CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

This chapter consists of conclusion and recommendation. The conclusion is drawn based on the result of data analysis in chapter IV, including the types of topics of compliments expressed by the addressers, the functions of the compliments, and the responses of compliments used by the addressees in the TV-series entitled *Smallville Season 1 Episodes 1-18*. On the other hand, the recommendation covers several suggestions which can be applied for further research.

A. Conclusion

1. The types of topics of compliment

   Following Wolfon’s theory of classification, the researcher found that the characters of American TV-series entitled *Smallville Season 1 Episodes 1-18* employed all the types of topics of compliment. They are topic of personal appearance, topic of possession, topic of general ability, and topic of specific-act ability.

   Topic of personal appearance deals with the physical appearance and apparel. Physical appearance refers to the addressee’s personal trait, while apparel refers to the things on what the addressee is wearing. Moreover, topic of possession is also divided into two categories, namely material possession and favorable comment. The topic of possession on the material possession is directly to deliver
compliment on the addressee’s material possession. Meanwhile, the favorable comment refers to the comments which are still parallel with comments concerning possession. The compliment on general ability includes categorical references to skill, talent, personal quality, and taste. On the other hand, the topic of specific-act ability contains all compliments in the situation in which the specific-acts are done.

The researcher found 40 data which imply compliment expression. Topic of specific-act ability has the biggest number of 20 data (50%). The second position is topic of general ability with 8 data (20%). Topic of personal appearance and topic of possession have the same amount of 6 data (15%). Therefore, it can be concluded that that the type of topic of compliment in the American TV-series entitled Smallville Season 1 Episodes 1-18 belongs to the topic of specific-act ability. It is because the addressers in the TV-series are more dominant to give the compliment related to the topic of specific-act ability rather than the other types of topic of compliment. Moreover, it can be seen that the addressers often reflect their positive feeling to the addressees in a certain situation in which the specific-act is done.

The characters in this American TV-Series also show the culture of Americans while giving a compliment. There are four types of body language expressed by the characters in this TV-series. First, the ways of the characters in this TV-series behave are aims to keep eye contact. Through eye contact, it can be show the sincerity. The
addressers use different body languages as presented in datum 01, datum 32, and datum 31. Furthermore, making an eye contact is a very important thing when we have a conversation. This eye contact can show respect to the person is speaking to. One of the examples is presented in datum 13. Moreover, keeping an eye contact between men and women characters in this TV-series can be used to show the interest as presented in datum 39. Second, the gesture of handshaking between the characters while giving a compliment aims to as a strong message of solidarity. In this case, the character as superior status gives handshake at first to the subordinate status. It can be seen that the superior status maintains the solidarity to be equal status as presented in datum 03. Third, the gesture of hugging is also expressed by the addresser in this TV-series while giving a compliment as presented in datum 17. In this case, hugging aims to signify feeling and support. Hugging in America between men and women is common. Fourth, for Americans, it is rude to clap hands in the wrong time. In this case, the bad character in this story of the TV-series claps his hands while giving a compliment is as a sign of contentment to reveal the secret as presented in datum 09.

Besides, the characters in this TV-series also expressed facial expressions in delivering the compliment as a sign of American culture. The ways of smiling represent honesty of the compliment uttered. One of the examples is presented in datum 18. Meanwhile, the
character in this TV-series also shows that he prefers to choose giving a fake smile in order to appreciate what the addressee has done as presented in datum 11. Furthermore, it is sensible to avoid false laughter and smiles for no good reason. It is because those facial expressions represent as insincerity. In this case, the addressee laughs and smirks to the addressee while delivering a compliment as presented in datum 10. Lifting the eyebrow indicates that the addresser does not believe the statement that he/she is hearing. When the character delivers a compliment to the addressee, she lifts her eyebrow as presented in datum 24. Moreover, the addresser in this TV-series winks her one’s eyes to the addressee while delivering a compliment as presented in datum 26. In this case, winking one eye aims to express her agreement on the addressee’s idea. To sum, facial expressions and body language linked to the compliment uttered as a sign of respect and honesty. Moreover, Facial expression and body language can be used to support a purpose of the compliment uttered.

2. **The functions of compliment**

Following Wolfson’s theory of the compliment functions and the summary of the compliment functions by Noriko Ishihara, the researcher found that all of the functions of compliments are found in this research. The function of compliments are used to express of admiration and/ or approval (data 01, 04, 05, 08, 11, 12, 15, 18, 19, 24, 30, and 37), to increase or to express solidarity (data 01, 03, 25, and
27), to strengthen or even to replace other speech act formulas (data 01, 07, 14, 17, 26, 33, and 40), to create or maintain the rapport (data 02, 13, 14, and 34), to open and sustain conversation (data 06 and 27), to encourage (data 09, 16, 22, 32, 36, and 38), to express the positive evaluation (data 03, 07, 09, 12, 21, 22, 28, 30, 31, 34, 39, and 40), to modify sarcasm (datum 20), to soften criticism (data 06, 09, 10, 20, 23, 24, and 35), to reinforce desired behavior (datum 29). The researcher also found that there are some data in which has more than one function depending on the context of the conversation in this TV-series.

3. The responses of compliment

In this research, the researcher uses Herbert’s classification of compliment responses. From the data analysis, the addressees in the American TV-series entitled *Smallville Season 1 Episodes 1-18* employed all of Herbert’s theory of compliment responses. Herbert proposed twelve types of compliment responses, namely appreciation token, comment acceptance, comment history, praise upgrade, praise downgrade, request interpretation, reassignment, return, qualification, question, disagreement, and no acknowledgment. Appreciation token includes verbal and non verbal acceptance. There are five data including verbal acceptance in which the addressees respond to the compliment by delivering the words *Thanks* or *Thank you*. Moreover,
there are six data including non verbal acceptance in which the addressees smile to represent approval of the compliments. There are also three data showing the verbal and non verbal acceptance to accept the compliments. Next, there are six data belonging to comment acceptance. In this response, the addressees accept the complimentary force and offer a relevant comment on the complimented topic. There are six data using the response of comment history to respond the compliment. The addressees offer a comment on the object complimented. One datum responds the compliment by giving a praise upgrade. The addressee accepts the compliment and asserts that compliment force sufficiently. This type of response also represents sarcastic. There are two data belonging to praise downgrade. It means that the addressee disagrees that the object complimented is worthy of praise. There is one datum using the response of request interpretation. It means that the addressee responds the compliment in the form a request. Three data responds the compliment by giving reassignment. The addressees agree with the compliment but the complimentary force is transferred to the third person or to the object complimented. One datum belongs to the return. The response of return means the complimentary force is returned to the first speaker. There is also one datum belonging to the qualification. The addressee merely qualifies the original assertion with the conjunction but. There are three data using the response of question in which the addressees ask the
sincerity or the appropriateness of the compliment. There are six data using the responses of disagreement. It means that the addressee asserts that the object complimented is not worthy of praise. The last type of compliment responses is no acknowledgment. There are also six data using the response of no acknowledgment. It means that the addressee does not respond to the compliment, or shifts the topic.

B. **Recommendation**

This research is expected to give additional contribution to the pragmatics study especially the compliment expressions and their responses considering the source of data in American TV-series which has never been examined in the previous researchers. The researcher recommended to other researchers to do a research about the gender phenomena in compliment, not only the types of topics, the functions of compliment, and the responses of compliment but also the way a male and female give and respond to a compliment. Moreover, other researchers can examine other sources of data such as novels, comics, and soap operas. From those recommendations, it is hoped that there will be additional input in revealing the compliments and the compliment responses.