

Expressive Speech Act in Nam Cao's Short Stories

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ABSTRACT: Expressive speech act is the action that most clearly expresses human emotions and feelings. This action is usually expressed by an exclamation attached to communication, with the usage environment in the conversational environment; to express emotions and feelings instantaneously and spontaneously at any time, anywhere between people and people, between people and related things and events. In this article, we study "Expressive speech act in Nam Cao short story" to see the structural features, expression form, effect, and role of this language act in expressing content as well as the art of Nam Cao short stories.

KEYWORDS -speech act, expressive speech act, conversation, Nam Cao's short stories

I. INTRODUCTION

Expressive speech act is the action that most clearly expresses human emotions and feelings. This action is usually expressed by an exclamation attached to communication, with the usage environment in the conversational environment; to express emotions and feelings instantaneously and spontaneously at any time, anywhere between people and people, between people and related things and events.

The language in Nam Cao's compositions clearly shows the writer's "own voice", in which the use of speech acts in general and expressive speech act, in particular, plays an important role in helping to clarify "personal voice". With that in mind, this article studies "Expressive speech act in Nam Cao short stories" to see the structural features, expression forms, effects, and the role of this language act in expressing. show the content as well as the art of Nam Cao short stories.

II. CONTENTS

2.1. Expressive speech act

According to the Vietnamese Dictionary, an exclamation is an expression of feelings and emotions [4; p.147]. Yule calls expressive speech act revealing acts "...are actions that express what the speaker feels. They reveal psychological states and can express satisfaction and pain. , liking, disliking, joy or sadness... These actions may be caused by what the speaker or the listener does, but they are all expressions of the speaker's experience". ; 107]. Nguyen Thien Giap calls the act of exclamation an expressive action and defines "...the speaker expresses his or her psychological state towards the situation in the content of the proposition, such as apologizing, complaining, congratulating, thank you, welcome. Characteristic of expressive speech act is: making words match reality, the speaker feels the situation" [3; 384]. Thus, from the research of scientists, we conceive: expressive speech act is a speech act of expressing emotions and feelings instantaneously and spontaneously when the speaker is in a state of mind that is not in a state of mind. cannot be put into words.

2.2. Means of expressing speech act in Nam Cao's short stories

2.2.1. Use exclamation words

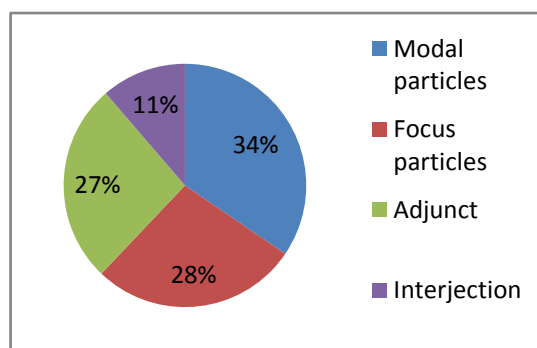
Surveying the collection of "Nam Cao Short Stories" (Saigon Cultural Publishing House, 2007) including 46 short stories, we have obtained the following results:

Table 1: Using words of exclamation in short stories Nam Cao

| Numerical | EXCLAMATION WORDS | QUATITY | PERCENTAGE |
|-----------|--|---------|------------|
| 1 | Modal particles: <i>đấy, à, ơ, thôi, đâu, ấy, chứ, nhé, chưa, hả, đi, nhỉ, ơi, ừ, ờ, kia, nào, nhé, nhớ</i> | 223 | 34 |
| 2 | Focus particles: <i>thì, mà, chính, hẳn, này, mất, cả, cơ</i> | 178 | 28 |
| 3 | Adjunct: <i>lắm, quá, thật, đã, nữa, rồi</i> | 172 | 27 |
| 4 | Interjection: <i>ồ, chà, chao ôi, ôi, ché, gớm, ô hay, a ha, úi chào, a, hừ, chao ôi, chắc, hừ, giời ơi, ôi thôi, trời ôi, úi chào, ủa</i> | 73 | 11 |
| TOTAL | | 646 | 100 |

