when

Table 1 (continued)

Date/ March	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
			have talks with (someone)	answering reporters' questions.
12	Cambodia blamed for 'starvation'	To consider (someone) responsible for (something bad)		The Cambodian government was considered responsible for severe food shortages in the country because of its decision to close its border with Thailand.
14	PM makes changes to put pals in key posts		To appoint (someone) to (a position of responsibility)	The Prime Minister has made some changes to the military reshuffle list to appoint officers close to him in key positions.
15	Majority of Senate adds to peace cry	To make a sum of	To increase	A majority of senators has not supported the prospect of a US-led war on Iraq.
15	Us says Thais doing too little to stamp out human trafficking	To shape (something by pressing)	To get rid of (something) vigorously or by force; eliminate	The US government said the Thai government had not put enough effort to get rid of human trafficking.
18	B251.7m paid for damage to Thai embassy	To give (someone) money as the cost of		B251.7m was given as compensation for damage to the Thai embassy in Phnom Penh.

Table 1 (continued)

Date/ March	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
		(something)		
23	Allies close in on Basra		To get closer to (someone or something) intending to surround and attack him/it	Allies have moved close to Basra so as to surround and attack it.
26	Saddam's forces dig in		To push or thrust in to something	Iraqi troops moved in.
29	US beefing up its forces		To make (something) stronger; to develop (something) in size and importance	The US has strengthened its forces.
30	Family praying for missing Thai- American marine, 22	To make a request to God for something or on behalf of someone		A family is praying to God on behalf of their missing Thai-American marine son who is 22 years old.
Date/ Apr	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
1	Syria sides with		To put oneself	Syria has chosen to

Table 1 (continued)

Date/ Apr	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
	Baghdad		on the same side as someone; to take someone's part	support Iraq in the war.
2	Anger grows over killing of civilians	To (cause to) cover something		Killing of Iraqi civilians has increased Arab anger.
5	Canada put on Sars watchlist	To place (usually something) on top of something	To add (something)	Canada was included on the Sars watchlist.
6	Saddam urges his army to fight back	To respond vigorously to an attack made on oneself; retaliate		President Saddam Hussein urged Iraqi troops and Iraqi people to return an attack to United States armored forces.
9	Govt to pay B1m for every death from local infection	To give (someone) money as the cost of (something)		The government will pay one million baht to the family of any Thai person who is infected the Sars virus locally and dies.
19	US steps up search for banned		To improve; to increase the	The US has increased the amount of effort to find

Table 1 (continued)

Date/ Apr	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
	arms		amount of effort or the speed of something	banned arms in Iraq.
20	Khao San road backpackers shrug off global concern		To treat or regard as unimportant or not worthy of attention	Khao San road backpackers regarded the global concern on Sars outbreaks as unimportant.
21	Singapore puts 2,400 people in quarantine		To make someone go to a prison, a hospital, or some other place where their can be looked after	A Sars outbreak in Singapore caused 2,400 people to be placed in quarantine.
22	East Asia region aims for common health controls	To point or direct (a gun, etc.) towards (someone or something)	To have as one's objective; to make an effort towards (something or doing something)	East Asian countries tried to gain common health measures to control Sars.
24	Joint cabinet meet to go ahead		To be allowed to continue; to take place, as	A joint cabinet meeting between the Thai and Cambodian governments

Table 1 (continued)

Date/ Apr	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
			after a difficulty; to proceed	will proceed.
25	Senate chaos as Speaker row heats up	To (cause to) become hot again after it has cooled	To become excited or intense	The Senate meeting became disorderly when a quarrel about the Speaker's legitimacy to chair the meeting became more intense.
25	Manoonkrit ignored as Adul storms out	To leave (a room etc.) in a very angry manner		Senate Speaker Manoonkrit Roopkachorn ignored when Senator Adul Wanchaithanawong angrily walked out of the Senate meeting yesterday.
25	Beijing police seal off major hospital	To close the entrance to (something), so that nothing can move in or out		Beijing police have closed the entrance to a major hospital to quarantine Sars-affected areas.
27	Asean sets out bid to halt spread		To begin work with the intention of achieving a particular goal	Asean started working together to stop the spread of Sars.
28	PM plays down murder of police		To reduce the seeming	Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra has tried to

Table 1 (continued)

Date/ Apr	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
			importance of (something)	make murder of police appear less important than it is.
30	Special Sars fund kicks off with B64.3m pledge	To remove something by shaking the foot	To begin; to start	A special fund for Sars research and study was launched with a B64.3m pledge.
Date/ May	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
4	Man cuts off arm to save his life	To remove (something) by cutting	To interrupt (someone or something)	A rock climber has cut his arm to rescue himself after being trapped under a boulder for five days.
5	Syria 'clamps down'		To control, especially to limit (something bad); to deal firmly with; to suppress	Syria took stronger action against militant Palestinian factions.
6	FIO accused of misusing building fund	To say someone is guilty of something		FIO (The Forest Industry Organization) was said to be guilty of misusing a construction budget.
10	Creditors want own team in	To wish to be involved (in something)		Creditors wish their own team to be involved in a plan administrator of Thai

Table 1 (continued)

