

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This chapter presents two main subsections, namely conclusions and suggestions. In the first subsection, the author summarizes the main findings of the study by linking them directly to the problems discussed in the previous chapter, particularly regarding the construction of binary oppositions and the ideological meaning of race in Claudia Rankine's *Citizen: An American Lyric*. The second subsection outlines recommendations for further research, particularly those related to the development of literary studies using structuralism and visual text analysis in hybrid literary works.

5.1 Conclusion

This study aims to analyse how binary oppositions are constructed and how ideological meanings are produced in *Citizen: An American Lyric* by Claudia Rankine through Roland Barthes' structuralist approach. Based on the analysis, it can be concluded that the text systematically constructs meaning through a network of oppositional relationships that reflect racial dynamics in American society.

First, the construction of binary oppositions in the text is realized through linguistic and visual structures, including diction, narrative perspective, imagery, and visual elements. These structures consistently produce oppositional pairs such as Black/White, Center/Margin, and Visibility/Invisibility. These oppositions do not function as isolated contrasts, but as interconnected systems that organize meaning across different fragments of the text.

Second, the ideological meanings produced through these binary oppositions reveal how racism operates as a structural and normalized system. The opposition Black/White functions as the foundation of racial categorization, which is further developed into Center/Margin to show how whiteness is positioned as the dominant norm while blackness is marginalized. Meanwhile, Visibility/Invisibility reflects how Black subjects experience this structure in everyday life, where they are physically present yet often socially unrecognized or misrecognized.

Thus, *Citizen: An American Lyric* not only presents individual experiences of racism but also structurally exposes how racial inequality is reproduced through language, representation, and social interaction. Through Barthes' structuralist framework, this study demonstrates that binary opposition serves as a key mechanism in constructing ideological meaning and revealing hidden power relations within the text.

5.2 Suggestion

Based on the findings of this study, several suggestions can be proposed. For future researchers, it is recommended to explore *Citizen: An American Lyric* using different theoretical approaches, such as postcolonial theory, critical race theory, or discourse analysis, in order provide broader perspectives on racial representation and power relations in the text. Future studies may also examine other hybrid literary works to compare how binary oppositions operate across different forms and contexts.

For students and readers of literature, this study suggests the importance of reading literary texts not only at the surface level but also through their structural and ideological dimensions. Understanding how meaning is constructed through binary opposition can help reveal hidden assumptions, power structures, and social inequalities embedded in everyday language and representation.

Finally, this study is expected to contribute to the development of structuralist analysis in contemporary literature, particularly in examining issues of racism, identity, and social power. It also encourages further research that integrates textual and visual analysis in order to better understand how meaning is constructed in hybrid literary forms.