The results of statistics, surveys, and classifications are presented visually through the following diagram:

Diagram 1: Using exclamation words in short stories Nam Cao



Through the results of statistics and classification, we find that the number of words and phrases (with a frequency of 2 or more repetitions) to express speech act in the collection of short stories is quite large. : 646 plays from. Some exclamation words express speech act that is repeated many times in these novels such as the words then (90 times), but (79 times), many (67 times), and so (55 times). Modal words such as a, ah, eh, lo, etc. appear with less frequency than the auxiliary verbs too, very, only, then... but have directly revealed the character's speech act with many different levels: pain, grief, sadness, regret, affirmation, blame, surprise, joy...

The act of exclamation expresses the speaker's clear and decisive affirmative attitude, in addition, it also shows the attitude of pity, pity, resentment, sadness, regret, resignation, or worry. , fear and ridicule, sarcasm. All are expressed through exclamation words such as: then, so, so, oh my god, oh my god,... These are all exclamation words used many times in Nam Cao's short stories that we surveyed and statistically. The word exclamation used in Nam Cao's collection of short stories shows the characters' clear affirmation, anxiety, and ironic attitude before different events and circumstances.

Example 1: "When people are so busy, they still have to worry about a hundred things, and are disturbed by a hundred things, who can stay calm? Who is not grumpy? Grumpy is not yourself first. If you can't hold it, pop it out like that. Really, why would anyone want to scowl?..." [1; p.446]

(*"Khi người ta lam lũ quá, lại còn lo trăm thứ, bị làm rầy vì trăm thứ, thì ai mà bình tĩnh được? Ai mà chả hay gắt gỏng? Gắt gỏng thì chính mình không trước. Không giữ được thì bật ra ngoài như vậy. Thật ra có ai muốn cau có làm chi?..."*)

In this case, the word "thì" is used three times by the narrator to affirm his belief in the good nature of people despite their outward attempts to appear selfish and evil.

Example 2: "No one will regret it if they die!" [1; p.46] (*"Thằng nào chứ hai thằng ấy chết thì không ai tiếc!"*)

In the above statement, the word "chứ" expresses a clear, unequivocal attitude with a secret joy, openly happy about the deaths of Ba Kien and Chi Pheo.

Example 3: "It mocks, my God! This is crazy. Oh my God!" [1; p.44] (*"Nó nhạo thị, trời ơi! Thị điên lên mất. Trời ơi là trời!"*)

Example 4: "Oh my god, my wise Mr. Du! He is as skeptical as a mouse. With him, maybe only he would panic for a few real dimes. What a petty thing "*Trời ơi, anh Du sáng suốt của tôi ơi! Anh đa nghi như một con chuột. Có anh, họa chỉ có anh mới cuống quýt lên vì một vài hào thật. Thật là đồ nhỏ nhen..."*

"Oh my god" in the two examples above, can represent Thi's angry and frustrated mood when she sees Chi Pheo scolding her or expressing her sarcasm, criticizing, and thinking that Du is a petty person when just for a few reasons. proud to pay over but the tangerine is all up.

Thus, the word exclamation in Nam Cao's collection of short stories is capable of expressing many different levels and emotions of characters in different communication situations and situations. This creates the richness, diversity, and vividness of exclamatory acts used in Nam Cao's short stories.

