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**Analysis of the Book A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens through the Hero's
Journey Stages**

Thesis Submitted to Obtain the Bachelor in English

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Dedication

I dedicate my work to my family and friends For giving me the support I needed during the research.

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Abstract

The purpose of this descriptive and qualitative research was to analyze the book *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens by utilizing the Hero's Journey stages. Therefore, three instruments were necessary. The first instrument was a literary analysis chart used to identify the different stages Mr. Scrooge goes through to become a hero. The second instrument was a literary analysis chart used to determine the events that allow Mr. Scrooge to change his behavior and attitude. The third instrument was a literary analysis chart used to evaluate the impact of the hero stages in Mr. Scrooge's life and the people around him. In the case of the Literary Analysis Chart of the Hero's Journey stages, the findings allowed that researcher to find all the 12 stages of the hero's journey stages redefined by Christopher Vogler that appeared in the story. In the case of the Ebenezer Scrooge's Behavior Changes Literary Analysis Chart, the results permitted the researcher to find five events which allowed the change of behavior and attitude of the protagonist. Finally, the Impact of Hero Stages in Mr. Scrooge's Life Literary Analysis Chart helped the researcher to discover five significant moments in the story where the stages of the hero's journey impact Scrooge's life and the people around him. Thus, the study demonstrated that the book *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens can be analyzed by utilizing the Hero's Journey stages.

Resumen

El objetivo de la investigación fue analizar el libro *Una canción de Navidad* de Charles Dickens utilizando las etapas del viaje del héroe. Esta investigación descriptiva y cualitativa le permitió a la investigadora analizar el libro *A Christmas Carol* de Charles Dickens utilizando las etapas del Viaje del Héroe; por lo tanto, fueron necesarios tres instrumentos. El primer instrumento fue un cuadro de análisis literario utilizado para identificar las diferentes etapas que Scrooge atraviesa para convertirse en un héroe. El segundo fue un cuadro de análisis literario utilizado para determinar los eventos que le permitieron al Sr. Scrooge cambiar su comportamiento y actitud. El tercero fue un cuadro de análisis literario utilizado para evaluar el impacto de las etapas del héroe en la vida del Sr. Scrooge y las personas que lo rodean. En el caso del cuadro de análisis literario de las etapas del Viaje del Héroe, los hallazgos mostraron que la investigadora encontró que las 12 etapas del viaje del héroe redefinidas por Christopher Vogler aparecieron en la historia. En el caso del cuadro de análisis literario de cambios de comportamiento de Ebenezer Scrooge, los resultados indicaron que la investigadora encontró cinco eventos que permitieron cambiar el comportamiento y la actitud en la historia del protagonista. Finalmente, el cuadro de análisis literario del impacto de las etapas del héroe en la vida del Sr. Scrooge mostró que la investigadora encontró cinco momentos significativos en la historia en las que las etapas del viaje del héroe impactan la vida de Scrooge y las personas que lo rodean. Por lo tanto, el estudio concluyó que el libro *Un cuento de Navidad* de Charles Dickens puede analizarse utilizando las etapas del Viaje del Héroe.

Chapter I

Introductory Framework

For a long time, book writers have tried to compose heroic stories that involve the Hero's Journey stages because people enjoy such stories. However, this type of narrative cannot be applied to all books; therefore, the research will try to prove whether the Hero's Journey stages can be applied or not in the selected book, *A Christmas Carol*.

1.1 Problem Statement

The Hero's Journey theory is a pattern that has been used in books, movies and other media for ages. However, in the case of the book *A Christmas Carol*, there is not enough research about the application of Hero's Journey stages in the plot. In other words, the events of the novella have not been analyzed in-depth through the stages of the theory by writers and investigators.

There are many reasons to explain why the novella has not been completely analyzed by applying the Hero's Journey stages. One reason is that there is not sufficient information about the relationship between the book and the theory. Another reason is that the book was written before the existence of the theory, so the book does not have a direct connection with the theory. However, although those few reasons are the most common ones, they are only a few of them. All those aspects were confirmed during the search for information about the topic in the investigation process. As it may be seen *A Christmas Carol* has not been fully analyzed through the Hero's Journey stages for many reasons, but this limitation can be easily solved. A plausible solution may be the use of literary analysis charts in order to evaluate the book by using the stages of the pattern.

This research will be useful for the population of this study, future generations of writers and investigators of the topic, since they will be further informed about the topic. Moreover, the focus of the investigation is the use of Hero's Journey stages to analyze the book *A Christmas Carol*, mainly Mr. Scrooge's character to find out and prove how the Hero's Journey can be applied in this book. In order to prove it, there are three specific steps that have to be developed. The first one is to identify the different stages Mr. Scrooge goes through to become a hero, the second one is to determine which events allow Mr. Scrooge to change his behavior, and the third one is to evaluate the impact of the hero stages in Mr. Scrooge's life. Consequently, the research question of the present investigation is; How the Hero's Journey is to be applied in the book *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens?

1.2 Objectives of the Investigation

The objectives of any investigation are significant because they are created by the researcher in order to try to discover or prove something. Each study has a general objective, which is the main purpose of the study, and three or more specific objectives which are the stages to accomplish the main objective. In the case of this research, the objectives appear below.

1.2.1 General Objective

- To analyze the book *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens by utilizing the Hero's Journey stages.

1.2.2 Specific Objectives

- to identify the different stages Mr. Scrooge goes through to become a hero
- to determine the events that allow Mr. Scrooge to change his behavior and attitude
- to evaluate the impact of the hero stages in Mr. Scrooge's life and the people around him

1.3 Justification of the Study

A large number of fiction books and other genres have main characters who have a problem that changes their world, and they have to somehow resolve such a dilemma. In order to solve any problem throughout the story, they have to take some specific actions to accomplish it. However, in many cases, those actions are not arbitrary. As they follow a pattern that sets the whole story. This pattern includes stages that the main characters have to go through in order to deal with their problems.

Each of the stages that has to be followed by the main characters who usually have a name, as well as a name for the whole pattern they go through. However, among many patterns, there is one that is commonly used in books and movies because their stories are about heroes. This path is called Hero's Journey. This is a pattern of stages that main characters have to face for resolving problems and become real heroes. All the phases are part of the journey that the main characters have to overcome in order to resolve difficulties that affect their worlds. They become heroes at the end of their trips after they have done good actions for their worlds. This pattern is commonly used in books because people usually like stories about heroes. In the case of *A Christmas Carol*, the Hero's Journey can be applied in the life of Ebenezer Scrooge.

Hero's Journey, as mentioned before, can be applied in the book *A Christmas Carol*. The story of Ebenezer Scrooge allows the stages of the journey to be accomplished. And, in the case of this specific investigation, the Hero's Journey stages will be analyzed in this book in order to inform future generations about the topic. The center of the study is the future generation of readers and investigators of this research.

The research is convenient because it can be applied with few sources. The investigator only has to use books and digital sources for doing the research. Before the investigation, the researcher gathered all the information needed to accomplish the research, even, the book itself to make the analysis and the use of digital sources for further information on the topic. Therefore, the project initiates with the help of these sources to inform the future generations about the Hero's Journey stages in the book *A Christmas Carol*.

The relevance is implied in the knowledge of future generations. The investigation will specially help to future writers and investigators about the topic. Since future writers and researches are the target population to apply the investigation, they will be able to use this investigation to do more research.

The research will analyze the book *A Christmas Carol* by using Hero's Journey stages. The study will use literary analysis charts to identify the different stages Mr. Scrooge goes through to become a hero, to determine which events allow the main character to change his behavior, and to evaluate the impact the stages have in his life. Therefore, the research is going to demonstrate how the Hero's Journey is applied in the book *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens.