Date/ May	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
				Petrochemical Industry.
10	Plane's door bursts open, 160 fall out	To leave something in a downward direction, by falling accidentally		One hundred and sixty people fell from a plane as its door burst open.
13	Govt hits back at Thirayuth	To return a blow to someone	To counter-attack vigorously; reply with vigor to verbal attacks	The government countered Thirayuth's verbal attacks.
16	Free flight promotion scaled back		To reduce (something); to do (something) less than originally planned	Thai Airways International has reduced its free flight promotion.
17	Purges ruled out ahead of ministry's annual reshuffle		To decide or declare that something is impossible or undesirable	There will be no purge in the Foreign Ministry until the ministry's annual reshuffle in September.
17	Thaksin shrugs off threat, issues tit-for-tat travel alert		To treat or regard (something or someone) as unimportant, untrue or not	Thaksin disregard travel warnings issued by Australia and New Zealand that Thailand was a potential target for

Table 1 (continued)

Date/ May	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
			worthy of attention	terrorist attacks and said Australia itself was also a target.
18	Cabinet to look at improving public services	To see; watch; direct one's eyes towards (something or someone)	To consider; to examine	A cabinet meeting to be held in Pattaya is to consider proposals to improve the civil service.
19	Give up now, says PM		To stop doing or having (something)	Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra warned influential people to stop engaging in illegal activities.
19	Campaign has torn some families apart	To divide (something or things) by pulling; cause disorder to something	To hurt or cause severe grief or pain; to cause trouble by dividing its people	The government's 'war on drugs' campaign has separated family members and caused them severe grief.
24	Hong Kong cleared of Sars virus by WHO	To prove that someone is not guilty of something; to declare (someone) to		WHO (The World Health Organization) has withdrawn its warning against travel to Hong Kong owing to the Sars outbreak.

Table 1 (continued)

Date/ May	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
		be free (from something)		
25	KL beefs up border security		To make (something) stronger; to develop (something) in size and importance	KL (Kuala Lumpur= the Malaysian government) has strengthened its border security.
27	PM dares mafia to take him on		To take (someone) as one's opponent; to compete against someone or start a fight with someone	Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra has challenged influential figures by making them his opponents.
28	Envoy warns of 'climate of fear'	To give (someone) warning or advice concerning something such as a danger		A United Nations Envoy expressed concern over the insecure role and situation of human rights activists in Thailand.
29	PM lashes out at UN envoy's		To make a sudden or violent	Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra made a

Table 1 (continued)

Date/ May	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
	criticism		attack, physical or verbal	violent, verbal attack upon the UN envoy's criticism.
30	Suriya hits back at key Democrat		To counter-attack vigorously; reply with vigor to verbal attacks	Suriya made a verbal counter-attack against a key Democrat member.
31	PM rules out cabinet reshuffle		To decide or declare that something is impossible or undesirable	The Prime Minister decided that a cabinet reshuffle was not needed.
31	Nurses fight back in 'battle of the bulge'	To return an attack; to defend oneself		Nurses disputed the discrimination they faced for being overweight.
Date/ June	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
1	Kamnan charged with murders		To allege that someone is guilty of something	Wun Tamingkham, a kamnan of tambon Mae Pa, Tak province was alleged to have killed six Burmese migrant workers.
3	PM calls for sincere, active		To demand; to ask for; to urge	PM asked for sincere, active help.

Table 1 (continued)

Date/ June	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
	help			
4	Prison boss accused of drug deals	To say someone is guilty (of something)		A prison chief was said to be guilty of involvement in drug deals.
5	Govt accused of protecting bad doctors	To say someone is guilty (of something)		The government was blamed for protecting bad doctor by supporting changes in the National Health Security Act.
5	Prison head appeals for fairness	To make a request for something		The prison chief made a request for fairness.
6	Women freed from legal yoke	To make (someone or something) free, independent of (something)		Thai women were able to choose whether to keep their maiden names or adopt their husband's family names after marriage.
9	Another teen goes on rampage		To continue to happen or exist	Another teenager caused a rampage.
10	PM denies visit is to patch up ties with US	To mend with pieces of cloth	To settle or resolve (a disagreement); to become friends	PM denied he was visiting the United States to settle a disagreement over Thailand's stand on

Table 1 (continued)

Date/ June	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
			again after (a quarrel)	the US-led war on Iraq.
18	Asean calls for release of Suu Kyi		To demand; to ask for; to urge	Asean (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) demanded the release of Aung San Suu Kyi.
19	Powell calls for Asean pressure		To demand; to ask for; to urge	US Secretary of State Colin Powell urged Asean to pressure the Burmese military regime to free Aung San Suu Kyi.
23	Shop around more for tanks, army told		To try to find the best price; quality, deal etc. by going to different shops or companies and comparing an offer	The army was told to increase options on the purchase of tanks by comparing different proposals.
25	TTM determined to go ahead	To move in front of (something or someone)	To proceed; to make progress; to take place	TTM (Trans Thai-Malaysia Ltd.) determined to proceed with the Thai- Malaysian gas pipeline project despite strong resistance from local villagers.

Table 1 (continued)

Date/ June	Headline	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning	Remarks
25	B300m plan to fence wildlife in	To enclose (an area, person, or animal) with a fence		A 300 million baht plan is to enclose wild animals in Huay Kha Khaeng wildlife sanctuary.
30	Indian man lives on sunlight, water diet		To have (something) as one's diet; to survive by eating (something)	An Indian man survives only on sunlight and water as his diet.
30	Children call on police to return home		To make a demand on (someone) to do something	Child opponents of the Thai-Malaysian gas pipeline project demanded that policemen guarding the construction site go home.