2.2.2. Use idioms

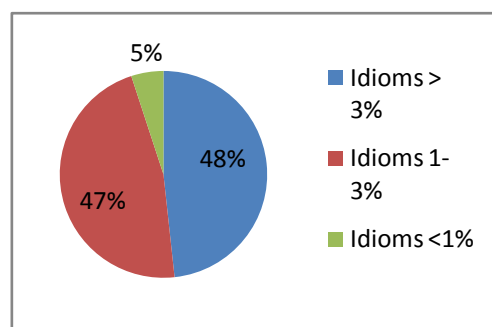
We continue to survey and classify the use of idioms of expressive speech acts in 46 short stories by Nam Cao and produce the results in the table below:

Table 2: Using idioms in short stories Nam Cao

| Use idioms | | | | Total |
|--------------------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------|
| Level of idiomatic usage | Idioms >3% | Idioms 1-3% | Idioms <1% | |
| Quantity | 173 | 167 | 18 | 358 |
| Percentage | 48% | 47% | 5% | 100% |

The results of statistics, surveys, and classifications are presented visually through the following diagram:

Diagram 2: Using idioms in short stories Nam Cao



The idioms that Nam Cao uses as a means of expressing exclamation in his collection of short stories have both pushing and welcoming functions, contributing to clearly expressing his mood, emotions, and attitudes. characters and narrator roles. The most used idioms are then, what to do, really... accounting for 48%.

Example 5: "Fuck! Then there are fees for alcohol? Will he suffer then?" [1; p.24] ("*Mẹ kiếp! Thế thì có phí rượu không? Thế thì có khổ hẳn không?*")

So, in the above case, it shows Chi's affirmative and angry attitude because he cursed but no one said anything.

Example 6: "No, sir. Is it possible that at my place with you, and you have a business, I wait for you to drink alcohol before I help you?" (*Không bác ạ. Chẳng lẽ chỗ tôi với bác, mà bác có việc tôi lại đợi bác cho uống rượu rồi tôi mới giúp bác hay sao?*) [1; p.130]

In the above statement of my character, the idiom is probably used to bring a clear effect to the speech, thereby revealing the state of reproach and skepticism when Uncle Ho insists on offering my character a cup of wine.

2.3. Types of expressivespeech act in Nam Cao's short stories

2.3.1. Direct expressivespeech act

According to Do Huu Chau, speech acts are understood as: "... acts performed by the conditions of use, by the purposes of their words, and by the conditions of use." [2; 145]. To distinguish direct exclamation and indirect exclamation expressed in sentence units in the work, we rely on the theory of language acts. Sentences identified by the thesis as sentences expressing direct speech act must satisfy 4 conditions of using speech acts that Searle raised: Condition of propositional content; Preparation conditions; Sincerity condition; Basic conditions.

Example 7: "Not knowing bad! Also claim to be a literate person!... Words to do these beggars are also thrown into the river! Literal meaning! Wow, words! Anyway, there were times when he had his neck chained, and he hit a chair in the face to let him know... (*Không biết xấu! Cũng đòi là người chữ nghĩa!... Chữ nghĩa để làm những trò ăn mày ấy thì chữ nghĩa cũng vắt xuống sông! Chữ nghĩa! Ủi dà, chữ nghĩa! Sao cũng có bữa ông cho xích cổ lại, ông đập ghế vào mặt cho mà biết...*) [1; p.201]

The above statement has the following bases for identifying direct exclamation:

- Condition of clause content: exclamation expressing emotions
- Preparatory conditions: the speaker himself is an exclamation insider.

- Sincerity condition: Mr. Li expressed his feelings towards Mr. Man's habit of studying words.
- Basic condition: Mr. Li wants everyone to see Mr. Man's real talent in words.

To have a basis for identifying direct speech acts, besides relying on the above 4 conditions, we also rely on the formal signs of exclamation sentences, which are exclamation words and exclamation points. !".

2.3.1.1. Expressive speech act accompanied by exclamation words

In Vietnamese, the word exclamation is defined as a word belonging to the modality class, having no grammatical relationship with other words, capable of creating an independent, unsophisticated utterance, used to express a direct display of the speaker's emotions, states, and emotional responses, or to respond to calls.

a. Expressive speech act using authentic exclamation

True exclamation is a word used to directly express the different emotions and emotional states of the speaker in front of objective reality, the word genuine exclamation in the work denotes lamentations and exclamations. lamentation, compassion, mistrust ... of the characters and the narrator. Those are the words: *alas*, *oh my god* (than ôi, trời ơi, giờ ơi)...

