CHAPTER V
CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

4.1 Conclusion

Joke is a part of language phenomenon which can be found in both spoken and written language. As a part of language it has its own form, strategy and function. Form and strategy of joke are related to each other. It has its characteristics in all linguistics aspects: phonology, morphology, syntagm, semantic, pragmatic and sociolinguistic. The twenty-four linguistic strategies of joke proposed by Esar (1961) are actually derived from those linguistic fields.

Among the thirty data analyzed, fourteen strategies of joke are randomly used in this comedy. The strategies are; ambiguity, grammar, syllabics, idiomatic, questionable English, antonymics, style, negativism, lexicography, spelling, punctuation, rhyming English, numerical English and part of speech. The dominant strategy found is ambiguity. Ambiguity is the easiest strategy to create joke. It is able to mismatch the expectation of the hearer about the joke. Besides, many words in English have more than one meanings.

Since jokes in this researches categorized as conversational jokes, it gives more possibilities for ambiguity strategies to be played. Ambiguity can be found in the form of sound and form. Especially in English, ambiguity becomes more possible to be played and twisted mostly in spoken language.

Pragmatically, there are four meanings that joke conveys. It conveys information about some state of affairs, commitment of the speaker, requests
of the speaker, speakers’ attitude about some state of affairs. Since the source of the data is a situational comedy, most jokes are thrown expressing speaker’s attitude about some state of affairs.

There are various functions of speakers throwing jokes. Mostly, jokes are thrown on the purpose to amuse everybody included in the conversation. This is shown by the laughter or smile appears after the joke is told. It can be said that this function is related to solidarity. Solidarity also the factor which causes a joke is accepted or not. There are some jokes in this research which are categorized as dirty jokes. Its acceptance is determined by the solidarity level of the speakers in the conversation. Not only to amuse, joke can also be used to mock and tease other people, either they are included or not in the conversation. Power takes role in this function. Another function of the joke is to defend the speaker himself from any psychologically threatening condition.

4.2 Suggestion

This humor research is conducting by referring to Esar’s theory about humor strategies and is only limited to an American situational comedy, How I Met Your Mother. Therefore, there are some suggestions that the researcher addresses to other researchers who are interested to conduct humor research.

1. The research can observe joke in any languages because different language has different pattern of joke.

2. Humor is socioculturally dependent, the researcher should be helped by a native if he observes humor in non-native language.
3. Since humor can be observed from many linguistic aspects, it is suggested to choose one specific aspect of linguistic to analyze it.