1.4 Antecedents

The use of Hero's Journey stages is common in books nowadays because it has been utilized a lot in a variety of literary works. Throughout time, many investigators have analyzed the use of the Hero's Journey stages on different genres of books. Some of these investigations appear below.

One of the investigations was carried out by Gatricya Rahman on her degree thesis called *The Archetypes of Hero and Hero's Journey in Five Grimm's Fairy Tales* (2014). The research had three objectives: The first was to reveal the archetypes of hero in *The Complete Grimm's Fairy Tales*, the second was to reveal the archetypes of hero's journey in *The Complete Grimm's Fairy Tales*, and the third was to reveal the literary methods used to reveal those archetypes. Jung's archetypes is the basis of analysis employed in this research. The research used a qualitative approach and content analysis was used as the technique of analysis of the short stories.

The subject was five fairytales entitled "The Devil with Three Golden Hairs", "The Golden Goose", and "The King's Son Who Feared Nothing", "The Story of the Youth Who Went Forth to Learn What Fear Was", and "The Water of Life"; all of which are compiled in *The Complete Grimm's Fairy Tales* written by The Grimm Brothers. The data were some sentences and statements showing the archetypes of hero and hero's journey. The data was collected using read-write technique. The data analysis was through the process of data reducing, data displays and conclusion drawing. The research had three results. First, there are four archetypes of hero in five fairy tales employed, namely innocent, single-parented, special environment of birth, and noble hearted hero. Second, there are mainly eleven stages among twelve stages of the archetypes of hero's journey found, namely Ordinary World, Call of Adventure, Meeting with the Mentor, Crossing the

First Threshold, Test, Allies and Enemies, Approach to the Inmost Cave, The Ordeal, The Reward, The Road Back, The Resurrection, and Return with the Elixir with the absence of one stage namely Refusal of The Call. Third, the archetypes of hero are mainly revealed by character exposure, mostly through actions and speeches, the archetypes of hero's journey are presented through plot and setting of time and place. The investigation was carried out to reveal the hero's journey stages and archetypes in *The Complete Grimm's Fairy Tales* through sentences and statements showing such stages. In other words, the hero's journey stages appeared in each of the five stories of Grimm's brothers.

The second investigation Hero Journey in C.S Lewis' *The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian (The Return to Narnia)* novel. (2016) was developed by Cici Nurdina. The author stated that, the focus was to describe and analyze the patterns of heroic hero journey in *The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian* novel. The research also discusses archetypes of characters to analyze the other characters that are close to the hero and to know the real hero. Consequently, this research formulated two problems: first, the hero journey is present in the novel, and second, as well as, the archetypes of characters in the novel. To analyze both, the writer uses the theory of hero journey from Joseph Campbell. In addition, the writer also uses the theory of archetypes of characters from Christopher Vogler.

This research uses the qualitative research method. The researcher got the data from the narration in the novel. The information was collected, identified, classified, and interpreted in order to arrive at conclusions. The results of this research showed that there were several stages throughout the book. The first was the departure. The writer found four stages out of the five stages. The second was initiation, the writer found four stages out of six stages. The three was the return, the writer found two stages out of six stages. In

addition, the writer also found ten stages out of twelve stages of hero journey and eight archetypes of characters using the theory of Christopher Vogler.

The investigator described and analyzed the hero journey stages and archetypes present in the novel and made qualitative research to accomplish it. The results were useful because many of the hero's journey stages and archetypes appeared in the book. In a few words, the stages and archetypes of the Christopher Vogler's theory can be applied in *The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian* novel; therefore, the Hero's Journey stages can be applied to analyze novels in which characters become heroes.

The third investigation was presented by Maria Kristjánsdóttir on her thesis *From Zero to Hero*. The Hero's Journey was presented in J. K. Rowling's *Harry Potter Book Series* (2011). She states that, the research explored and explained the phenomenon of the Hero's Journey and the various archetypes known in folklore, and showed the ways in which the Harry Potter Series conforms to both themes. The Hero's Journey is introduced, as well as two prominent experts on the subject, Joseph Campbell and Christopher Vogler. The stages of the Hero's Journey were discussed in the order in which they have been placed by Christopher Vogler in his book *The Writer's Journey*. It emphasizes on the Return stage of the journey more than the other stages, and it provides an interesting basis for further analysis in connection with the Harry Potter Series.

The topic then turned to the Jungian archetypes which are often used as analytical tools in folkloristics, and showed how they were represented in the Harry Potter series. A detailed analysis of the Hero archetype was presented to understand the Hero's motivations. The issue at hand was how each stage was represented in the Harry Potter series and what effects they had on the story. It is a valid argument to say that the Harry Potter series follows the Hero's Journey structure. The plot is about a young boy's quest to recover what

has been taken away from him: a family. As it can be seen, the investigation uses the Hero's journey stages and archetypes to analyze Harry Potter novels. Research shows that it is possible to explore and explain the hero's journey stages and archetypes through Harry Potter novels.

The fourth investigation was done by a student called Sri Wahyuni in the thesis *The Archetypes of Hero's Journey in Paulo Coelho's The Alchemist (2016)*. The research had two objectives. The first was to demonstrate the archetypes of the hero's journey in Paulo Coelho's *The Alchemist*, and the second was to uncover literary elements used to expose those archetypes. The researcher applied the descriptive qualitative method. This research reveals two findings: First, based on Christopher Vogler's theory on mythic structure, the 12 stages of the archetypes of hero's journey are found in the novel. The whole story of *The Alchemist* gives more understanding of the archetypes of the hero's journey and vice versa. The stages of the archetypes of hero's journey help to uncover what quest is being achieved by the hero.

Second, the archetypes of the hero's journey are presented through the correlation among two essential narrative elements which are plot and setting of time and place. The plot showed the level of tension, and the setting established the time order. The environment implied the realm of the ordinary world and the special world. This investigation was carried out to demonstrate the hero's journey stages and archetypes in the book *The Alchemist*. The researcher used the theory proposed by Christopher Vogler to do successful research.

The fifth and final investigation was done by a Costa Rican student called Kevin Pérez Astúa in his thesis *Literary Analysis of Coraline Heroine's Journey through the Psychological Approach to obtain his bachelor's degree (2019)*. The purpose of this

investigation was to identify how Coraline is psychologically affected, and how she fits into the Hero's Journey Stage theory by Joseph Campbell. The book was analyzed through the psychological approach. The investigation provided important aspects of the theory about the "Hero's Journey Stages". In order to complete the investigation, the researcher included the researcher's opinions and conclusions and how he reached the objectives of the investigation.

This investigation used the psychological approach to analyze Coraline, the book itself and the main character. The researcher used the Hero's Journey theory to complete the task, and it was successful because Coraline and her journey in that book fits in the theory. To sum up, the use of the Hero's Journey stages are good to analyze books because it can be applied to different literary genres that have been written in different eras of humanity.

1.5 Scope

The scope of the investigation is determined by many aspects. The principal objective is to analyze the book *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens by means of the Hero's Journey stages through literary analysis charts.

Other aspects of the scope of the investigation are the specific objectives. One of the objectives is to identify the different stages Mr. Scrooge goes through to become a hero; in this case, it is essential to use the knowledge of the Hero's Journey stages to achieve this objective. The second objective is to determine which events allow Mr. Scrooge to change his behavior. To reach the objectives, it is essential to use the plot of the book for the analysis. The third and final objective is to evaluate the impact of the hero stages in Mr.

Scrooge's life; in this case, to achieve this goal, an analysis of the book *A Christmas Carol* is necessary.