Example 8: "**Oh my God!** What practice did he study with? He only had the talent to discuss shrimp nests that he studied. But the talent, the shrimp nest, he doesn't need anyone to teach him anymore. How many days and nights do you not go to the meeting? If there was something he wanted, she had to grit her teeth and bear it. **Honestly**, she didn't like this son of a bitch at all. What a naughty newcomer to come!..." ("**Ôi chao ôi!** Học với hành gì ông ấy? Ông ấy thì chỉ có tài bàn tổ tôm là ông ấy học. Mà tài bàn, tổ tôm thì ông chẳng cần ai dạy nữa. Có mấy ngày, mấy đêm là ông không đi tìm đám họp? Có điều ông đã muốn thì bà cũng đành cắn răng lại mà chịu. **Thật tình** thì bà chả ưa cái anh lang cu con này một tí nào. Người mới ngợm gì mà đến hay!..." [1; p.234]

The above statement has the following bases for identifying direct exclamation:

- Formal signs: Character's utterance contains modality: Oh wow (Ôi chao ôi)
- Conditions for using actions in words:
 - + Conditional clause: This is the act of expressing the sudden anger of the former grandfather about his grandson.
 - + Preparatory conditions: The speech is the words of the former character, who has acted to emphasize to everyone that his grandson is a playboy.
 - + Sincerity condition: angry mood at the irresponsible actions of his grandson
 - + Basic condition: Mr. Cuu gets angry and rolls his eyes
 - + Effectiveness in words of exclamation: Through the character's exclamation, the reader understands the ex's exasperation before the character's actions.

b. Expressive speech act using temporary exclamation words

The temporary exclamation words in the work are auxiliary, conjunctions, auxiliary verbs, adjectives, pronouns, verbs, vulgar words, etc., which are used as a means of creating exclamation sentences, because in specific contexts, they can express feelings and emotions, creating exclamatory nuances for sentences.

Example 9: "I said: crazy again! The baby is cool. It's just because I'm poor, so it's miserable... Its mother! Yet, he's slumbering like a pig!..." ("Thì đã bảo: điên mà lại! Con bé thật có nết. Chỉ vì mình túng cho nên nó khổ... Mẹ nó! Ấy thế mà ngủ ùi như lợn rồi đấy!...") [1; p.453]

The character of the mother who constantly lets go of the colloquial word "his mother" clearly shows her anger, resentment, pain, and disappointment at the act of slapping her baby Hong.

2.3.1.2. Expressive speech act identified by an exclamation mark ("!")

In written text, the exclamation mark is a solid sign in terms of the form of an exclamation and is often placed at the end of a sentence to indicate an exclamation point.

Example 10: "Forgot! Just forget for the rest of your life!... Yes, but regret it!... Forget... forget how! Some people are so bad!..." ("Quên! Chỉ quên suốt đời!... Có mà tiếc tiền ấy!... Quên... quên thế nào! Người đâu mà có người tệ thế!...") [1; p.443]

The combination of exclamation words and exclamation marks is a formal sign to identify direct exclamation sentences because they play the role of emphasizing the exclamation, directly expressing emotions, and state of mind. feelings of the character and the narrator.

2.3.2. Indirect expressive speech act

According to Do Huu Chau, "An act of indirect use is an act in which the speaker performs an act in this word but aims to make the listener rely on linguistic and non-linguistic understanding common to both two persons, inferring the effect of another act" [2; 145-146]

An indirect exclamation is not as obvious as a direct exclamation, but sometimes exclamation people still use this behavior to express their attitude and feelings to the opponent.

