

## **AN INVESTIGATION OF VIETNAMESE CLASSIFIER CONSTRUCTIONS**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The study was conducted to investigate typical classifier constructions in Vietnamese and primary semantic functions of Vietnamese classifiers. Three types of common classifier constructions in Vietnamese classifier systems reviewed in the literature were used as a theoretical guide for the study. The subjects included 10 teachers and 379 students at the faculty of Foreign Languages at University of Thu Dau Mot. The data obtained were analyzed in terms of frequency, percentage, mean score and standard deviation. The analysis of data pointed out that such two-element classifier constructions as CL + Dem, CL + WH-word, CL + N, and Numeral + CL were used most often among the participants. In addition, helping a noun to be counted was found to be the primary semantic function of Vietnamese classifiers.

**Keywords:** Vietnamese, classifiers, classifier constructions, numeral classifiers, semantic function.