From Table 1, literal meaning phrasal verbs can be detected from their separate parts while idiomatic meaning phrasal verbs cannot be deduced from their individual parts and must be understood as a single unit. For instance, the meaning of *kick off* (= to begin, start) in the headline *Special Sars fund kicks off with B64.3m pledge* cannot be understood by simply putting together the meanings of 'kick' and 'off' as the verb-particle combination creates a new meaning altogether.

Table 2 Frequency of occurrence of categorized phrasal verbs according to terms of meaning

Categorized phrasal verbs according to their senses of meaning	Frequency of occurrence	
	Number of phrasal verbs	Percentage
Literal meaning phrasal verb	32	33.68
Idiomatic meaning phrasal verb	63	66.32
Total	95	100.00

Table 2 illustrates that the front-page headlines of the Bangkok Post contain both literal and idiomatic meaning phrasal verbs. There are 95 phrasal verbs in total used in the 94 front-page headlines collected. Apparently, phrasal verbs of the Bangkok Post front-page headlines are employed more frequently in idiomatic meaning than literal meaning. With 66.32 %, idiomatic meaning phrasal verbs occur two times more often than literal meaning phrasal verbs, which totaled 33.68%.

Table 3 Score of SWU undergraduate students answering the post questionnaire

Number of respondents	Score	0-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-10
	Literal meaning	0	2	12	21	15
Total 50	Idiomatic meaning	12	24	14	2	0

There were ten questions on literal meaning phrasal verbs and ten questions on idiomatic meaning phrasal verbs. The score shows the number correct out of ten questions. The table shows the number of students who received the indicated score. Thus, for example, fifteen students received 9-10 correct out of ten questions for literal meaning, while no student received a score of 9-10 correct out of ten questions on idiomatic meaning.

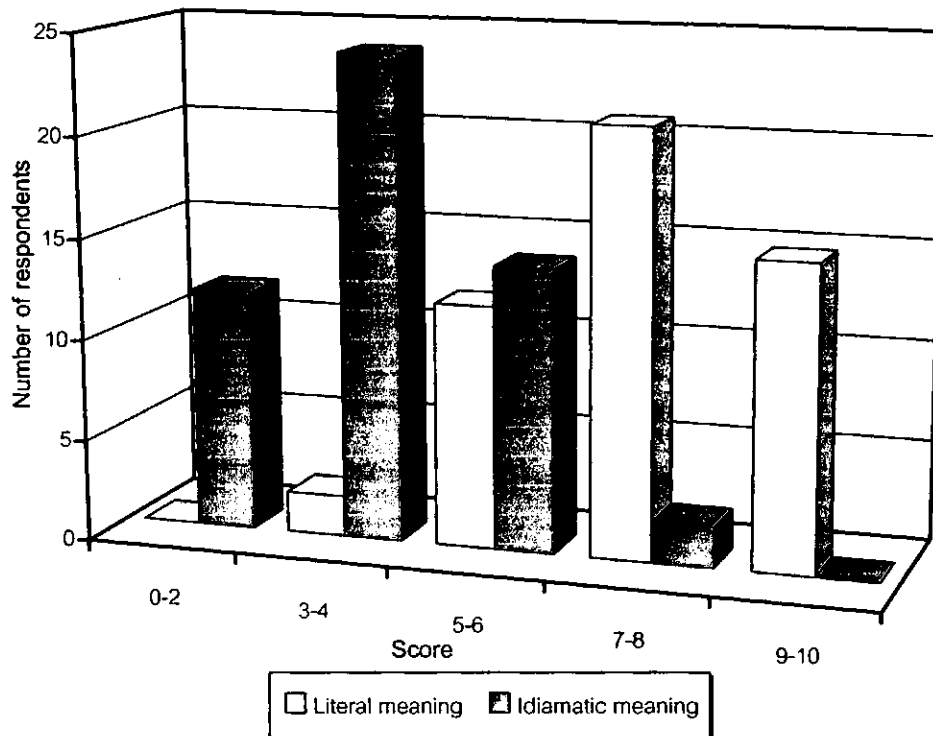


FIGURE 1 Chart of score of SWU undergraduate students answering the post questionnaire

