

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS



This chapter provides the conclusions of the study which are based on the findings and discussions in the previous chapter. It also presents the suggestions for readers as well as other researchers who might have an interest in conducting further research related to young adult, media, and identity construction.

5.1 Conclusions

The present study is aimed to analyze how the identity of the main character, Charlie, is constructed in the novel and the role of print-rich environment that contributes to the construction of Charlie's identity in the coming-of-age novel entitled *The Perks of Being A Wallflower* by Stephen Chbosky. After conducting the study and analyzing the findings, it is revealed that Charlie's identity is constructed through two different contexts, 'home and family' context and 'school and friends' context. It is also found that print-rich environment plays roles as a tool of literacy skill and critical thinking development, intertextual ability in particular, as well as bibliotherapy in regard to the construction of Charlie's identity.

Relying on the findings and discussions in the previous chapter, it can be concluded that Stephen Chbosky's *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* novel

portrays the life of a young adult who is in search of his identity. The way people treat and label someone in different contexts affects the way one perceives himself or herself as an individual in society. It also can be said that young adult fiction, to some extent, teaches young adult how to survive in the phase of growing up and in facing the problems which are commonly experienced by young adults. With the help of print-rich environment, in addition to get more improved literacy and intertextual ability; young adults also can solve their own problems by experiencing things safely through books they read. Therefore, print-rich environment should be provided more for particularly young adults with regard to the construction of their identities.

5.2 Suggestions

Regarding the investigation on novels, the study suggests that further researchers may discuss some other researchable issues in young adult novels, for instance the portrayal of coming-of-age issue in the novel, character's development as a young adult, and the uniqueness of narration in the novel.

The study also suggests that English department should provide their students with more recent and updated resources on the issue of identity construction and media. This is aimed to help students to have more solid knowledge in doing their research about identity and media in particular.

Further study of identity construction and media can also be conducted by obtaining the data from particular films which currently emerge as medium to portray young adults issues from popular novels.

