CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

This chapter provides a brief summary of the study, conclusion of findings and suggestions for the future research.

5.1   Conclusion

The purpose of this study is to reveal the students' perception on the use of journal writing in Writing IV course taught in the academic year 2016/2017 at the English Education Study Program of Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya. Twenty three respondents were participating in this study by filling out the questionnaire through a link provided by the researcher. Then, the answers of the questionnaire would be analyzed. Interview was held only to the students who provided unclear answers to the open-ended questions. The respondents had to clarify their unclear answers. In total, there were two respondents that the researcher interviewed to get some clarifications about their answers.

The major findings of the study showed that 16 respondents (70%) had positive perception on the use of journal writing in Writing IV course. The details of journal writing in Writing IV syllabus were understandable to the students and the students' interest in journal writing were good. The students also implemented journal writing well. Journal writing was also found to be able to improve the students' writing skills

in many ways especially making them easier and more confident to write other writing tasks. Furthermore, journal writing could provide good opportunities to the students for developing their self-reflection especially helping them to think critically what had been experienced. Besides, journal writing brought good influence to the relationship between the lecturers and the students especially in understanding to the difficulties of the students. Furthermore, most students felt that the lecturers improved the class atmosphere after some journals were submitted and the relationship between the lecturers and the students became closer but there were also a lot of students who felt the opposite since the result showed that the difference between the positive and the negative responses towards these items were only few. That is why the lecturers needed to give more attention to this aspect to make this role of journal writing applied maximally. Then, the feedback given by the lecturers enhanced the students' writing performances. Moreover, the students were not depressed while writing journals. In sum, the students' perception of journal writing were good in general but there are some matters that needed to be more concerned. The lecturers did not change or improve the teaching technique in the class after some journals were submitted. Besides, the students felt lazy and got stuck with what they should write in journals also they did not continue writing journals in their daily life besides writing class. These matters were needed to give more attention from the lecturers to avoid these problems to keep occurring and to make journal writing applied optimally.

5.2   Suggestions

The suggestions are addressed to some parties. The first is for the lecturers. The second is for the students of writing class and the last is for future research related to journal writing.

5.2.1   For English Education Study Program

The department should monitor the lecturers when applying journal writing because based on the result of open-ended questions, some students said that their journals sometimes were not checked and they seldom get any feedback from the lecturer. In addition, the department should make specific criteria about the content of the journal which emphasize on reflective activity where the students could express their feelings and difficulties.

5.2.2   For the Lecturers

Lecturers have an important role in journal writing. Journal writing could give much more effects on the students' writing ability if (i) the lecturers are more active in giving feedback to the students to motivate them in writing their journals, (ii) the lecturers also need to monitor the students to submit the journal as asked, (iii) the

lecturers should teach the students how to write correct reflective journal so the students can express their difficulties for the lecturers to improve the students' ability.

5.2.3   For the Students of Writing Class

The students have to be more aware of journal writing since they sometimes forgot the submission time so they have to be serious in writing journal and submit the journal at the appropriate time.

5.2.4   For Future Studies

It is suggested that a further study is conducted involving all Writing classes in the English Education Study Program. Besides, since this study only involved the perception of the students, it is better to look for the perception of the lecturers so that more reliable data could be obtained. The future studies could also investigate the effect of journal writing on students' writing achievement so that significant contribution of journal writing to improve students' writing competence could be known.

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