Example 11: "Why is there so much injustice in this world? Why is it not always good to be gentle? Why is it that those who often tolerate or yield often cannot be tolerated by anyone? And those who succeed are mostly greedy people, don't know how to give in to anyone, sometimes they are cunning, deceitful and cruel, especially cruel?" [1; p.196]

Nhu's speech is an indirect exclamation because it violates all four conditions of use:

- Conditional clause: Nhu's question has no direct answer, not to ask but to express mood.
- Preparation conditions: the character Nhu feels jealous of her brothers when recalling her mother's words
- Sincerity condition: These questions express many of the moods going on in the character's heart: worry, anxiety, and sadness of the character Nhu.
- Basic condition: The question is not to ask, but to express the mood.

2.3.2.1. The question is aimed at expressing expressive speech act

A question, also known as an interrogative sentence, is a type of sentence "usually used to raise unknown or doubtful things and wait for the answer and explanation of the receiver of that sentence" [1;p.226].

The questions are made by the purpose of the words, by the conditions of their use, which is the act of direct questioning; Questions are used for purposes other than asking, such as: recounting, reprimanding, ordering, and exclamation, ... is an indirect question act.

Example 12: "At first glance, people think it's a billboard. What's this? Ah! Tran language! Tran word again! And people can read sentences like these: God, do you understand? / A mother-child, you guys eat full!" ("Mới trông, người ta tưởng là một bản yết thị. **Việc gì đây?** À! Trần ngôn! Lại trần ngôn! Và người ta đọc được thấy mấy câu như sau này: **Trời ơi có thấu tình chăng?**/Một con mẹ đẻ, mấy thằng ăn no!") [1; p.212]

The statement of the woman's character is an indirect question because it violates all four conditions of use:

- Conditional clause: The woman's character's question has no direct answer from the subject, not to ask but to express the mood.

- Preparation conditions: the woman realizes her miserable fate before the looting of greedy officials.

- Sincerity condition: These questions express many moods going on in the heart of the character: worry, anxiety, and sadness of the woman's character.

- Basic condition: The question is not to ask, but to express the mood.

The effect of this question is: Nam Cao not only recounts the mood changes in the woman's heart but also wants to show a special interest in the status of farmers in old society.

2.3.2.2. Imperative sentences to express expressive speech act

A persuasive sentence is a type of sentence used to suggest, request or advise the subject to do something. In Nam Cao's short stories, there are many cases where the imperative sentence is used, not only to show the act of asking for help but also to express the speech act of the characters and the narrator.

Example 13: "Tien knew that he was mistaken for his hat and frayed shirt, so he stubbornly spoke in French.

- You should be a little polite, you must know: you get paid to work for the public, not treat the public like soldiers. [1; p.442]

The above statement has the formal characteristics of the imperative sentence because it satisfies the following two conditions:

- Condition clause: this is the word of the request, a proposal to the secretary.

- Conditions of preparation: the secretary stood up, horny with Dien.

2.3.2.3. Sentences to express expressive speech act

The narrative (narrative) sentence is a type of sentence used to tell, describe, presenting, giving opinions. Although there are no specialized means of marking such as exclamatory sentences, questions, and imperative sentences, sometimes, the narration is still hidden within the exclamatory acts of the speaker.

Example 14: "Suddenly he heard his mother softly say:

- Today, I was so angry, I slap Hong once, and then hurt my gut. All day, thinking about when I cry again. I don't know if I'm crazy or what." [1; p.448]

The above statement of the mother character belongs to the type of narrative not only for telling but also to express the emotional attitude of the character when telling. So it indirectly shows speech act.

- Condition of clause content: this is the story of a mother character with Hong's teacher to express regret and regret when the angry wife stretched out her hand to slap Hong - her baby.

- Preparatory content conditions: The relationship between a mother and her child, but the mother regrets her actions because that action has had a heavy psychological impact on their children.

- Condition of sincerity: the utterance expresses the mother's sorrowful and regretful mood because of her momentary anger.

- Basic condition: In the above example, the mother not only told but also expressed her regret to her husband and daughter.