As it can be seen, each objective has requirements for its fulfillment, but they will be useful for future writers and investigators about the topic. In the case of the main objective, it will allow to the future generations know about the *A Christmas Carol* analysis through the Hero's Journey stages. In the case of the first specific objective, it will help to recognize the different stages Mr. Scrooge goes through to become a hero. In the case of the second specific objective, it will help to perceive which events allow Mr. Scrooge to change his behavior. And, in the case of the third objective, it will let researchers and writers to understand the impact of the hero stages in Mr. Scrooge's life. Therefore, to carry out this investigation, a lot of effort and dedication is needed. If at the end, the research gives positive results, it means that all effort invested on this investigation has been effective.

Chapter II

Theoretical Framework

The research has features that need to be explained in order to understand all the terms related to it. First, the section on literary theories and approaches section, in which concepts, such as literature, theory, literary theory, and Hero's Journey Stages will be explained. Second, the section of themes, symbols, and motifs, in which the relationship between them and hero's journey stages will be analyzed. Third, the biography of Charles Dickens section in which the most important events of the author's life will be shown. Forth and last, Plot of *A Christmas Carol*, in this section the plot of the book will be analyzed.

2.1 Literary Theories and Approaches

In order to understand all the vocabulary of the study, it is necessary to explain a definition of literature, theory, literary theory and the Hero's Journey stages.

2.1.1 Literature

The word itself means written books. Every written book is considered literature. Moreover, according to Kenneth Rexroth (2019), literature is the body of written works. The term has usually been applied to those creative works of poetry and prose well-known by the intentions of their authors and the observed aesthetic excellence of their execution. Literature may be classified according to a variety of schemes, including genre, historical period, language, national origin, and subject matter (2019, par. 1). In other words,

literature is any written book. Then the importance of this is that the book used for this research is considered literature.

2.1.2 Theory

Theory refers to ideas that explain a subject to study. Theories are used to analyze any subject. According to Cambridge Dictionary (2019), theory is a formal declaration of the rules on which a topic of study is based or of ideas that are recommended to explain an event or fact or, more commonly, an opinion or explanation (2019, par. 1).

2.1.3 Literary Theory

A literary theory is a theory used to analyze written works. According to the Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy (2019), the definition is the group of ideas and methods used in the literature's practical reading. It is a description of the fundamental principles in an attempt to understand literature (2019, par. 1). As it can be seen, literary theories use principles in order to understand written works. The literary theory used on this research is the Hero's Journey Stages. However, to understand this theory and each of the stages, it is necessary to explain them.

2.2 Hero's Journey Stages

The Hero's Journey is a literature theory that uses different stages to describe the voyage of a hero or heroine in the events of a book. According to Joseph Campbell (2004), Hero's Journey is when a hero ventures out from the world of ordinary life into a area of mystical wonder, then remarkable forces are there encountered and an essential victory is won, and finally the hero return from this enigmatic adventure with the power to grant

helps on his fellow men (2004, p. 28). In other words, it is the incredible voyage of character to become a hero.

The theory and its stages were created by Joseph Campbell in 1949. He wrote a total of 17 stages. However, for this research the selected stages are from the book *The Writer's Journey Mythic Structure for Writers* by Christopher Vogler in 1998. In that literary work Vogler, based on the original work of Campbell, redefined the theory using 12 stages instead of 17. Of course, In order to understand the theory, it is necessary to explain each stage.

2.2.1 The Ordinary World

This is the first stage, where the hero and his world are presented. According to Christopher Vogler (2007), the majority of stories take the hero out of the normal, ordinary world and into a special world, new and unknown (2007, p. 10). In other words, for the first time the hero is presented in his homeland, where he lives his normal life at the beginning of the story

2.2.2 The Call to Adventure

The second stage is where a problem or challenge appears in the hero's life, and he is asked to deal with it. According to Vogler (2007), the hero is presented with an adventure, a challenge, or problem he has to face. Once it is presented, he can no longer stay indefinitely in the security of his ordinary world (2007, p. 10). In short, the hero is asked to solve a problem that appears in his life.

2.2.3 Refusal of the Call

The third stage is when the hero is scared to deal with the problem or challenge presented to him. According to Christopher Vogler (2007), this one is about fear because the hero expresses reluctance, hesitates at the threshold of adventure, or refuses the given task. After all, he is confronting the highest of all dreads which is fear of the unknown. Moreover, the hero has not yet fully devoted himself to the journey and may still be thinking of retreat (2007, p. 11). As it can be seen, here the hero is afraid of dealing with the task given to him, so he does not want to confront the adventure yet.

2.2.4 Meeting the Mentor

The fourth stage occurs when the hero meets his mentor, a wise character that gives advice for the adventure. According to Vogler (2007), the function of Mentors is to prepare the hero to confront the unknown. They might give guidance, magical gear or recommendations. However, the hero must face the unexplored alone (2007, p. 12). That is, the mentor helps the hero to get prepared for the adventure.

2.2.5 Crossing the Threshold

The fifth stage is the moment the hero accepts the given task and accepts the adventure. According to Christopher Vogler (2007), the hero finally seeks the adventure and fully arrives to the special world of the story for the first time by passing over the first threshold. He agrees to confront the consequences of dealing with the problem or challenge given previously. This is the moment when the story initiates and the journey really gets going (2007, p. 12).

2.2.6 Tests, Allies, Enemies

The sixth stage is when the hero passes tests and meets his allies and enemies in order to survive his adventure. According to Vogler (2007), after the hero crosses the first threshold, he logically encounters fresh challenges and tests, makes allies and enemies, and starts to learn the rules of the outer world (2007, p. 13); to be successful in his adventure.

2.2.7 Approach to the Inmost Cave

The seventh stage is when the hero goes to the most dangerous place on his journey and faces his most difficult risk in there. According to Christopher Vogler (2007), the hero enters to the edge of a dangerous place, occasionally deep underground, where the object of the journey is hidden. Frequently it is the dwelling of the hero's antagonist, the most risky place in the outer world. When the hero arrives to that terrible place, he will go through the second main threshold. Heroes habitually pause at the gate to plan, prepare, and outsmart the villain's guards. This is the segment of Approach, which covers all the arrangements for arriving to the inmost cave and challenging death or a highest danger (2007, p. 14). In other words, the hero goes to the most risky place where he challenges the greatest menace of his journey.

2.2.8 The Ordeal

The eighth stage is when in the most crucial part of the battle between the hero and his opponent, the hero dies or apparently passes away. According to Vogler (2007), here the hero is in a direct confrontation with his supreme fear. He meets the possibility of death and is carried out to the edge of the battle with an antagonistic force. This is a crucial moment in any story, where the hero must pass away or appear to die so that he can be born

once more. It is the main basis of the magic of the heroic myth. Every story requires such a life-or-death instant in which the hero or his goals are in mortal danger (2007, p. 14-16).

2.2.9 Reward

The ninth stage is, when the hero after surviving the ordeal, gets a reward.

According to Christopher Vogler (2017), having survived death, beaten the dragon, or slain the Minotaur, the hero has cause to celebrate. The hero now takes possession of the treasure he has come pursuing, the reward. It can be an extraordinary weapon like an enchanted sword, or a symbol like the Grail or some tonic which can restore the injured land.

Sometimes the reward is knowledge and experience that leads to superior understanding and reconciliation with antagonistic forces. He has received the title of hero by having taken the highest danger in name of the community (2007, p. 16).

