CHAPTER V
CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

5.1 Conclusions

Based on the results of interview data analysis, it was found that students have experiences regarding the use of podcasts as self-learning media in listening skills. This experience includes the benefits students feel while using podcasts, and the challenges they face. Students feel that the use of podcasts in self-learning can help improve listening comprehension, especially in accent recognition, speaking speed, understanding context, and enriching vocabulary. The use of podcasts independently can increase learning motivation, by setting daily targets for learning listening through podcasts, and recording words or phrases obtained from podcasts for learning materials.

Based on students' experiences, podcasts also provide benefits from the self-learning aspect, which includes freedom in aspects of topics, interests, time, place, and selection of English podcast levels. In addition to these individual benefits, students also show social benefits, where they are encouraged to communicate with each other, by utilizing the knowledge they gain through podcasts. Some of the challenges faced while using podcasts are difficulties in understanding the accent, pronunciation and speaking speed of the speaker. While, challenges from the podcast itself, students face external challenges, such as internet connection, podcast content that is less interesting, and technical issues. Although most of the challenges they face can be overcome by self-learning, which they can manage at their own pace, they still need the right learning strategies and support. That way,

podcasts still remain an effective and flexible medium to use as a self-learning medium in learning listening.

5.2 Suggestions

Based on the research findings, the researcher provides suggestions for the students, lecturers, and future researchers. Researcher hopes that the findings in this study can be a reference for students in using podcasts in self-learning, especially in listening. However, students are expected to choose podcasts according to their level of listening ability, interests, and learning goals. Students can also discuss or exchange views with friends about the content of podcasts. For lecturers, this research is expected to be a reference for integrating the use of podcasts in course learning, especially for listening skills with an interactive approach. Podcasts can also be used as an extra learning medium for independent assignments or discussions, thus encouraging more flexible and contextualized learning. Lastly, researcher hopes that this research can be a reference for the future researchers, as well as a consideration for conducting further research with a wider scope of respondents or focusing on other more specific aspects or skills.