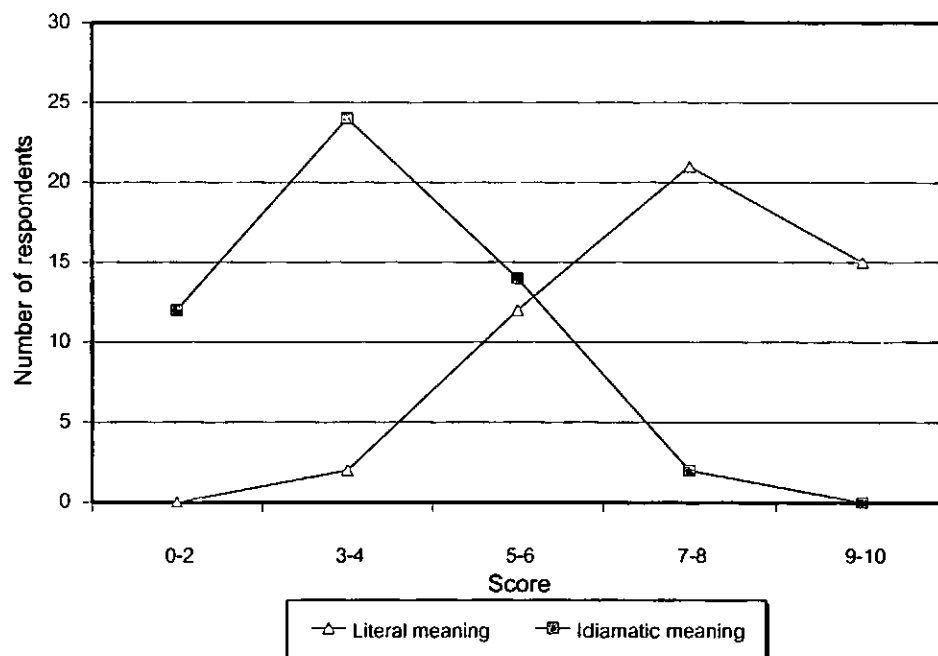


FIGURE 2 Graph of score of SWU undergraduate students answering the post questionnaire

From 50 questionnaires (see the questionnaire in Appendix D) intended to find out whether literal or idiomatic meanings of phrasal verbs of the Bangkok Post front-page headlines pose difficulties for 4th year SWU undergraduate students majoring in English in understanding the headlines, the findings showed the majority of the respondents (21) got 7-8 score from the questions which evaluate their understanding of literal meanings of phrasal verbs, whereas the majority of them (24) got 3-4 score from the questions which evaluate their understanding of idiomatic meanings of phrasal verbs. This indicates that their scores were almost in inverse proportion. They scored high on literal meaning, but low on idiomatic meaning.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSIONS, DISCUSSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In this chapter, the analyzed data are discussed according to the research questions of the study. Thus, the conclusions, discussions and suggestions for further study are presented respectively.

Conclusions

The conclusions of the study are described in relation to the research questions that aimed to answer the following questions:

1. Which sense of meaning is found more frequently in phrasal verbs of the front-page headlines?

The results showed that 95 phrasal verbs used in the Bangkok Post front-page headlines collected were employed more frequently in idiomatic meaning than literal meaning. As indicated in the frequency of occurrence, idiomatic meaning phrasal verbs (66.32%) occurred twice as often as literal meaning phrasal verbs (33.68%).

2. Do non-native readers have more difficulties understanding idiomatic meaning of phrasal verbs used in the front-page headlines than they do with literal meaning?

The results revealed that 4th year SWU undergraduate students majoring in English who are representatives of average Thai readers of the Bangkok Post have more difficulties with idiomatic meaning phrasal verbs used in the front-page headlines than they do with literal meaning phrasal verbs. From 50 post questionnaires intended to evaluate their understanding of literal and idiomatic meanings of phrasal verbs employed in the headlines, the majority of students scored high on literal meaning (7-8 score) but low on idiomatic meaning (3-4 score).

While most of phrasal verbs used in front-page headlines of the Bangkok Post conveyed idiomatic meaning, the students had more difficulties understanding this sense of meaning than the literal sense. Apparently, the idiomatic meaning of phrasal verbs is a

crucial barrier for non-native readers in understanding the right meaning of front-page headlines.

Discussions

Phrasal verbs are commonly found in newspaper headlines as they are short, simple and contain colloquial tones, which are deemed readily understandable for readers. According to Charoen Kittikanya, a rewrite reporter of the Bangkok Post, phrasal verbs are mostly used in front-page headlines as well as other sections because they are catchy and concise. Usually, this kind of verb can readily and completely describe what is happening in a news story. As a newspaper's spaces are precious, especially the front-page, phrasal verbs are preferably used. Charoen Kittikanya added that phrasal verbs also make headlines more vivid, colorful and expressive as most of them are idiomatic such as *cash in on*, meaning to make a profit from a situation unfairly (Charoen Kittikanya. Interview. 2004).

Idiomatic meaning phrasal verbs pose more of a problem for non-native readers in understanding the headlines because of nature of idiomatic meaning. The results of this study revealed that while literal meaning of phrasal verbs can be detected from their separate parts, idiomatic meaning of phrasal verbs cannot be surmised from their individual parts and must be understood as a single unit. The researcher hopes that this finding as well as the classification of phrasal verbs used in the front-page headlines according to the terms of meaning conveyed (Table 1 in the previous chapter), will help non-native readers have a better understanding of literal and idiomatic meaning of phrasal verbs. Additionally, since certain phrasal verbs were repeated in the 94 Bangkok Post front-page headlines collected from January 1 to June 30, 2003 as presented in Table 1, the researcher recommends that non-native readers read front-page headlines of the Bangkok Post as often as they can to familiarize themselves with the meaning and usage of repeated phrasal verbs used in the headlines. Finally, when phrasal verbs employed in the front-page headlines contain both senses of meaning, it is advisable that readers use the context which phrasal verbs appear to help them identify the right meaning of given phrasal verbs. For example, from its context *patch up* as in *PM denies visit is to patch up ties with US* should be

interpreted in its idiomatic sense: to settle or resolve a disagreement rather than the literal sense: to mend with pieces of cloth.

Recommendations

1. In this study, the data of analysis were 94 Bangkok Post front-page headlines with phrasal verbs collected from January 1 to June 30, 2003. Although the amount of data were adequate to allow the researcher to accomplish the objectives of the study, extended duration for gathering headlines is recommended as the extended time may provide more comprehensive results.

