

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

This chapter includes the conclusion and recommendations of the study. It provides a summary of the data analysis and the discussion of the results. Additionally, the chapter offers recommendations based on the current study and suggests potential areas for future research that other scholars may explore in this field.

5.1 Conclusion

The findings of this study revealed several key insights into the preparation and strategies of TOEFL candidates, highlighting both strengths and weaknesses in their approaches. One major pattern was the informal and inconsistent nature of preparation. Most participants relied on self-study methods such as watching YouTube videos, reading online articles, and using free TOEFL applications. However, their preparation was generally unstructured, as most did not follow a clear study plan. This lack of organization contributed to difficulties in major test sections, particularly listening, reading, and grammar. In addition, time management emerged as a consistent challenge. Many participants reported difficulties in managing time effectively during the test, often running out of time in reading and listening sections. Although they attempted strategies such as skipping difficult questions and returning to them later, these approaches were not supported by adequate preparation, which reduced their effectiveness.

Furthermore, listening and reading comprehension were identified as the most difficult areas for most candidates. Participants struggled to catch key information in listening tasks and often relied on guessing based on context. Similarly, in reading tasks, lengthy passages and unfamiliar vocabulary made it difficult for them to understand the texts quickly, leading them to use skimming strategies that sometimes resulted in missing important details. Another finding showed that while participants engaged in post-test reflection and identified their weaknesses, most did not continue practicing English after the test, indicating a lack of sustained learning. In terms of test-taking strategies, the majority of candidates adopted a simple approach by answering easier questions first and leaving difficult ones for later. Although this helped them manage time to some extent, it also indicated a lack of more advanced strategies, such as structured time allocation and deeper familiarity with question types, which ultimately affected their overall performance.

5.2 Suggestions

The findings of this study suggest several areas for improvement in TOEFL preparation and test-taking strategies. A key recommendation is the development of a structured and consistent study plan, as many participants lacked clear preparation schedules, which contributed to difficulties in various test sections. A well-organized study plan helps candidates allocate sufficient time for each skill area, set specific goals, and monitor their progress more effectively. Time management is another critical issue, particularly in reading and listening sections. Candidates are encouraged to practice under timed conditions to simulate the real

test environment, which can help them become familiar with pacing and reduce the risk of running out of time. In addition, strategies such as skimming and scanning should be strengthened to help test-takers identify key information more efficiently.

Furthermore, candidates are advised to diversify their study materials by combining free resources such as YouTube videos and TOEFL applications with more structured materials like preparation books, online courses, or tutoring. This can provide more comprehensive coverage of test content and expose learners to various question types. Focusing on specific weaknesses, particularly in listening and reading, is also essential. Targeted practice using listening materials, podcasts, and extended reading texts can help improve comprehension skills and vocabulary understanding. Continuous reflection on test performance, rather than waiting for final results, is also recommended to guide ongoing improvement. Finally, simulating full test conditions during practice can help candidates build confidence, improve stamina, and manage exam pressure more effectively. Overall, applying these strategies can significantly enhance TOEFL performance and support long-term English proficiency development.