Thus, the speech act in Nam Cao's short stories is also indirectly expressed through the types of sentences, questions, and imperative sentences. This helps the character's speech acts to be expressed in a rich and varied manner. The same expression of mood, and the same level of emotions of the character but in different situations, with different ways of expression, directly or indirectly, have contributed to building vivid portraits of characters, complex, creating a diverse picture of the fate of each Vietnamese person in the old society.

2.4. The function of expressive speech act of dialogue in Nam Cao's short stories

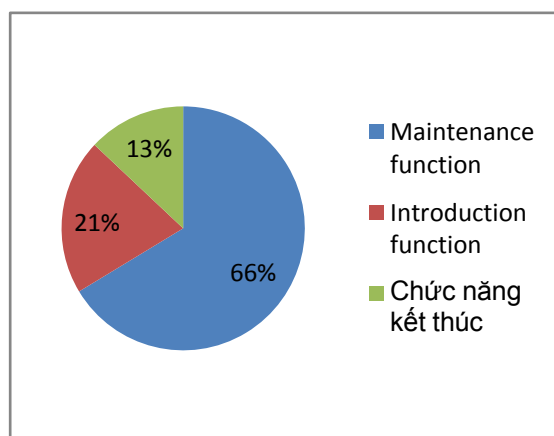
Continuing to survey the collection of "Nam Cao Short Stories" (Saigon Cultural Publishing House, 2007) including 46 short stories, we have obtained the following results:

Table 3: Function of expressive speech act of dialogue in the short story Nam Cao

| Function on expressive speech act of conversation in the short story Nam Cao | | | | Total |
|---|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------|
| Function | Maintenance function | Introduction function | End function | |
| Quatity | 327 | 102 | 64 | 493 |
| Percentage | 66% | 21% | 13% | 100% |

The results of statistics, surveys, and classifications are presented visually through the following diagram:

Diagram 3: Function of expressive speech act in the short story Nam Cao of dialogue



Through the above statistics, we see:

- Expressive speech act used with the function of maintaining the conversation accounted for the most number: 327 times (accounting for 66%), compared to the expressive speech act used with the function to initiate the conversation: 102 times (accounting for 21%).) and call ending function: 64 turns (accounting for 13%).

2.4.1. The function of maintaining the conversation of expressive speech act

Example 15: In the story "Tears"

"Sp1: - I've been eating since noon, now I'm so hungry, right? Or am I tired, and don't want to eat? Shall I stir up some tapioca flour for me to eat?"

Sp2: - **Don't eat! Don't ask silly questions!**" ("Sp1: - *Mình ăn từ trưa thì bây giờ đói quá còn gì? Hay là mình nhọc, không muốn ăn cơm? Tôi khuấy cho mình một chút bột sắn mình ăn nhé?*

Sp2: - **Không ăn! Đừng hỏi gì lời thôi!**") [1; p.445]

Sp2's exclamatory behavior (Dien's character) with the intention of refusal, frustration, and annoyance is used to respond to the act of asking to find the answer Sp1 (Dien's wife) when Thi asked Dien. came to visit Dien and wanted to cook for him.

Example 16: "Sp1: - Lord, if you don't love me, I will starve to death. I am unemployed..."

Sp2: - **Go away! Damn it!... Who's the one who's going to feed any unemployed guy? Enough people, let's go!**" "Sp1: - *Lạy ông, ông không thương con thì con chết đói. Con thất nghiệp...*

Sp2: - **Ra đi! Con khi!... Ai hơi đâu mà bạ thằng thất nghiệp nào đến cũng nuôi? Đủ người rồi, ra đi!**" [1; p.456]

In the above dialogue, Sp2 (the boss character) is resolute, resolute, refusing the request of Sp1 (his character) about applying for a job at the shop.

Example 17: "Sp1: - Draw a story. Find something cool for him to drink. What kind of acne do you have to take medicine for? Medicines are now cheap, so it's a dong a ladder. Now, if you take medicine, then what will you eat?"