2. Idiomatic meaning phrasal verbs, so called phrasal verb idioms, are one structure type of idiomatic expressions. However, idioms appearing in other structure types in front-page headlines should be studied further to find out whether they cause difficulties for non-native readers in understanding headlines. For instance, *Workers stay put in Gaza Strip (verb phrase)*; *P. Penh pulls out all stops on final day of campaigning (phrasal verb + noun)*.

3. This project was limited to the study of semantic usage of phrasal verbs used in the front-page headlines of the Bangkok Post. Three main aspects of analysis consisted of classification of phrasal verbs according to terms of meaning they convey, frequency of occurrence of categorized phrasal verbs and whether literal or idiomatic meaning of phrasal verbs pose more difficulties for non-native readers in understanding the headlines. Nevertheless, there are other interesting syntactic aspects of headline writing that should be studied further, as follows:

- Telegraphic syntax (the omission of function words)
- Verb tense of headlines

As the language of newspaper headlines should be effective and economical, normally function words such as articles, personal pronouns as well as auxiliary words are omitted. Although this omission saves the newspaper space, it poses difficulties for non-native readers in understanding the headlines, as this special writing style does not conform to Standard English. Further, since newspaper headlines have their own special usage of verb tense, a study of this syntactic aspect would be interesting and beneficial to non-native readers.

4. This study was conducted only on one English daily newspaper, the Bangkok Post. Thus, further study could be done through analyzing the difference of using phrasal verbs in other English newspapers such as The Nation.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Agee, Warren Kendall. (1983). *Reporting and Writing the News*. New York: Harper & Row.
- Anderson, D. A.; & Itule, B. D. (1988). *Writing the News*. New York: Random House.
- Bhikul Punyaratabandhu. (1998). *Reading for Mass Communication*. Bangkok: Kasetsart University.
- Brooks, B. S.; & Sissors, J. Z. (2001). *The Art of Editing*. 7th ed. Boston: Allyn & Bacon.
- Bush, Chilton R. (1954). *The Art of News Communication*. New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts.
- Courtney, R. (1983). *Longman Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs*. Harlow: Longman Group.
- Cowie, A. P.; & Mackin, R. (1993). *Oxford Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs*. Oxford: Oxford University.
- Crowell, A. A. (1970). *Creative News Editing*. Iowa: WM. C. Brown Company Publishers.
- Crump, Spencer. (1974). *Fundamentals of Journalism*. New York: McGraw-Hill.
- Dominick, R. J. (2002). *The Dynamics of Mass Communication*. 7th ed. New York: McGraw-Hill.
- Ferguson, L. D.; & Patten, J. (1998). *Journalism Today*. Illinois: National Textbook.
- Frank, Marcella. (1993). *Modern English: A Practical Reference Guide*. 2nd ed. New Jersey: Prentice-Hall.
- Frodesen, J.; & Eyring, J. (1993). *Grammar Dimensions: Form, Meaning, and Use*. Boston: Heinle & Heinle.
- Garst, R. E.; & Bernstein, T. M. (1961). *Headlines and Deadlines*. 3rd ed. New York: Columbia University.
- Gilmore, Gene; & Root, Robert. (1971). *Modern Newspaper Editing*. California: Glendessary.
- Johnston, H. D. (1979). *Journalism and the Media: An Introduction to Mass Communication*. New York: Harper & Row.
- Kessler L.; & McDonald D. (2000). *When Words Collide: A Media Writer's Guide to Grammar and Style*. 5th ed. California: Wadsworth.

- Larson, Mildred L. (1984). *Meaning-based Translation: A Guide to Cross- Language Equivalence*. Lanham: University Press of America.
- Lent, John A. (1982). *Newspaper in Asia: Contemporary Trends and Problems*. Hong Kong: Heinemann.
- Longman Phrasal Verbs Dictionary*. (2000). Harlow: Pearson Education.
- Lorenz, L. A.; & Vivian, J. (1996). *News Reporting and Writing*. New York: Harper Collins.
- Makkai, Adam. (1972). *Idiom Structure in English*.
- Mcmodie, W. (1978). *English Idioms*. 4th ed. Oxford: Oxford University.
- Neal, R. M. (1946). *Editing The Small City Daily*. New York: Prentice-Hall.
- Paneth, D. (1983). *The Encyclopedia of American Journalism*. New York: Facts on File.
- Phothi-on, C. (1997). *Fundamentals of Public Relations*. Bangkok: Rajabhat Chandrakasem Institute.
- Pussadee Thanomsak. (1998). *An Analysis of Front Page News in an English Daily Newspaper: A Case of the Bangkok Post*. Master's Thesis, M.A. (Communicative English). Bangkok: Graduate School. Ramkhamhaeng University. Photocopied.
- Quirk, R.; et al. (1972). *A Grammar of Contemporary English*. London: Longman Group.
- Reah, Danuta. (2002). *The Language of Newspapers*. 2nd ed. London: Routledge.
- Rochareg Charuchinda. (2003). *An Analysis of Noun Phrases Used in the Bangkok Post Front-Page Headlines*. Master's Project, M.A. (Business English for International Communication). Bangkok: Graduate School. Srinakharinwirot University. Photocopied.
- Sinclair, John. (1990). *Collins Cobuild Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs*. London: Collins
- Somchit Laumsupanimit. (1986). *English in Newspaper*. Bangkok: Silapakorn University.
- Teaching English with the Bangkok Post*. (1995). Bangkok: Educational Services Department Post Publishing.
- The Bangkok Post: History and Development*. (2003). Bangkok: Bangkok Post's Information Center.
- Tips On Reading the Bangkok Post*. (2003). (Online). Available: <http://www.bangkokpost.com/education/rdtips.htm>.
- Retrieved November 2003.

