## **ABSTRACT**

This study examines the similarities and differences in the application of giving criticism between the American and Vietnamese judges in two reality shows: America's got Talent and Vietnam's got Talent. The research primarily focuses on the popularity and preference of employing criticizing strategies by the two panels.

The research results are based on the collection nine episodes of America's got Talent season 6 and Vietnam's got Talent season 1. The criticizing utterances employed by American and Vietnam panels were noted down and categorized into five criticizing strategies.

The results of the research show that criticizing - communicative act - is performed with a variety of strategies. The study showed some significant similarities and differences in the choices as well as frequencies of using criticizing strategies by American and Vietnamese judging panels.

It is hopeful that the research could contribute to the understanding as well as enhancing American-Vietnamese cultural communicative knowledge and be a useful source of reference for researchers in the future.