2.2.10 The Road Back

The tenth stage is when the hero has to return to his ordinary world after he receives his reward. According to Vogler (2017), the hero begins to take care of the consequences of challenging the obscure forces of the ordeal. If the hero/heroine has not yet managed to reconcile with the gods, the hostile forces, or the parent, they possibly will come furious after him. Some of the greatest pursuit passages emerge at this point, as the hero is followed on the road back by the rancorous forces he has troubled by grabbing the elixir, the sword, or the treasure. This step marks the choice to come back to the ordinary world. The hero understands that the outer world needs eventually be left behind, and there are still challenges, risks, and temptations ahead. (2007, p. 17). In other words, the hero decides to go back to his ordinary life after he receives the reward.

2.2.11 The Resurrection

The eleventh stage occurs on his return to the ordinary world; he has to confront another life and death moment in order to test if he really learned the lesson of the previous ordeal. According to Christopher Vogler (2007), the hero who has been to the land of the dead must be born-again and washed in one last ordeal of death and revival before coming back to the ordinary world of the living. This is frequently a second life-and-death moment, almost a repetition of the death and renaissance of the ordeal. Death and obscurity get in one last frantic shot before being finally beaten. It is a type of final examination for the hero, who must be tested again to see if he has truly acquired knowledge in the lessons of the ordeal. The hero is converted by these instants of death-and-rebirth, and is able to return to normal life reawakened as a new being with new perceptions (2007, p. 17). In few words, the hero is tested once again to demonstrate that he has learned the lesson from his previous challenge.

2.2.12 Return with the Elixir

The twelfth and final stage is when the hero returns to his ordinary world while he carries an object or lesson that can help his homeland. According to Vogler (2007), the hero comes back to the ordinary world, but the trip is worthless unless he/she carries back some elixir, lesson, or treasure from the outer world. The elixir is a magic potion with the power to heal. However, it can be a great treasure that miraculously heals the injured land, or it simply may be experience or knowledge that could be beneficial to the community in the future. Occasionally the elixir is a prize won on the quest, but it might be love, freedom, wisdom, or the information that the outer world is real and can be survived. From time to

time, it is just returning home with a pleasant story to tell (2007, p. 18). As it can be seen, the hero finally arrives to his home with something beneficial for himself or his community. So, it is really important to know about the definition of the Hero's Journey and its stages because this literary theory will be used to analyze the book *A Christmas Carol*.

2.3 Themes, Symbols and Motifs of *A Christmas Carol*

Themes, symbols and motifs appear in any book that has to be analyzed. In the case of this research, the definition and explanation of their functions in the novel will be depicted thoroughly.

2.3.1 Themes

A theme is the message that the writer shares through the literary work. According to Master Class (2019), it is the underlying meaning an author explores in any novel, short story, or other literary work. The theme of a story can be transmitted using characters, dialogue, plot, setting or a mixture of all of these features. In simpler stories, the theme can be a message or moral. In more intricate stories, the principal theme is normally a more open-ended exploration of some vital characteristic of humanity or society (2019, par. 1-2). In the case of *A Christmas Carol* some of these themes are analyzed below.

2.3.1.1 *Christmas*

One of the themes is Christmas. According to BBC (2019), Christmas is a Christian festivity of the birth of Christ, though it also covers Greek, Roman and pagan customs of giving presents and banqueting around the Winter Solstice. It is a period when families and

friends meet to exchange gifts and share food. Charles Dickens wrote this story before Christmas 1843. The narration of Scrooge happens on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The writer uses the concepts of compassion and generosity associated to Christmas to emphasize the transformation of Ebenezer Scrooge. He changes from being a stingy man, opposed to the spirit of Christmas, into someone who is full of happiness (2019, par. 1-2). Christmas is a time of compassion and generosity; qualities that Scrooge acquires in the end of his Hero's Journey.

2.3.1.2 Redemption

The second theme is redemption. According to BBC (2019), redemption is the notion of being saved from evil or sin. Scrooge is a man who is transformed from a selfish avaricious person into a generous and friendly character at the end of the story. The ghosts that visit showed him the mistakes of his conduct, and he is redeemed by his own disposition to change. The moral message of the book is that all human beings have the chance to behave in nicer ways towards their fellow men (2019, par. 1-2). In other words, Ebenezer Scrooge gains his redemption by accepting and completing his Hero's Journey.

2.3.1.3 Social Injustice

The third and final theme is social injustice. It is shown through the perspective of Charles Dickens in the book, according to BBC (2019), Dickens felt powerfully that Victorian society disregarded the misery of its underclass. On one hand were the rich who enjoyed banqueting and comfort at Christmas, and on the other were kids forced to live in terrible conditions in workhouses (2019, par. 1). The social injustice is perceived through the poor characters that Scrooge saw on his Hero's Journey.

2.3.2 Symbols

A symbol is someone or something that represents an abstract meaning. According to Adam Mahler (2017), it is a literary device in which an author uses one thing, usually a phenomenon or physical item, to represent something more abstract. A strong symbol typically shares a set of key features with whatever it is destined to symbolize, or it is associated to in some other manner. Additionally, characters and events can also be representative. In the case of *A Christmas Carol* there are several symbols that will be analyzed in detail.

2.3.2.1 Marley's Chains

The first symbol is Marley's Chains. According to Owl Eyes (2019), the chains that Scrooge's deceased partner uses are significant because of their material. Normal chains are made from metal, but Marley's are built from versions of material wealth when he was alive. Charles Dickens uses this appearance to indicate that life actions can have inevitable penalties even in death (2019, par. 2). The Chains of Marley represent the terrible potential future life after death if Scrooge does not follow his Hero's Journey.

2.3.2.2 The Ghost of Christmas Past

The second symbol is the Ghost of Christmas Past. According to Owl Eyes (2019), the first ghost that visits Scrooge represents the experiences and memories that have made him into the heartless individual he is today. The spirit's radiant head symbolizes the retained memories of Scrooge (2019, par. 3). The first spirit is an ally in the first test in the Hero's Journey of Scrooge.

2.3.2.3 The Ghost of Christmas Present

The third symbol is the Ghost of Christmas Present. According to Owl Eyes (2019), the second spirit carries with him visions of banquets and an altered room in the house of Scrooge, which opposes Scrooge's cold home with the abundance of other families. While the others do not have physical wealth, they are rich in familial warmth and happiness. The ghost also carries a sheath but no blade, representing durable peace (2019, par. 4). The second spirit is an ally in the second test in the Hero's Journey of Scrooge.

2.3.2.4 The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come

The fourth symbol is the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come. According to Owl Eyes (2019), the final ghost, dressed in black and silent, represents the doubt and fear of the future. The presence is enigmatic and without recognizable features, displaying that the future is not yet firm (2019, par. 5). The third spirit is an ally in the third test in the Hero's Journey of Scrooge.

2.3.2.5 Scrooge's Gravestone

The fifth symbol is Scrooge's Gravestone. According to Owl Eyes (2019), the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come showed the gravestone to Scrooge. It represents Scrooge's probable destiny if he does not change: an isolated death, unimportant to those who know him (2019, par. 6). The gravestone is part of the crucial battle that Scrooge has to deal with to change his future.

2.3.2.6 Ignorance and Want

The sixth symbol is Ignorance and Want. According to Owl Eyes (2019), these two children, who stick to the Ghost of Christmas Present, symbolize the rich and the poor's fights. While the poor are overloaded by Want, it is clear that Ignorance is the more hazardous of the two. Additionally, Ignorance is a vice of Scrooge, since he has not worried to study more about his employees' situations (2019, par. 7). The kids appear as part of the second trial in the Hero's Journey of Scrooge.

2.3.2.7 Turkey

The seventh and last symbol is Turkey. According to Owl Eyes (2019), Scrooge after his transformation, purchases a large turkey to deliver for the Cratchits. Scrooge's acquisition represents his transformation from miserly to generous, demonstrating his renewed pledge to value Christmas (2019, par. 8). The turkey is part of the last stages in the Hero's Journey of Scrooge.

