CHAPTER V

CLOSURE

A. Conclusion

Based on the findings of this study conducted at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin, it can be concluded that students generally have positive perspectives toward the use of podcasts in improving their listening comprehension. Podcasts are perceived as an effective supplementary learning medium because they provide authentic language exposure, including natural speech patterns, everyday vocabulary, varied accents, and real-life conversational contexts.

The findings indicate that regular exposure to podcasts helps students enhance their listening skills, expand vocabulary, improve accent recognition, and develop greater fluency in understanding fast- paced speech. In addition, podcasts promote learner autonomy and flexibility, allowing students to access learning materials anytime and anywhere. This flexibility increases motivation and encourages independent learning practices.

However, several challenges were also identified. Some students experienced difficulties in understanding fast speech and unfamiliar accents, particularly British accents. The absence of visual support was another limitation, especially for visual learners. Furthermore, podcasts cannot fully replace teacher guidance, as students still require structured explanation and feedback in certain learning situations.

Overall, podcasts are beneficial as a supplementary instructional tool in English language learning, particularly for developing listening comprehension, but their effectiveness depends on students' learning styles, preferences, and learning environments.

B. Suggestions

Further research might include a wider range of subjects, both at different educational levels and with varying levels of English ability, in order to gain a broader understanding of podcasts' usefulness in language learning.