Sp2: - **No food, must also give it a drink. Its ailment in the past was new, and after drinking it for a few months, it was cured. Wouldn't it be better to let it spread out full of people, and then pus like it used to cost tens of thousands of pounds?"**

"Sp1: - *Về chuyện. Tìm thứ lá gì mát cho nó uống. Mấy cái mụn việc gì phải thuốc? Thuốc bây giờ rẻ cũng phải một đồng một thang. Nay thuốc mai thuốc thì rồi lấy gì mà ăn?*

Sp2: - **Không có ăn, cũng phải cho nó uống. Chúng sài của nó ngày xưa ấy, nó mới phát, uống dần đi vài ba thang thì nó khỏi. Chả hơn để nó phát ra đầy người, rồi mủ ể như ngày xưa cho tốn bằng chục thang ấy à?"** [1; p.439]

In the lines of Sp1 (the character Dien) used the act of asking to blame Sp2 (the character of Dien's wife) for drawing a story about buying medicine for her children while there was nothing to eat at home. But Sp2 responded with a clear exclamation, if you don't buy medicine for your child early, it will cost more money.

2.4.2. The function of introducing the dialogue of expressive speech act

Example 18: "Sp1: - Huong!... Come in with me, son!...

She wiped her tears and then ran in. It crept to the side of the bed.

Sp2: - What did you tell me?

Sp1: - I come here to lie down and fan for you" [1; p.447]

In the above example, the act of exclamation initiating the conversation is of the character Dien calls Huong in. The exact name of the character being called in the act of introducing the dialogue proves the close relationship between the characters in the dialogue.

Example 19: "Sp1: - Stop! There is little left for him to eat. They ate a lot at noon. Even if they eat that little bit of rice, it won't stick to their teeth!

Sp2: - There's still a lot, I won't eat it all, I'll just let them eat." [1; p.500]

This is an exclamatory act that initiates the conversation of the mother character to inform Thu that the children have eaten a lot at noon, that's his part, they ate that much.

Example 20: "Sp1: - You... you... are just... a... bastard!...

Sp2: - No!... I'm just a miserable person!... It's because of you that I suffer..." [1; p.414] The above conversation was opened with an exclamation expressed through the curse words of the character Ho. Thereby showing Ho's helpless attitude, he cursed himself for making Tu so miserable.

2.4.3. The conversation-ending function of expressive speech act

Example 21: "He scraped the pot with a creak. The neighbor said:

Sp1: - It's quiet!... If he wakes up now, he can die.

Sp2: - Let die! Let's go hungry, let's eat to be happy." [1; p.83]

This is a dialogue between the neighbor's sister and character Y when Y is scouring the pot of porridge and the neighbor's sister is afraid that Lung will wake up and hit Y, but the conversation ends with Y's swearing because Now Y has suffered too much and is very hungry.

III. CONCLUSION

The act of exclamation is a linguistic act of expressing emotions and feelings instantaneously and spontaneously at any time, any place. Exclamation is only made when the psychological state exists to some extent that cannot be unsaid. This helps the character's exclamatory behaviors to be expressed in a variety of ways in different situations. With the survey results and analysis of expressive speech act in "A collection of short stories by Nam Cao" with 46 short stories, the report has contributed to elucidate an aspect of the art of using language, the art of portraying character portraits, especially pre-revolutionary human images. The exclamatory behavior used in "Nam Cao's collection of short stories" is richly expressed in many different aspects. The use of a large number of exclamatory words and idioms; The flexible use of direct exclamation and indirect exclamation helped Nam Cao describe the various emotions and feelings of the characters and the writer himself in the face of different situations and situations. different jobs and situations. And most of all, the writer's kind and loving heart is dedicated to the fate of each person. With distinctive and unique features of art style, Nam Cao has become one of the most typical writers of the critical realism movement in the 1940-1945

period, one of the typical writers of Vietnam. Vietnamese prose in the period of resistance against France 1945-1954.

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