2.3.3 Motifs

A motif is something that is repeated in a text in order to reinforce the themes of the literary work. According to Written Explained (2019), it is a literary term that is a concept, idea, or item that reappears itself throughout a text. A motif gives hints to theme or fortifies ideas an author wants to highlight. So, it generally reinforces the theme of the text. However, it must be repeated throughout a text to be considered a motif. Additionally, the motif can appear in many forms (2019, par. 3-5). In the case of *A Christmas Carol* there are a few of them.

2.3.3.1 Scrooge's bed

The first motif is Scrooge's bed. According to Williams (2017), the first ghost visits Scrooge while he is in his bed, and then he goes back to his bed after the last visit of the last spirit. A bed of a person is a private place, so it is essential that the visits of the spirits begin and end at Scrooge's bed because they want to reach his most private emotions and thoughts (2017, par. 14). The bed of Scrooge is the most important place where he can access to the outer world of his Hero's Journey.

2.3.3.2 Weather

The second and final motif is Weather. According to Williams (2017), during the first chapter Charles Dickens highlights the cold and fog that surrounds Scrooge. The bitter and cold personality of Scrooge is presented as being more dominant than the weather. Then, in the final chapter the weather becomes a sign of Scrooge's transformation. It is because the fog has disappeared, which indicates how Scrooge now has his eyes opened and can clearly see those nearby (2017, par. 16, 18). The weather appears in the beginning and in the end of Scrooge's Journey to become a hero.

2.4 Psychological Approach

An approach to analyze the journey and behavior of Ebenezer Scrooge is essential. In this research, the Psychological Approach is the chosen one because it fits the analysis better. This approach appears in the 1960s. It was based on Sigmund Freud works on Psychoanalysis. According to Richmond County School System (2020), it is when psychological critics observe literature through the view of psychology. Those critics

observe either the psychological motivations of the characters or of the authors in literary works (2020, pg. 2).

The reason for this selection is because the researcher will analyze the main character, Ebenezer Scrooge. This character goes through experiences in each stage of his journey that become his motivations to change his behavior and become a better human being.

2.5 Biography of Charles Dickens

In order to understand the author's ideas in a book, it is necessary to learn about his biography. In the case of the book *A Christmas Carol*, the author is Charles Dickens. The biography of this writer is depicted below. According to Bowen (2019), the biography of Charles Dickens is as follows.

Charles Dickens is born to John and Elizabeth Dickens on February 7, 1812. Years later in 1824, John Dickens is detained for his debts and sent to Marshalsea prison, so a 12-year-old Charles is forced to work at Warren's Blacking Factory pasting tags on shoe polish vessels to provide money for his family.

On 1833, Dickens prints his first story A Dinner at Poplar Walk in The Monthly Magazine. Then, three years later in 1836, he begins monthly parts of his first novel, The Pickwick Papers. The novel becomes a printing phenomenon. One year later, in 1837, he begins publishing monthly parts of Oliver Twist. The book was cherished by factory workers and Queen Victoria. This makes Dickens one of the most popular writers of his time.

Three years later, in 1840 he begins publishing parts of *The Old Curiosity Shop*, which quickly becomes the bestselling novel of its time. In 1841, *Barnaby Rudge* is published. Then, one year later in 1842, the writer travels to America with his wife on a tour of reading. From October to December 1843, Dickens works energetically on *A Christmas Carol*. Then on December 17 of that year, the final book has gone to the printer, and two days later, there are 6,000 copies ready for bookstores. A few days later, on December 24, the first printing of 6,000 books sells out. After the third day of the following year, the book goes into a second and third production. On January 24, 1844, the New York publishers Harper and Brothers obtain the first legal US edition of *A Christmas Carol* in stores. Few days later, on February 5, an official stage production of *A Christmas Carol* opens. Four years later, in 1849, *David Copperfield* is published.

Then, in 1852, *Bleak House* is published. After two years, in 1854, Charles Dickens starts to give a series of very popular public readings of *A Christmas Carol*. Sometime later, in 1859, *A Tale of Two Cities* is published. *Great Expectation* is published two years later, in 1861. Many years later, in 1870, Charles Dickens begins publishing *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, which is his last and incomplete novel. He dies from a stroke on June 9, 1870. (2019, par. 2-26)

As it can be seen, Charles Dickens was a novelist and storyteller really famous before and after his death. The most famous works are considered classics of English literature and some of his books are represented in theaters and movies. Of course, one of the most famous books by this author is *A Christmas Carol*, the selected story for this research.

2.6 Plot of *A Christmas Carol*

The book has to be analyzed by summarizing the main events. The Plot of *A Christmas Carol*. Then, it is important to explain the plot. According to Teddy Wayne (2002), the plot of *Christmas Carol* is the following. Ebenezer Scrooge, a cold-hearted creditor, continues his greedy conducts on Christmas Eve. He discards a Christmas dinner invitation from his nephew Fred; he yells at charity workers; and he overworks his worker, Bob Cratchit. At night, Jacob Marley, Scrooge's former partner, deceased for seven years, visits him as a ghost. Marley's spirit has been wandering since he died as penalty for being consumed with commerce and not with people while alive. He has come to warn Scrooge that he can have the same fate. He tells to Scrooge that Three Spirits will come to him over the next three nights. (2002, par. 1)

Scrooge falls asleep on his bed and awakes to discover the Ghost of Christmas Past, a small and aged figure. The Ghost shows Scrooge passages from the past that trace Scrooge's growth from a young boy, solitary but with the potential for joy, to a young man with the first behaviors of greed that would reject love in his life. Scrooge shows newborn emotion when reentering these scenes, often crying from empathy with his former abandoned self. (2002, par. 2)

Scrooge goes to sleep and is waked up by the Ghost of Christmas Present, a giant with life duration of one day. He shows Scrooge several recent scenes of Christmas charity and happiness, and then shows him the Cratchit home. The Ghost informs Scrooge that unless the future is reformed, the Cratchit's good-hearted young son, Tiny Tim, will pass away. He also displays Scrooge the party at the house of Fred. Finally, a shabby boy and girl sneak out from the Ghost's coats. The Ghost calls them Ignorance and Want and warns Scrooge to be careful of Ignorance. (2002, par. 3)

The silent, black-clad Ghost of Christmas Yet To Come substitutes the ghost of Present. He shows Scrooge several passages of people arguing over someone's death; no one seems disappointed by the death, and most are glad about it. Scrooge does not know who the man is. He discovers that Tiny Tim has died, but the Cratchits preserve their love and unity. Scrooge finally learns that he is the one who has died and whose death has only satisfied people. He states the hope that these scenes of the future can be altered, and promises to include the lessons of the past, present, and future into his embracing of the Christmas spirit. (2002, par. 4)

Scrooge awakes in his dormitory and discovers that the entire adventure took only one night, not three, and that time is Christmas Day. In addition to smiling and being kindly to everyone he sees, he sends a big turkey to the Cratchits, provides a generous donation to the charity worker he previously offended, and has a delightful time at Fred's party. The next day he gives Cratchit an increase of his salary. Scrooge continues his kindhearted behaviors after Christmas, helping everyone and becoming a second father to Tiny Tim, who does not pass away. He never sees the spirits again, but he retains the spirit of Christmas active in his heart as well as anybody. (2002, par. 5)

In a few words, this is the story of Ebenezer Scrooge, a cold-hearted and selfish man without happiness that changes into a good and kindhearted man that has happiness in his heart for the rest of his life after his journey and his experiences with the three ghosts.