Westley, Bruce H. (1980). *News Editing*. 3rd ed. Boston: Houghton Mufflin.

Wood, Julia T. (2000). *Communication Theories in Action*. 2nd ed. California: Wadsworth.

บรรณานุกรม

- เครือวัลย์ ชัชกุล. (2535). การวิเคราะห์การนำเสนอหัวข้อของหนังสือพิมพ์ วิทยุ และโทรทัศน์.
วิทยานิพนธ์ ศ.ม. (การสื่อสารมวลชน). กรุงเทพฯ: บัณฑิตวิทยาลัย จุฬาลงกรณ์
มหาวิทยาลัย. ถ่ายเอกสาร.
- จำนง วิบูลย์ศรี และ ดวงทิพย์ วรพันธุ์. (2526). หนังสือพิมพ์รายวันภาษาอังกฤษในประเทศไทย.
กรุงเทพฯ: จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย. ถ่ายเอกสาร.
- เฟรดริกสัน, เทอรี่ และ วีเดล, พอล. (2543). อิงลิช บาย นิวส์เพเพอร์ (English by Newspaper).
พิมพ์ครั้งที่ 9. กรุงเทพฯ: โพลีส์พับลิชชิง.

APPENDIX

APPENDIX A

**Questionnaire: The Comprehension of SWU Undergraduate Students on Phrasal
Verbs Used in the Bangkok Post Front-page Headlines**

QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire is prepared by Miss Namtan Kittikool, a graduate student of the Business English for International Communication Program, the Department of Western Languages, Faculty of Humanities, Srinakharinwirot University.

Miss Namtan Kittikool is now working on a Master's Project entitled "An Analysis of Idiomatic and Literal Meanings of Phrasal Verbs Used in the Bangkok Post Front-Page Headlines". The purpose of this questionnaire is to explore the extent to which the readers understand the phrasal verbs employed in the front-page headlines.

Your response to the questions will be very useful for the study. Many thanks for your kind cooperation.

Part I: General Information

Your current profession:

Do you read the Bangkok Post? ☐ Yes. ☐ No.

Do you read or at least scan the front-page headlines of the Bangkok Post?

☐ Yes. ☐ No.

Part II: The comprehension of respondents on a phrasal verb used in the front-page headline

1. Are you familiar with phrasal verbs (e.g. put off, call for, break down etc.)?
☐ Yes. ☐ No.
2. In each of the following headlines, please underline the words you consider a phrasal verb

Another teen goes on rampage

Arnie to run for governor in California

Thirayuth hits out at Thaksin

PM dares mafia to take him on

Campaign has torn some families apart

PM plays down murder of police

Ballistic tests clear policemen of killing nine-year-old boy

Syria sides with Baghdad

PM vows to clean up police force

Thousands sign up for govt help

3. Which senses of meaning the phrasal verbs in the ten headlines above bring to you?

Please check ✓ on the sense you wish to select as an answer.

Note that: While literal meaning is a denotative meaning and can be detected from separate parts of phrasal verb, idiomatic meaning cannot be guessed from separate parts of the phrasal verb and must be understood as a single unit.

Headline number	Literal meaning	Idiomatic meaning
Headline 1		
Headline 2		
Headline 3		
Headline 4		
Headline 5		
Headline 6		
Headline 7		
Headline 8		
Headline 9		
Headline 10		

4. Have you had any difficulty understanding headlines with a phrasal verb?

☐ Yes. ☐ No.

5. If your answer in the question number 4 is "Yes", how do you solve the problem?

.....

.....

APPENDIX B

Interview of Mr. Charoen Kittikanya, a rewrite reporter of the Bangkok Post

Interviewee: Mr. Charoen Kittikanya, a rewrite reporter of the Bangkok Post

Interviewer: Miss Namtan Kittikool

Date: January 7, 2004

Place: A lobby of the Editorial Department, Bangkok Post Building

Namtan: Why are phrasal verbs used in front-page headlines?

Mr. Charoen: Phrasal verbs are mostly used in front-page headlines and other sections because they are catchy and concise. Usually, these kinds of verbs can readily and completely describe what is happening in a news story. As a newspaper's spaces are precious, especially the front page, phrasal verbs are preferably used. Furthermore, in headlining the writer is concerned about page layout and using phrasal verbs is considered a good alternative to create an attractive page layout since the fewer words the headline contains, the bigger and bolder the headline can be.

Namtan: Apart from being catchy, concise, and economical, what are some other advantages of using phrasal verbs in the headlines?

Mr. Charoen: Phrasal verbs make headlines more vivid, colorful and expressive because most of them are idiomatic such as "cash in on", meaning to make a profit from a situation unfairly. Phrasal verbs are considered emotive and attention-getting words. For instance, instead of using such common words as *ask* or *demand*, putting *call for* in the headline makes the headline more interesting. Some phrasal verbs such as *hit out at* also help to add sensational tones to the headline.

