CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

5.1 Conclusions

This study aimed to explore students' perceptions of using ChatGPT as a tool for English vocabulary learning, specifically among fashion design students at SMKN 4 Jambi. Based on interviews with 15 students, the findings indicate that ChatGPT is perceived as a practical, accessible, and supportive learning tool that enhances vocabulary acquisition in multiple ways.

From a perception theory perspective, most students reported positive experiences, describing ChatGPT as easy to use, helpful, and enjoyable. Although a few students initially experienced confusion due to unfamiliarity with the platform, these challenges often diminished with continued use.

From a vocabulary learning theory perspective, ChatGPT supports the learning process through:

- Repetition and practice (behaviorism), helping students memorize new words.

- Contextual explanations and examples (cognitivism), making meanings easier to grasp.

- Knowledge expansion and connection to prior knowledge (elaboration theory), promoting deeper understanding.
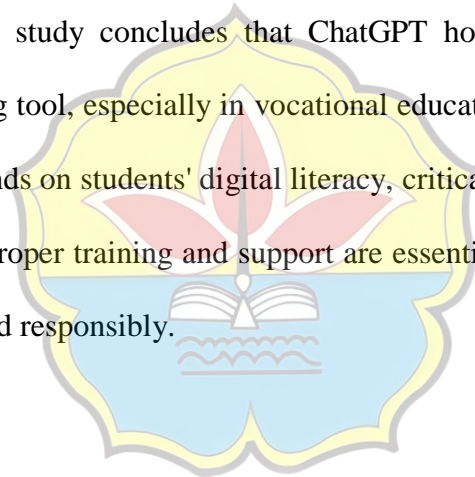
Students also reported increased motivation and engagement, often choosing to use ChatGPT outside the classroom for independent vocabulary exploration. Many

applied new vocabulary in real life contexts, such as conversations, assignments, and social media posts which reflects the tool's impact on practical language use.

In the context of AI-based learning tools, ChatGPT was found to be effective in providing fast, clear, and context-aware explanations, especially for domain-specific terms in fashion design. However, some students noted limitations such as:

- Occasional inaccurate or repetitive answers

- Explanations that are sometimes too general or too academic

- Lack of source validation and difficulty verifying information

Ultimately, the study concludes that ChatGPT holds strong potential as a vocabulary learning tool, especially in vocational education settings. However, its effectiveness depends on students' digital literacy, critical thinking, and prompting skills. Therefore, proper training and support are essential to help students use AI tools effectively and responsibly.

5.2 Suggestions

For Students:

1. Develop Effective Prompting Skills: Learn how to write clear and specific questions to get the best responses from ChatGPT. For example, instead of just asking, "What does 'fabric' mean?", try, "Explain the term 'chiffon' in the context of fashion design, and give an example of how it's used in a garment."

2. Use ChatGPT as a Complementary Tool: Don't rely solely on ChatGPT. Combine it with other learning methods like watching English movies, listening to songs, or reading fashion-related articles to enrich your vocabulary in a more dynamic way.

3. Validate Information: Always double-check the information provided by ChatGPT, especially for technical or specialized terms. Cross-reference its answers with reliable sources like textbooks or professional dictionaries to ensure accuracy.

For Teachers:

1. Integrate ChatGPT into the Curriculum: Incorporate guided activities that use ChatGPT to teach specialized vocabulary. For example, assign students to use it to research fashion terms and then present their findings to the class.

2. Provide Training on Digital Literacy: Offer workshops or lessons on how to use AI tools responsibly and effectively. Teach students how to formulate good prompts and, more importantly, how to critically evaluate the information they receive.

3. Encourage Collaborative Learning: Design group projects where students use ChatGPT together. This can help those who are less familiar with the technology learn from their peers, reducing initial confusion and fostering a more supportive learning environment.

For Future Researchers:

1. Conduct a Comparative Study: Compare the effectiveness of ChatGPT with other AI tools or traditional learning methods. This would provide a more comprehensive view of its advantages and limitations.

2. Explore the Long-Term Impact: Investigate the long-term effects of using ChatGPT on students' vocabulary retention and language proficiency. A longitudinal study could show whether the benefits are sustainable over time.

3. Focus on Specific Learning Barriers: Research the specific reasons behind student confusion and feelings of being overwhelmed. Understanding these barriers could lead to the development of better teaching strategies or more user-friendly AI interfaces.

4. Investigate the Role of Teacher-AI Interaction: Study how teachers can best use AI tools to create a blended learning environment. This could include examining how teachers can personalize instruction or provide timely feedback using AI-generated data.