

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

This chapter contains two sections. The first section is the conclusion, in which the research analysis is summarized and concluded. The second section is suggestions, in which particular matters are suggested to other researchers.

5.1 Conclusions

Based on the analysis in Chapter IV, the following findings can be drawn to answer the research questions in Chapter I. The first research question, based on the theory of Ginarti et al (2022) Concerns the types of emphatic stress used in the comment section of Spencer Barbosa's Instagram. The types of emphatic stress found are capitalization, repetition, extended letters, and punctuation (exclamation marks). From the results of the analysis, the researcher grouped them into single, duplet, triplet, and quartet. Among all four types, punctuation was the most dominant, appearing 70 times out of 206 total emphatic expressions. This shows that followers frequently use punctuation, especially exclamation marks, as a written strategy to express strong emotion and support. Although these emphatic stresses are in written form, the emotional function behind their use mirrors spoken communication.

The second research question, based on the theories of Ginarti et al (2022), Widiasari et al (2023), and Wilyandri Sukma (2023), focuses on the function of emphatic stress found in the Instagram comment section. The functions of emphatic stress identified are: to express an opinion, to strengthen words, to add dramatic effect, and to clarify the message. From the findings, the most dominant function is to strengthen words, which appeared 171 times out of 310 function occurrences, followed by dramatic effect, expressing an opinion, and clarification. The frequent use of emphatic stress to strengthen words shows that most commenters aim to intensify their support for Spencer Barbosa, especially in response to hate comments or negativity. The emphatic stress helps convey not only encouragement but also emotional closeness, support, and solidarity. These findings highlight that

Spencer's comment section functions as a supportive digital space where language is used not just to communicate, but to empower.

The connection between the results of the first and second research questions can be seen in how the most frequently used type of emphatic stress aligns with its main purpose. In the first question, the dominant type found in Spencer Barbosa's Instagram comments is punctuation, particularly exclamation marks, which make up 54.69% of the single-type category. In the second question, the most common function of emphatic stress is to strengthen words, appearing in 55.16% of the data. These two findings are closely related because punctuation, especially exclamation marks, is commonly used to add intensity and emphasize a message. As stated by Ginarti et al (2022) Punctuation helps highlight and dramatize language, which directly supports the purpose of making words stronger and more impactful. Therefore, the frequent use of punctuation reflects the commenters' intentions to reinforce their supportive and encouraging messages to Spencer Barbosa.

5.2 Suggestions

Based on the results and discussions of this research, there are several suggestions addressed to future researchers and linguistic students. For linguistic students, it is expected that they will develop a broader understanding that the study of language is not only limited to its structure or grammatical rules, but also includes how language is used in social contexts, such as in digital communication. This research can serve as a reference for those interested in exploring how language reflects identity, emotion, and solidarity, especially in online platforms like Instagram.

For future researchers, this study opens opportunities for more specific investigations into the functions of emphatic stress in different contexts or communities. While this research focuses solely on emphatic stress in Spencer Barbosa's Instagram comment section, future studies could explore comparative analyses across multiple social media platforms, such as TikTok or Twitter, to examine platform-specific communicative styles. Additionally, cross-cultural investigations could offer valuable insights into how emphatic stress operates

within different cultural or linguistic communities. Researchers are also encouraged to consider corpus-based approaches to provide quantitative support and broader generalizability. Furthermore, examining how emphatic stress is used by different genders or age groups, or employing alternative theoretical frameworks, could yield diverse perspectives that enrich the existing body of knowledge in sociolinguistics and gendered language use.