Namtan: As phrasal verbs have several grammatical structures and can be both idiomatic and non-idiomatic, do you think these attributes will make it difficult for non-native readers to understand headlines with phrasal verbs?

Mr. Charoen: Such attributes of phrasal verbs you mentioned may cause difficulties in understanding the headline to some readers. However, as we conduct an English language newspaper, we have no choice but to conform to the English usage.

Actually, the Bangkok Post as well as other newspapers tries to use 'reader friendly language' or language that is rather informal and readily understandable. In my opinion, phrasal verbs are very useful to serve this purpose. Thinking positively in regard to your concern, readers can learn to become more familiar with phrasal verbs by reading English printed newspapers as well as other English language materials.

APPENDIX C

The Bangkok Post Front-page Headlines with Phrasal Verbs Collected from
January 1- June 30, 2003

Front-page Headlines with Phrasal Verbs:

Senate keens to set up own graft team. (2003, 1 January). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Girl's parents plan to sue clinic for B10m. (2003, 3 January). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

PM fires up police as raid sparks complaints. (2003, 5 January). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Thirayuth hits out at Thaksin. (2003, 6 January). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Carnage blamed on economy. (2003, 7 January). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Robbery mastermind gives up. (2003, 9 January). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Pyongyang pulls out of non-proliferation treaty, appeals to US. (2003, 11 January).

Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Kids living off garbage in slums find PM's slogan hard to digest. (2003, 11 January).

Bangkok Post. Page 1.

KL overturns bid to impose curfew on teens. (2003, 12 January). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Sombat denies rape, will sue for defamation. (2003, 15 January). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Phone bill adds to trawler mystery. (2003, 16 January). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Fans turn out for star-studded opener. (2003, 18 January). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Samak won't stand again for governor. (2003, 20 January). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Sanan accused of 'using the dead' in petition. (2003, 22 January). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

20% ceiling put on entertainment venues. (2003, 22 January). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Thai Rak Thai to bang on populism. (2003, 26 January). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Blix asks UN for more time. (2003, 28 January). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Sam Rainsy denied entry, turned away at Don Muang airport. (2003, 2 February).

Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Princess puts off trip to Cambodia. (2003, 4 February). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

PM warms to Khmer response. (2003, 5 February). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Thousands pour across border. (2003, 9 February). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Schools told to lay off wine. (2003, 13 February). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Tens of thousands turn out in hope of securing dream homes. (2003, 15 February).

Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Phnom Penh to hand over \$ 50m. (2003, 15 February). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Opposition warns of debt from policy. (2003, 23 February). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
 Chiang Rai police step up drive to appease Wan Nor. (2003, 23 February). Bangkok Post.
 Page 1.

PM scoffs at inquiry, blacklist target set. (2003, 27 February). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
 British pensioner called up to fight Iraq. (2003, 28 February). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
 Buddha tooth relics head back to Beijing. (2003, 2 March). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
 Army pulls INN off the airwaves. (2003, 3 March). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
 INN goes back on air. (2003, 4 March). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
 Hun Sen lashes out at Bangkok. (2003, 7 March). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
 Ballistic tests clear policemen of killing nine-year-old boy. (2003, 8 March). Bangkok Post.
 Page 1.

We'll never give in to pressure, says PM. (2003, 9 March). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
 PM advised to 'keep his cool' in dealing with reporters. (2003, 10 March). Bangkok Post.
 Page 1.

Cambodia blamed for 'starvation'. (2003, 12 March). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
 PM makes changes to put pals in key posts. (2003, 14 March). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
 Majority of Senate adds to peace cry. (2003, 15 March). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
 US says Thais doing too little to stamp put human trafficking. (2003, 15 March).
 Bangkok Post. Page 1.

B 251.7 m paid for damage to Thai embassy. (2003, 18 March). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
 Allies close in on Basra. (2003, 23 March). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
 Saddam's forces dig in. (2003, 26 March). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
 US beefing up its forces. (2003, 29 March). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Family praying for missing Thai-American marine, 22. (2003, 30 March). Bangkok Post.
 Page 1.

Syria sides with Baghdad. (2003, 1 April). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
 Anger grows over killing of civilians. (2003, 2 April). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Canada put on Sars watchlist. (2003, 5 April). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Saddam urges his army to fight back. (2003, 6 April). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Govt to pay B1m for every death from local infection. (2003, 9 April). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

US steps up search for banned arms. (2003, 19 April). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Khao San road backpackers shrug off global concern. (2003, 20 April). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Singapore puts 2,400 people in quarantine. (2003, 21 April). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

East Asia region aims for common health controls. (2003, 22 April). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Joint cabinet meet to go ahead. (2003, 24 April). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Senate chaos as Speaker row heats up. (2003, 25 April). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Manoonkrit ignored as Adul storms out. (2003, 25 April). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Beijing police seal off major hospital. (2003, 25 April). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Asean sets out bid to halt spread. (2003, 27 April). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

PM plays down murder of police. (2003, 28 April). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Special Sars fund kicks off with B64.3 m pledge. (2003, 30 April). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Man cuts off arm to save his life. (2003, 4 May). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Syria 'clamps down'. (2003, 5 May). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

FIO accused of misusing building fund. (2003, 6 May). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Creditors want own team in. (2003, 10 May). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Plane's door bursts open, 160 fall out. (2003, 10 May). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Govt hits back at Thirayuth. (2003, 13 May). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Free flight promotion scaled back. (2003, 16 May). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Thaksin shrugs off threat, issues tit-for-tat travel alert. (2003, 17 May). Bangkok Post.

