

CHAPTER VI

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

A. Conclusions

This study investigates complimenting speech acts in America's Got Talent (AGT) and Britain's Got Talent (BGT) with reference to Holmes' compliment topic classification and Manes and Wolfson's syntactic patterns. Based on the analysis, several conclusions can be drawn.

First, in terms of compliment topics, ability-related compliments are the most dominant category in both AGT and BGT, followed by character-related compliments, while appearance-related compliments occur in very limited numbers and no possession-related compliments are found. This indicates that judges primarily focus on evaluating contestants' performances, skills, and artistic abilities rather than physical appearance or material possessions. Although both programs show similar tendencies, BGT demonstrates a slightly greater emphasis on character-related compliments than AGT.

Second, regarding syntactic structures, compliment expressions are most frequently realized through the pattern "*PRO + BE + ADJ/ADJ NP*," followed by other conventional structures such as "*NP + BE/LOOK + ADJ*" and "*I + LIKE/LOVE + NP*." A substantial proportion of the data is categorized as Other Structures, indicating that complimenting speech acts in spontaneous talent show interactions are highly flexible and are often realized beyond the canonical patterns

proposed by Manes & Wolfson (1981). While the existing framework remains useful for identifying conventional compliment forms, the findings suggest that authentic spoken discourse exhibits greater syntactic variation.

These findings imply that complimenting speech acts in talent show discourse function not only as expressions of positive evaluation but also as interactional strategies that provide emotional support while maintaining the evaluative nature of the competition. Theoretically, this study contributes to pragmatic studies by demonstrating that compliment topics and syntactic realizations may vary across authentic communicative contexts. Practically, the findings may serve as a reference for future studies on complimenting speech acts and spoken discourse in media interactions.

B. Suggestions

Future researchers are encouraged to investigate compliment topics and syntactic structures using different research objects beyond America's Got Talent and Britain's Got Talent. Similar studies may be conducted in other English-language talent shows, such as Australia's Got Talent, Canada's Got Talent, or New Zealand's Got Talent. Expanding the research objects may provide a broader understanding of the use of compliments in various media and entertainment contexts.

Future studies may also focus on the influence of cultural and contextual factors on complimenting behavior. Comparing compliment expressions across different English-speaking countries may reveal similarities and differences in compliment

topics and syntactic structures. Such research may contribute to a deeper understanding of how cultural backgrounds shape the use of compliments in spoken interactions.