

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

This chapter is the last chapter of the study, this chapter provides conclusion of the result finding and discussion. Suggestions are also provided here that are expected to give valuable and meaningful inputs for readers who want to come to a new society/culture and also further research.

5.1 Conclusions

Levine and Adelman (1993) state there are five stages of cultural adjustment process experienced by the newcomers. Every newcomers experience every stages in different ways. Some people never experience several numbers of the five stages because of some reasons. Based on the analysis, Algren did not experience all the stages. There are two stages that are not experienced by Algren: honeymoon period as the first stage and mental isolation/depression as the fourth stage. He only experienced three of them: culture shock as the second stage, initial adjustment as the third, and acceptance and integration as the last stage.

Honeymoon period is not experienced by Algren because of some reasons. Actually the first stage is the important stage to be experienced by a newcomer. In honeymoon period the newcomer should be fascinated and excited by everything in the new culture. By fascinating and exciting with everything in the new culture can help the newcomer adjust well to the new culture.

Mental isolation is also not experienced by Algren, because he has no family and friends in his native country. This fourth stage actually is the obstacle that should be faced by a newcomer to adjust well to the new culture. Because of in this stage a newcomer will feel lonely and homesick. It can make the process of adjustment become slowly.

Culture shock is the first stage experienced by Algren. In this stage the newcomer will find some difficulties and problem being in the new culture. It is because there are differences of customs and values between the culture of the newcomer and the culture of the new society. Getting stress and frustration will be experienced by the newcomer in this stage. Some newcomers can solve their problems and difficulties in this stage; they will experience culture shock in short time. Others experience culture shock in a long time. It is because some reasons: there is no similarities language and cultural background and the newcomers have no language and cultural knowledge of the new society.

After experience culture shock, Algren experienced Initial adjustment. In this stage some difficulties and problems in culture shock can be solved by the newcomers. Language and customs of the new society are common problems will be faced by the newcomers. Usually, the newcomers solve those problems by learning language and customs of the new society. In this stage the newcomers will get accustomed with everything in the new culture.

The last stage is acceptance and integration. Every newcomer will experience this stage, where they will fully accepted by people in the new society. In this stage they also can integrate with everything in the new culture.

The cultural adjustment process experienced by Algren based on Levine and Adelman (1993) could be drawn into this diagram:

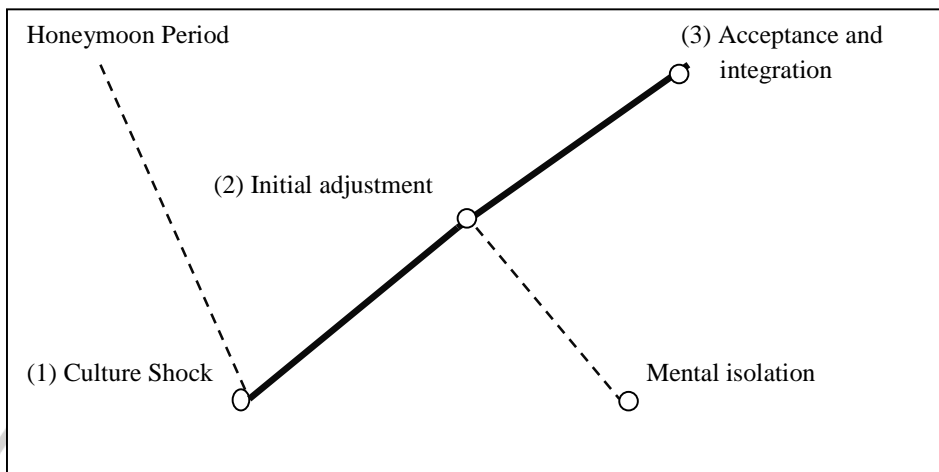


Diagram 2.1 the new pattern of adjustment-straight sideways

The diagram shows the fast cultural adjustment process that experienced by Algren. This diagram forms the new pattern of cultural adjustment. It is no longer the “W” pattern, but it forms the straight sideways.

5.2 Suggestions

In writer’s opinion, as the English student, it is important for every student to learn the culture of its language. Learning the culture of target language helps the students prevent misunderstanding and miscommunication when they meet the native speaker of the target language. Intercultural communication is one of the subjects that provide English students

knowledge about native English culture. This study is expected to enrich the material about cultural adjustment process as the part of Intercultural Communication subject.

This research is also expected to give inputs to a person who is learning language and wants to go abroad and enter the new country. It is important for them to learn its culture. Staying in the new country with the new culture is not easy, especially for people who come to the new country for the first time. It will be harder if there is no similarity of language and cultural background between their native country and the new country. They will be shocked with the difference culture. Definitely, the newcomers will experience cultural adjustment process; get accustomed with everything in the new culture.