Page 1.

Purges ruled out ahead of ministry's annual reshuffle. (2003, 17 May). Bangkok Post.

Page 1.

Cabinet to look at improving public services. (2003, 18 May). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Give up now, says PM. (2003, 19 May). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

Campaign has torn some families apart. (2003, 19 May). Bangkok Post. Page

Hong Kong cleared of Sars virus by WHO. (2003, 24 May). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

- KL beefs up border security. (2003, 25 May). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
- PM dares mafia to take him on. (2003, 27 May). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
- Envoy warns of 'climate of fear'. (2003, 28 May). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
- PM lashes out at UN envoy's criticism. (2003, 29 May). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
- Suriya hits back at key Democrat. (2003, 30 May). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
- PM rules out cabinet reshuffle. (2003, 31 May). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
- Nurses fight back in 'battle of the bulge'. (2003, 31 May). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
- Kamnan charged with murders. (2003, 1 June). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
- PM calls for sincere, active help. (2003, 3 June). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
- Prison boss accused of drug deals. (2003, 4 June). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
- Govt accused of protecting bad doctors. (2003, 5 June). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
- Prison head appeals for fairness. (2003, 5 June). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
- Women freed from legal yoke. (2003, 6 June). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
- Another teen goes on rampage. (2003, 9 June). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
- PM denies visit is to patch up ties with US. (2003, 10 June). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
- Asean calls for release of Suu Kyi. (2003, 18 June). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
- Powell calls for Asean pressure. (2003, 19 June). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
- Shop around more for tanks, army told. (2003, 23 June). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
- TTM determined to go ahead. (2003, 25 June). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
- B300m plan to fence wildlife in. (2003, 25 June). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
- Indian man lives on sunlight, water diet. (2003, 30 June). Bangkok Post. Page 1.
- Children call on police to return home. (2003, 30 June). Bangkok Post. Page 1.

APPENDIX D

**Post Questionnaire on Literal and Idiomatic meanings of Phrasal Verbs Used in
the Bangkok Post Front-Page Headlines**

POST QUESTIONNAIRE:

This questionnaire is designed to explore whether idiomatic and literal meanings of phrasal verbs of the Bangkok Post front-page headlines pose difficulties for readers in understanding the headlines. The respondent will be 4th SWU undergraduate students majoring in English.

Your response to the questionnaires will be very useful for the study. The researcher would feel very much obliged to your kind cooperation.

Please write down the letter with appropriate meaning of a phrasal verb applied in each headline below.

- | | |
|---|--|
| ___ 1. Sombat denies rapes, will sue for defamation | a. To surrender or yield (something, someone, or oneself) to someone |
| ___ 2. FIO accused of misusing building fund | b. To improve; to increase the amount of effort or the speed of something |
| ___ 3. Thousands pour across border | c. To be a candidate for something |
| ___ 4. Opposition warns of debt from policy | d. To represent a word, phrase, or idea |
| ___ 5. Saddam urges his army to fight back | e. To make (something) stronger; to develop (something) in size and importance |
| ___ 6. Govt to pay B1m for every death from local infection | f. To make a legal claim against someone for injury to oneself |
| ___ 7. Carnage blamed on economy | g. To remove something by shaking the foot |
| ___ 8. Women freed from legal yoke | h. To mend with pieces of cloth |
| ___ 9. Samak won't stand again for governor | i. To begin; to start |

- | | |
|---|--|
| ___ 10. Man cuts off arm to save his life | j. To treat or regard as unimportant or not worthy of attention |
| ___ 11. Robbery mastermind gives up | k. To place the responsibility for (something wrong) on (someone or something) |
| ___ 12. Chiang Rai Police step up drive to appease Wan Nor | l. To settle or resolve a disagreement |
| ___ 13. Hun Sen lashes out at Bangkok | m. To decide or declare that something is impossible or undesirable |
| ___ 14. KL beefs up border security | n. To stop doing or having (something) |
| ___ 15. Thaksin shrugs off threat, issues tit-for-tat travel alert | o. To say someone is guilty (of something) |
| ___ 16. Suriya hits back at key Democrat | p. To make a sudden or violent attack, physical or verbal |
| ___ 17. PM rules out cabinet reshuffle | q. To make (someone or something) free, independent of (something) |
| ___ 18. Asean calls for release of Suu Kyi | r. To respond vigorously to an attack made on oneself, retaliate |
| ___ 19. Special Sars fund kicks off with B64.3m pledge | s. To counter-attack vigorously; to reply with vigor to verbal attacks |
| ___ 20. PM denies visit is to patch up ties with US | t. To move quickly, in a crowd across something |
| | u. To give warning or advice concerning something such as a danger |
| | v. To give (someone) money as the cost of (something) |

- w. To remove (something) by cutting
- x. To demand; to ask for; to urge
- z. To interrupt (someone or something)

VITAE

VITAE

Name: Miss Namtan Kittikool
Date of Birth: September 4, 1977
Place of Birth: Chon Buri
Address: 40/72 Srisothon Road, Amphur Muang,
Chachoengsao 24000

Educational Background:

- 2004 Master of Arts (Business English for International Communication)
Srinakharinwirot University
- 2000 Bachelor of Arts (Sociology & Anthropology)
Kasetsart University