

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

This research was conducted in order to investigate the common patterns of compliment responses in the South Korean TV series titled “*Weightlifting Fairy Kim Bok Joo*”, as well as to find out its practice of Modesty and Agreement Maxims. In the preceding chapter, the writer had formulated the analyses of issues related and discussed the general findings. Thus, this chapter would cover conclusions she came up with. Besides, the writer would also provide several suggestions needed for the readers of this thesis who wish to develop further study.

5.1. Conclusions

After conducting the data collection and analysis with regard to compliment responses in the South Korean TV series titled “*Weightlifting Fairy Kim Bok Joo*”, the writer drew several conclusions out of the general findings of this research. In short, the three strategies proposed by Pomerantz (1978) and rearranged by Spencer-Oatey and Ng (2001) are indeed practiced in South Korean settings, in this case represented in the series. Self-praise Avoidance has the most number with 43.7 percent, followed by Acceptance with 38.4 percent and Rejection with 17.9 percent. The existing categories of CR strategies used are expanded with the addition of Returning Compliment in Acceptance; as well as Doubting and No Answer in Self-praise Avoidance.

Speaking of the use of Politeness Principles' maxims developed by Leech (1983), the writer classified each strategy into complimenting either Modesty or Agreement Maxims. Acceptance complements Agreement Maxim and Rejection complements the most conventional form of Modesty Maxim, while Self-praise Avoidance covers the indirect form of modesty. As a result, Modesty Maxim is proven to be practiced more frequently than Agreement Maxim in South Korean settings.

It is also concluded that Confucianism might still prevalent, albeit probably no longer deep-rooted in the South Korean society as represented by the TV series. While Rejection and Self-praise Avoidance pertain to the value of modesty, Acceptance also partly complies with the Confucian value of avoiding disagreement with the counterparts.

5.2. Suggestions

For further research regarding this particular field of study, the writer would suggest conducting similar studies using other South Korean TV series of more varied genres in order to strengthen this claim. Various genres involving characters of different occupations, ages and social status will certainly add more to the data. Besides, one could also compare the findings of this research with those obtained from naturally-occurring talks (NCTs) in South Korea. The results are useful to find out to what degree films can be used as a source of pragmatics research in South Korea, continuing the study conducted by Rose (2001).

Furthermore, more research on compliment response strategies in other East Asian countries in particular, for example Japan, will enhance the validity of this study. This is so that one could find out the differences between Asian politeness strategies in China and those of other countries from the similar ethnic group, which leads to discovering the cultural distinctions of each country in terms of responding to compliments.

