CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

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In this chapter, the writer presents the conclusion and suggestions. In the conclusion part, the writer summarises the main points that have been discussed in the previous chapter. And the suggestions for the English teaching and recommendation for further research are included in the suggestion part.

5.1 Conclusion

In this modern era, English as the international language is used widely in the textbooks and printed materials. For SMU graduates in Indonesia, to understand the reference books and textbooks which are mostly written in English is important especially if they want to continue their study at the higher education. Therefore, it is imperative that teaching English to SMU students in Indonesia must help students become proficient in reading the English passages.

However, the fact shows that most of SMU students still have difficulty to comprehend the English reading passages. It happens because of the learning activities that students experience in the reading class. During the teaching learning activities, the teacher usually gives the passage to the students and ask them to understand it by reading the passage. Then, the teacher asks the students to answer the comprehension questions given. With this reading technique, the students find difficulties in answering the questions since they do not understand the passage. It will make their reading proficiency unable to develop much.

It is thus the aim of this study to present cooperative learning to improve students' reading comprehension. The teacher is suggested to apply cooperative learning in the EFL class. In cooperative learning, students are asked to work in groups. Each member of the group has the responsibility to understand one or two paragraphs of the reading passage. Then, each member shares to each other what he gets from the paragraphs he reads. The members of the group can consult and cooperate to each other in order to understand the entire passage.

Based on the statistical calculation of pretest and posttest scores got by the writer from her research, cooperative learning affects students' reading comprehension well on factual question, inference, subject matter, main idea, and structural question. The statistical calculation reveals that there is an improvement from the pretest score to the posttest. And this improvement is significantly different. It does not happen accidentally. The statistical calculation also shows that cooperative learning improves students reading comprehension better than non cooperative learning. The result of reading achievement of the students taught using cooperative learning is better than the result of the students taught using non cooperative learning.

In cooperative learning the students get much information to understand the passage not only from the teacher and the passage itself but also from other students through the process of cooperation. Moreover, cooperative learning can activate students' background knowledge which is needed in the reading process. These advantages enable students to develop their reading proficiency.

5.2 Suggestions

Teaching learning activities in English reading class cannot be separated from materials, learning strategies, and reading techniques. In order to develop students' reading proficiency, a teacher should adjust those things to the students' ability. For this purpose, the writer suggests the application of cooperative learning in teaching reading for SMU students.

In applying cooperative learning, the teacher should give reading passage whose topics are familiar to the students. The familiarity to the reading passage enables the students to comprehend the passage easily since students have already had background knowledge about the topic.

Moreover, the writer wants to suggest than in using cooperative learning, teachers should actively monitor the groups whether they are learning and functioning smoothly. Teachers should also attempt to encourage each group member to feel responsible for participating and learning since working in groups may arouse some problems. One group member does nothing and wants everyone else to do the work. Or on the other hand, one member wants to do everything and does not let others participate and learn. Another problem is groups sometimes become noisy and difficult to control. That is why the teachers' monitoring and encouragement for each student to feel responsible are very essential in cooperative learning situation.

Another thing that the writer wants to suggest is that the teacher should pay attention to two areas namely students' understanding about the reading passage content and language and students' understanding about how to do the task and how to work together. By paying attention to those thongs, the teacher can make sure that

the students understand the passage and one student can increase his own learning and other's learning, too through the process of cooperating.

All in all, the writer realises that this study is still far from being perfect. Therefore she expects that there will be other researchers who conduct a more thorough study on cooperative learning to give more complete and more valid results. For further research, the writer wants to share her experience related to the weakness found in this study. In this study, the effect of the cooperative learning is seen through just one kind of instrument (multiple choice items). It would be better if the effect of cooperative learning can be proved into more than one instrument for example essay type items.

The treatments in this study were given only three times to both of the groups. It can have given more thorough and complete result if the treatments are given more. The population and sample and the reading materials were limited to the certain subjects and certain parts. Therefore the results cannot be generalised to all people. Therefore she expects for a further research of this study conducted by other people using a better research design, with more treatments and a wider subject for getting more complete and more valid results.

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