Chapter III

Methodological Framework

Any investigation must accomplish a result, and in order to fulfill the objective, every stage in the research has to apply specific instruments. Those tools and the steps throughout the procedure reveal how the investigation will reach the objectives that are formulated in the first chapter of the research.

3.1 Research Approach

The research approach indicates the type of research methodology that the study will be about. The most significant methods are two: the quantitative and the qualitative. In order to establish the type of approach that will be used in this investigation, both methods will be described below.

3.1.1 Quantitative Research

A quantitative research is used to quantify the problem by way of generating numerical data or data that can be transformed into usable statistics. It is used to quantify and generalize results of attitudes, behaviors, opinions, and other demarcated variables from a huge sample population (DeFranzo, 2011, par. 4). As it can be seen, the target of any quantitative investigation is the use of numerical data to obtain the results for the research.

3.1.2 Qualitative Research

Qualitative research is used to gain a deep understanding of human attitudes, behaviors, experiences, intentions, and motivations by the use of observation and interpretation to discover the manner people feel and think. It is an investigation in which the researcher gives more importance to the participants' views. (Surbhi, 2018, par. 6) As for the investigation, the qualitative research was the selected approach. The reason for the choice of the approach is the manner to complete the specific objectives in order to achieve the general purpose of the investigation, which is the analysis of the book *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens by means of the Hero's Journey stages.

In the case of the first specific objective, which is the identification of the different stages that Mr. Scrooge goes through to become a hero; a literary analysis chart will be prepared to cite the different stages of the Hero's Journey in the book. The results will be interpreted by the investigator. Next, the second specific objective, which is to determine which events allow Mr. Scrooge to change his behavior will also be achieved by using a literary analysis chart to cite those events.

Finally, the third specific objective, which is the evaluation of the impact of the hero stages in Mr. Scrooge's life will be carried out by using a literary analysis chart. This chart will cite the significant moments of events of the Hero's Journey stages that appear in the book in order to show how they affect the life of Mr. Scrooge's life. In other words, the analysis of the book *A Christmas Carol* through the Hero's Journey stages will be accomplished by means of three literary analysis charts which follow the qualitative method to collect data and to analyze it for the study.

3.2 Research Design

A design is used to demonstrate how something is to be done and it is used in many areas. Every research has a design in order to develop and achieve it. Of course, this study has a definite tactic in order to its advancement. In the case of this investigation, it was realized by only one kind of design: a descriptive research. This type of research will be described below.

3.2.1 Descriptive Research

According to Adi Bhat (2019), descriptive research is a research method that describes the features of the phenomenon or population that is being studied. This methodology centers more on the 'what' of the research subject instead of the 'why' of it. In other words, type of research mainly focuses on describing the nature of a demographic section, without concentrating on 'why' a certain phenomenon takes place. In few words, it 'describes' the subject of the investigation, without covering 'why' it occurs (2019, par. 1-2).

As it can be seen, the descriptive research is a qualitative research method that is focused on the description of characteristics of a subject. It is carried out by describing the events of the book in different features. In the case of this study, the descriptive method is the designated one for it. The reason for the selected method is that the features of a subject are described, in this case is the description of Hero's Journey stages in the events of the book *A Christmas Carol*.

3.3 Information Sources

Sources of information are used for the research. According to Lexico, an information source is a person, place, or thing from which something can be acquired or initiated (2019, par. 1). Therefore, the sources can be people, places, or items the investigators find in order to acquire the data necessary for any type of study that should be done. In this research, the information is gathered from diverse sources such as articles, biographies, books, dictionaries, encyclopedias, the Internet, literary analysis charts, literature works and tables.

3.3.1 Primary Sources

Primary sources, in accordance with the University of Minnesota Crookston (2019), are registers of events or proofs as they are first described or actually happened without any commentary or interpretation. It is information that is shown for the first time or new materials on which other research is based. They are sources that announce new findings, share fresh information, or show original thinking. Some examples are autobiographies, conference proceedings, correspondence, diaries, dissertations, interviews, letters, memos, personal narratives, photographs, poems, scholarly journal articles, government reports, speeches, symposia proceedings, and theses (2019, par. 2-3). In other words, the primary sources are original material that investigators can find for collecting the necessary information of the study.

3.3.2 Secondary Sources

According to Santiago Canyon College (2019), secondary sources analyze, comment upon, describe, discuss, evaluate, interpret, process, and summarize primary sources. It is a source that is commonly one or more steps removed from the occasion or time period and are written or produced after the circumstance with the benefit of retrospection. They often lack the immediacy and newness of the original material. In addition, these materials can be written or non-written. Some examples are abstracts, atlases, bibliographies, biographical works, commentaries, dictionaries, encyclopedias, history books, indexes, journals, literature reviews, magazines articles, newspapers after the occasion, review articles, scholarly books, textbooks, and works of criticism and interpretation (2019, par. 21-32). In few words, secondary sources are data based on an original material.

3.3.3 Tertiary Sources

In accordance with John Repplinger (2019), tertiary sources are collections and extractions of primary and secondary sources. Data are compiled and digested into factual demonstration. These sources are normally the last to be published in the information sequence. They have been filtered through many reviewers; they tend to contain accurate and highly reliable information, and contain wide viewpoints of topics. Some examples are chronologies, classifications, dictionaries, directories, encyclopedias, guides, handbooks, and other fact books (2019, par. 20, 22). As it can be seen, tertiary sources are data created by compilation of information from other sources.

3.4 Analysis Categories

All studies include definitions that can be easily understood without a profound knowledge of subject. Nevertheless, some concepts need to be reviewed to understand the whole investigation. These concepts will be exposed and explained at length below.

3.4.1 Hero's Journey

Hero's Journey, according to Paul Gannon (2019), these are stages that lead the hero from a state of innocence to one of mastery, victory, and resolution. As the story starts, the ordinary heroes' lives are interrupted by a previously unexpected challenge, which they normally belittle or ignore. Eventually, heroes understand that the challenge will not disappear and that they must deal with it in order to stay alive and to prosper. Once they accept the challenge, the protagonists have to debate about a solution, but nothing is useful. Just as despair begins, a guide or mentor or guide arrives to route the heroes in the correct direction and to prepare them for the quest ahead. Heroes, prepared with this new knowledge, successfully confront the many challenges forward. Finally, they come back to their regular life, enriched by what they have learned and achieved. (2019, par. 4, 6-10)

In other words, the Hero's Journey is a pattern that shows the trip of heroes to face the challenge that appears in their lives; those challenges affect not only the life of heroes, but the life of people around them as well. So on their journey, they help their world to be fine. In the case of this investigation, the book will be analyzed using the Hero's Journey pattern.

3.4.2 Psychological Approach

Psychological Approach or Criticism, according to Richmond County School System (2020), is when psychological critics inspect literature through the vision of psychology. These critics examine either the psychological motivations of the characters or of the authors in literary works (2020, pg. 2).

Thus, this criticism analyses a character of a literary creation through psychology. In the case of this investigation, the change of behavior and attitude of the main character, Ebenezer Scrooge, during the stages of his Hero's Journey will be analyzed utilizing this approach.

3.5 Data Collection Instruments

The data collection instruments are the tools to reach the purpose of the investigation. Each instrument is used to complete each specific objective, in other words, each tool is assigned to complete each objective. However, they were chosen for a specific purpose. The selected instruments and the intention for each of them are explained below.

3.5.1 Literary Analysis Chart of the Hero's Journey stages

The literary analysis chart is a table of quotes and the interpretations for each stage of the Hero's Journey in the events of the book *A Christmas Carol*. This instrument has twelve specific criteria to complete the chart based on each stage of the Hero's Journey.

