

## 1. Introduction

Literature and arts cannot be separated from human lives because they have become sources of entertainment and education. One of the most popular forms of literature is a narrative art work, a written medium which allows human to expand and enrich their imagination and knowledge. There are many forms of narrative media, such as poetry, ballad, short story, novella, novel, play, etc.

The novel *Assassin's Creed: Black Flag* (2013) is a unique novel with a historical fiction genre; it tells about a secret organization known as the Assassin. This organization is an old secret organization built centuries ago to perform a noble duty by defending justice. The agent of the Assassin is a highly trained killer and saboteur with a motto “nothing is true; everything is permitted”. The Assassin organization has fought the Templar, their arch enemies for thousand years. The Templar mission is to control all empire on earth from the shadow. The novel *Assassin's Creed* written by Oliver Bowden is a novel based on the multi-platform game developed by Ubisoft; the game series itself is one of the best-selling games due to the interesting gameplay, game engine, and the storyline. The *Assassin's Creed* chosen for this research is the *Assassin's Creed: Black Flag* (2013) since the novel has an interesting main character.

In light of the present research, the researcher intends to investigate the character and characterization of Edward Kenway—the main character who starts his journey as a simple man, and through his journey he faces certain tests that are similar to the stages of a hero's journey which only a noble character can finish and thus acquiring a title of a hero. However, the main character in this story possesses a questionable morale, attitude and method to defend justice that, in fact, can be seen to resemble that of a villain, which contradicts the traditional hero model.

Therefore, this research aims to trace the character's struggles, which include his development from a simple person to a 'hero', using the framework of Campbell's (1972) hero's journey. The records include an analysis of the main character's ways of thinking, his personality, his ideology and his struggles in the story. Through this research, the researcher would like to share his ideas about how an anti-hero can be constructed in a novel and what kind of journey is undergone by this anti-hero. Hopefully, this paper can contribute to a deeper understanding of anti-hero studies.