

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

This chapter covers the conclusion of the findings and the discussions in the previous chapter. In the final part, the suggestions for future research are presented.

5.1 Conclusions

Genre analysis offers many topics for researchers to explore and discover new knowledge regarding linguistics behavior in different discourses. As a top-down approach of genre studies, move analysis becomes a prevalent topic of research in linguistics. Many scholars have conducted studies regarding this issue using various types of data. The present study strives to examine the rhetorical moves in the academic text that seems to rarely become the interest of genre researchers, namely dissertation. The data chosen are in the field of humanities and were taken from online sources repository of the four universities in England and Indonesia.

The first aim of this study is to analyze the realization of the rhetorical moves of the dissertation abstracts. This study has revealed that all of the five moves suggested by Hyland (2000) are exhibited with significantly different generality in the two data groups. In a total of 1,487 sentences, M4 – *Product* is the most dominant move with 678 occurrences, surpassing 45% in both data groups while M5 – *Conclusion* is unveiled to be the least exhibited move with only 109 emergences in total. The vast gap between the two moves suggests that dissertation abstract writers seem to appraise presenting the research findings to be excessively important and consider giving results interpretation as an optional move in abstracts. This claim is also supported by the findings of abstracts that implemented a four-move configuration which has a higher number compared to a five-move configuration. The *Introduction, Purpose, Method, and Product* configuration is apparently the most generally used pattern across data, with a repeated manifestation of the *Product* move.

Regarding rhetorical moves, this study also disclosed the mostly featured subsequent steps in the humanities dissertation abstracts. The analysis found that

M1S2 – *Making topic generalization*, and M3S3 – *Describing procedure and context* appeared to be the steps that have the highest numbers of occurrences in both data groups. The dominant use of M1S2 with 75.5% and 85.4% of emergences in English and Indonesian data respectively leads to the conclusion that it is indeed quite important to give a backgrounding in the research abstract to help readers understand the means of the study. On the other hand, the presiding realization of M3S3 compared to the other two steps of the *Method* move is believed to be governed determined by the disciplines. Mostly, studies in the field of linguistics, literature, and law seemingly requires neither participants nor instruments.

The second aim of this study is to examine the linguistic features of the abstracts. The highlighted linguistic features are tense, verb types, grammatical voice, and modality. By referring to Hyland & Milton (1997) and Knapp & Watkins (2005), this study found that there are no significant differences between English and Indonesian data in terms of linguistic features except for the preferences of verb types. There are three types of verb-based on its functions, namely action verbs, mental verbs, and relational verbs. While English students tend to prefer action verb over the other two types, Indonesian students are actually used mental verbs the most in their abstracts.

To conclude, although many scholars suggested that different cultural settings might affect the way people write (Al-Ali & Sahawneh, 2011; Li, 2011; Taylor & Chen, 1991), this study has shown that there is no much difference or contrast between two groups of data belonging to two different cultural settings. However, the findings of the current study could be used as a reference or guide for academic writers in writing research abstracts, principally student thesis abstracts.

4.1 Suggestions

Having addressed all of the research problems and achieved the objectives of the study, the present research has merely drawn the conclusions from a limited set of data. The claims and the conclusions made in this study cannot be applied in the general context of dissertation abstract writings. Thus, to be able to make a more comprehensive conclusion, it is suggested for further researchers to expand the

analysis of rhetorical moves in dissertation abstracts by adding the data from more universities and more various disciplines or subjects. Other linguistic features should also be included in the further analysis to get a more detailed result.