The criteria of the chart are The ordinary world, The call to adventure, Refusal of the call, Meeting the mentor, Crossing the threshold, Tests, allies, enemies, Approach to the inmost cave, The ordeal, Reward, The road back, The resurrection, and Return with the elixir. The stages are written on the first column. For each stage mentioned before, there are

two columns that have to be fulfilled by the researcher: the second one is to write the quotation of events where the stage happens in the book, and the third one is to write the researcher's explanation of why those events are considered stages of the Hero's Journey. The idea is to write the required information on the second and third columns for each criterion of the first column.

The purpose of this instrument is to identify the different stages Mr. Scrooge goes through to become a hero. The instrument will explain how the Hero's Journey stages happen in *A Christmas Carol* through the viewpoint of the researcher. In other words, it is the demonstration of how the Hero's Journey stages can be identified.

3.5.2 Literary Analysis Chart of Ebenezer Scrooge's Behavior Changes

The literary analysis chart is a table of quotes and the interpretations for events that change the behavior of Ebenezer Scrooge in the book *A Christmas Carol*. This instrument has five specific criteria to complete the chart based on one important event for each chapter of the novella where the behavior of Mr. Scrooge changes.

The criteria of the chart are The Warning of Marley's Ghost, Regret of the present life, The Condition of Cratchit Family, The End of Scrooge, and The change of Ebenezer's destiny. The names of the events are written on the first column. For each event revealed before, there are two columns that have to be fulfilled. The second one is to write the quotation about what happened in the events of the book, and the third one is to write the researcher's explanation of why those events are considered situations that change the behavior of Ebenezer Scrooge. The idea is to write the required information on the second and third columns for each criterion of the first column.

The purpose of this instrument is to determine which events allow Mr. Scrooge to change his behavior. The instrument will explain how through events of the five chapters of *A Christmas Carol* Mr. Scrooge's behavior changes. In other words, the objective is to demonstrate how the behavior of Ebenezer Scrooge changes during his journey.

3.5.3 Literary Analysis Chart of the Hero Stages' Impact in Mr. Scrooge's Life

The literary analysis chart is a table of quotes and the interpretations for circumstances that follow the Hero's Journey stages that impact the life of Ebenezer Scrooge. This instrument has five specific items to complete the table based on one significant event for each chapter of the short novel where the Hero's Journey impacts the life of Mr. Scrooge.

The criteria of the chart are Marley's Ghost, The First of the Three Spirits, The Second of the Three Spirits, and The Last of the Spirits, The End of It. The chapters of the book are written on the first column. For each chapter shown before, there are two columns that have to be fulfilled by the researcher: the second one is to write the quotation of the most important part of events that follow the hero's journey stages that affect the life of Ebenezer Scrooge, and the third one is to write the researcher's explanation of why those events are considered the hero's journey stages that impact Mr. Scrooge's life. The idea is to write the required information on the second and third columns for the first column.

The purpose of this instrument is to evaluate the impact of the hero stages in Mr. Scrooge's life. The instrument will explain how the most significant events that follow the hero's journey stages in the five chapters of the book *A Christmas Carol* impact Mr. Scrooge's life.

3.6 Collection Data Process and Data Analysis

The analysis of *A Christmas Carol* through the Hero's Journey stages is a process. The first half of the process is to gather information. First, the researcher will read *A Christmas Carol* and the *Hero's Journey theory* to apply these stages to the framework of the investigation. The second half of the process is to make the analysis of the book. The researcher will elaborate three charts of literary analysis. In fact, all the charts include different criteria that will be quoted and interpreted by the researcher. The first one will be about the Hero's Journey stages, the second one is about Ebenezer Scrooge's behavior changes, and the third one will be about the impact of the hero stages in Mr. Scrooge's life. Then, the conclusions will be made according to the outcome of the investigation. Finally, the recommendations will be written for further investigations related to this topic based on the results of the research.

Of course, the instruments will be applied throughout different moments of the investigation. The three devices will serve to achieve the objectives of the research. Then, the tools have been chosen for each objective. All of them will be applied and commented in Chapters, IV and V. The instrument to identify the different stages Mr. Scrooge goes through to become a hero is a literary analysis chart which will be used for an analysis of the book through the hero's stages that Mr. Scrooge has to undergo in order to become a hero.

The instrument to determine which events allow Mr. Scrooge to change his behavior is a literary analysis chart. The table will be carried out after the first analysis chart; it will be about particular moments where the life of Scrooge changes. These situations will be

quoted and interpreted by the investigation. This tool will analyze how the behavior of Mr. Scrooge changes throughout the book.

The instrument to evaluate the impact of the hero stages in Mr. Scrooge's life is a literary analysis chart. This instrument will be applied after the use of the previous chart of literary analysis. In this case, the use of this table is to explain in each chapter of the book, how the most significant events in the hero's journey of Ebenezer Scrooge impact his life. The purpose of the instruments is to analyze quotations and interpretations of events in *A Christmas Carol* using the *Hero's Journey theory*.

Chapter IV

Data Analysis

The data analysis, according to the University of Pretoria (2020), is vital because it is the principal part of any investigation. It summarizes gathered data and involves the interpretation of data collected through the use of analytical and logical reasoning to determine associations, patterns, or trends (2020, pg. 1). As it can be seen, in this section of the research, the information collected is analyzed and interpreted in a clear and comprehensible way. Of course, it is necessary to rely on a triangulation among the literary work, experts' opinion, and the researcher's analysis to analyze the information.

The chapter is divided into three important sections. The first one is "The Approaches of Investigation Section" which will show the literary approaches that are going to be used to analyze the book. Second, the part of "Theories vs. Literary Works" that will show the analysis of the book through the interpretation of the researcher. Third and last, "Motifs and Symbols Segment" which will present those homonymous aspects that appear in *A Christmas Carol*.

4.1 Approaches to the Investigation

The book *A Christmas Carol* was analyzed through the Hero's Journey Stages Literary Theory; therefore, it is necessary for the researcher to explain what this approach is and why it is related to the book. According to Gannon (2019), the Hero's Journey stages direct the hero from innocence to victory, and resolution. As the story begins, the normal heroes' lives are stopped by a previously unpredicted challenge, which they normally downplay or disregard. In due course, the heroes recognize that the challenge will not

disappear and that they must cope with it in order to continue their lives and to prosper. As soon as they accept the task, then, protagonists have to think about a solution, but nothing seems to help. Just as hopelessness initiates, a guide or mentor appears to direct the heroes in the correct route and coaches them for the mission ahead. Heroes, ready with this new knowledge, effectively deal with the many tests forward. Lastly, they go back to their ordinary life enriched by what they have acquired and accomplished (Gannon, 2019, par. 4, 6-10)

In other words, the Hero's Journey is a pattern that shows the voyage of heroes to face the challenge that emerges in their lives, which in the end not only affects them but also their world. The main purpose of this investigation is to analyze the journey of the main character in *A Christmas Carol* through the Hero's Journey Stages. Additionally, the second objective will be completed by applying the psychological approach because the researcher will analysis and interpret the psychological motivations of the change of behavior and attitude of Ebenezer Scrooge through events of the book.

4.2 Theories vs Literary Work

The idea of a literary analysis is to use selected parts of a book using different approaches for it. In the case of this research, the book *A Christmas Carol* will be analyzed through the Hero's Journey literary theory. In order to accomplish this, three instruments will be used, the Literary Analysis Chart of the Hero's Journey stages, Literary Analysis Chart of Ebenezer Scrooge's Behavior Changes, and the Literary Analysis Chart of the Impact of Hero Stages in Mr. Scrooge's Life. Therefore, the purpose of these tables is to analyze the events in the book *A Christmas Carol* through the *Hero's Journey theory* by means of quotations and interpretations. The first Literary Chart fulfills the first objective

by analyzing and interpreting quotes from the book *A Christmas Carol* in order to identify the different stages Mr. Scrooge goes through to become a hero.

