# CHAPTER V

# CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

This chapter provides a summary of the key findings from the study on the language learning strategies utilized by EFL students at SMKN 1 Pangkalan Bun. It also offers conclusions drawn from the research and provides recommendations for educators, students, and future research.

## Conclusions

* **Predominant Use of Cognitive Strategies**

The study found that 24,5% of students frequently use cognitive strategies to enhance their language learning. Cognitive strategies, including note-taking, summarization, and using dictionaries, were used to process and understand new information, which is essential for language acquisition and proficiency.

* **Predominant Use of Metacognitive Strategies**

The study found that 18,1% of students frequently use metacognitive strategies to enhance their language learning. These strategies include planning, monitoring, and self-evaluation, which help students organize their learning processes and track their progress effectively.

* **Social Strategies**

Social strategies were also found utilized by 11,92% of students. These strategies involve cooperation with peers, seeking opportunities to practice English with native speakers, and engaging in interactive activities, which provide practical language use and enhance communicative competence.

* **Memory Strategies**

Students employed memory strategies such as mnemonic devices, visualization, and repetition to store and retrieve language information. These techniques assist in retaining vocabulary and grammar rules, facilitating better language comprehension and usage. This strategy was utilized by 16,26% of students.

* **Compensation Strategies**

Compensation strategies, such as guessing meanings from context and using alternative expressions, help students overcome linguistic challenges and communicate effectively even when they encounter unfamiliar words or grammatical structures. This strategy was utilized by 10,18% of students.

* **Affective Strategies**

Affective strategies, which include anxiety reduction techniques, self-encouragement, and self-reward, play a significant role in managing emotions and maintaining motivation. These strategies are essential for creating a positive learning environment and sustaining students' interest in language learning. This strategy was used by 10,36% of students.

The research concludes that students at SMKN 1 Pangkalan Bun predominantly utilize cognitive (24,5%) and metacognitive strategies (18,1%) in their English language learning. These strategies are complemented by the use of memory (16,26%), social (11,92%), compensation (10,18%), and affective strategies (10,36%), collectively enhancing students' ability to learn and use English effectively. The incorporation of expert opinions supports the effectiveness of these strategies, highlighting their importance in the language learning process.

## Suggestions

* **Suggestions for Educators**
* **Encourage Metacognitive Strategies:** Educators should emphasize the importance of planning, monitoring, and self-evaluation in the learning process. Teaching students how to set goals, organize their studies, and assess their progress can enhance their language learning outcomes.
* **Incorporate Diverse Strategies in Teaching:** While focusing on metacognitive and social strategies, educators should also integrate memory, cognitive, compensation, and affective strategies into their teaching methods to support a holistic approach to language learning.
* **Suggestions for Students**
* **Utilize Metacognitive Strategies:** Students should actively engage in planning their learning activities, monitoring their progress, and evaluating their performance. These strategies can help them become more organized and autonomous learners.
* **Engage in Social Learning:** Students should seek opportunities to practice English with classmates and native speakers. Participating in group discussions, language clubs, and online conversations can enhance their practical language skills and confidence.
* **Employ a Variety of Strategies:** To optimize their language learning, students should use a mix of memory, cognitive, compensation, affective, metacognitive, and social strategies.
* **Suggestions for Future Research**
* **Explore Strategy Effectiveness:** Future research could explore the effectiveness of different language learning strategies in various contexts, including different educational levels and cultural backgrounds.
* **Investigate Long-Term Impact:** Longitudinal studies could be conducted to investigate the long-term impact of various language learning strategies on language proficiency and academic success.
* **Develop Strategy Training Programs:** Research could focus on developing and testing training programs that teach students how to effectively use a range of language learning strategies.

This study highlights the predominant use of metacognitive and social strategies by EFL students at SMKN 1 Pangkalan Bun, alongside other strategies such as memory, cognitive, compensation, and affective strategies. By incorporating these strategies into their learning processes, students are better equipped to overcome linguistic challenges and achieve language proficiency. The insights from this research can inform educators, students, and policymakers in enhancing the quality of English language education. Future research should continue to explore and refine these strategies to further support language learners in their educational journeys.