Table 1

Literary Analysis Chart of the Hero's Journey stages

Literary Analysis Chart of the Hero's Journey stages		
Stage of Hero's Journey	Quote	Interpretation of the Researcher
The Ordinary World	<p>“Scrooge took his melancholy dinner in his usual melancholy tavern; and having read all the newspapers, and beguiled the rest of the evening with his banker's-book, went home to bed.” (Page 13)</p>	<p>The ordinary world where the accountant, Ebenezer Scrooge, has his daily life routine was London.</p>
The Call to Adventure	<p>“You will be haunted, resumed the Ghost, ‘by Three Spirits.’ Scrooge's countenance fell almost as low as the Ghost's had done. ‘Is that the chance and hope you mentioned, Jacob?’ he</p>	<p>The call to adventure happens when Jacob Marley's ghost appears in Scrooge's house and tells him that he has a chance to change his terrible fate.</p>

	<p>demanded, in a faltering voice.</p> <p>‘It is.’” (pg. 24-25)</p>	
Refusal of the Call	<p>“‘I—I think I’d rather not,’ said Scrooge.</p> <p>‘Without their visits,’ said the Ghost, “you cannot hope to shun the path I tread...”” (pg. 25)</p>	<p>Ebenezer refused the call to his journey when he did not want (refused) to meet the visiting ghosts. Then, he finally accepted his chance to change.</p>
Meeting the Mentor	<p>“‘Who, and what are you?’ Scrooge demanded.</p> <p>‘I am the Ghost of Christmas Past.’</p> <p>‘Long Past?’ inquired Scrooge: observant of its dwarfish stature.</p> <p>‘No. Your past’”(pg. 32)</p> <p>“‘Come in!’ exclaimed the Ghost. “Come in! and know me better, man!’</p> <p>Scrooge entered timidly, and hung his head before this</p>	<p>Ebenezer becomes a hero who has three mentors. Each one of them taught him lessons through his time travel.</p> <p>The first mentor was the Ghost of Christmas Past. He showed Scrooge the Hero in him in the past.</p> <p>The second mentor was the Ghost of Christmas Present who showed Scrooge his present.</p>

	<p>Spirit. He was not the dogged Scrooge he had been; and though the Spirit's eyes were clear and kind, he did not like to meet them.</p> <p>'I am the Ghost of Christmas Present,' said the Spirit.</p> <p>'Look upon me!'" (pg. 55-56)</p> <p>"I am in the presence of the Ghost of Christmas Yet To Come?" said Scrooge.</p> <p>The Spirit answered not, but pointed onward with its hand.</p> <p>'You are about to show me shadows of the things that have not happened, but will happen in the time before us,' Scrooge pursued. 'Is that so, Spirit?'</p> <p>The upper portion of the garment was contracted for</p>	<p>The third and last mentor was the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come. He showed to Scrooge his future if he did not change.</p>
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	<p>an instant in its folds, as if the Spirit had inclined its head. That was the only answer he received.” (pg. 86-87)</p>	
<p>Crossing the Threshold</p>	<p>He spoke before the hour bell sounded, which it now did with a deep, dull, hollow, melancholy One. Light flashed up in the room upon the instant, and the curtains of his bed were drawn. (pg. 30)</p>	<p>Scrooge crossed the threshold when the Ghost of Christmas Past arrived at his house. It occurred when time suddenly stopped. Scrooge's bedroom was converted into the main scenario of a special world of the journey, where all tests began.</p>
<p>Tests, Allies, Enemies</p>	<p>‘These are but shadows of the things that have been,’ said the Ghost. ‘They have no consciousness of us.’(pg. 34) “‘Spirit,’ said Scrooge submissively, ‘conduct me where you will. I went forth</p>	<p>The tests are related to the tree time travels that the hero carried out with his mentors. The allies are Jacob Marley and the three ghosts of Christmas.</p>

	<p>last night on compulsion, and I learnt a lesson which is working now. Tonight, if you have aught to teach me, let me profit by it.’</p> <p>‘Touch my robe!’” (pg. 57)</p> <p>“‘Ghost of the Future!’ he exclaimed, ‘I fear you more than any Spectre I have seen. But as I know your purpose is to do me good, and as I hope to live to be another man from what I was, I am prepared to bear you company, and do it with a thankful heart. Will you not speak to me?’” (pg. 87)</p>	<p>Jacob Marley is a Scrooge’s friend, so Marley wants to avoid the terrible fate that his friend has.</p> <p>The three Ghosts are not only mentors, they are allies because they help Ebenezer to see he can become a better person.</p> <p>The enemy is Scrooge’s own fate. If he does not change from a bad person into a good person, he will pay for his bad actions in the afterlife, like Marley does.</p>
<p>Approach to the Inmost Cave</p>	<p>“The Spirit stood among the graves, and pointed down to One. He advanced towards it trembling. The Phantom was exactly as it had been, but he</p>	<p>It happens when Scrooge and the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come entered to a graveyard in order to see the name of the dead man that</p>

	<p>dreaded that he saw new meaning in its solemn shape.</p> <p>‘Before I draw nearer to that stone to which you point,’ said Scrooge, ‘answer me one question. Are these the shadows of the things that Will be, or are they shadows of things that May be, only?’</p> <p>Still the Ghost pointed downward to the grave by which it stood.</p> <p>‘Men’s courses will foreshadow certain ends, to which, if persevered in, they must lead,’ said Scrooge.</p> <p>‘But if the courses be departed from, the ends will change. Say it is thus with what you show me!’” (pg. 105-106)</p>	<p>everybody talked about in the future to come.</p>
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<p>The Ordeal</p>	<p>“‘The Spirit was immovable as ever. Scrooge crept towards it, trembling as he went; and following the finger, read upon the stone of the neglected grave his own name, EBENEZER SCROOGE. ‘Am I that man who lay upon the bed?’ he cried, upon his knees. The finger pointed from the grave to him, and back again. ‘No, Spirit! Oh no, no!’” (pg. 106)</p>	<p>The ordeal happened when Scrooge found his own name in the gravestone in the churchyard. Then, he confronted the Ghost of the Christmas Yet to Come regarding his future. However, he apparently lost the battle.</p>
<p>Reward</p>	<p>“‘Yes! and the bedpost was his own. The bed was his own, the room was his own. Best and happiest of all, the Time before him was his own, to make amends in!’”</p>	<p>Scrooge’s rewards were the lessons taught by his mentors and his return to the present. The lessons learned by Scrooge are the knowledge he needs to</p>

	(pg. 108)	change himself, to become a better person. His return to the present is important because the time stopped when the trials began; each time travel was supposed to happen in different days, but all the trials happened in one single day when he returned to his bedroom, so this way Scrooge got enough time to change his destiny.
The Road back	“‘I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future’ Scrooge repeated, as he scrambled out of bed. ‘The Spirits of all Three shall strive within me...’” (pg. 108)	The road back is when Scrooge decided to be a good person. This happened at the end of the third trial. After all Scrooge saw and learned from the trials, he comprehended that he could amend his bad actions by doing good actions for everyone around him.

<p>Resurrection</p>	<p>“‘What’s to-day!’ cried Scrooge, calling downward to a boy in Sunday clothes, who perhaps had loitered in to look about him. ‘Eh?’ returned the boy, with all his might of wonder. ‘What’s to-day, my fine fellow?’ said Scrooge. ‘To-day!’ replied the boy. “‘Why, CHRISTMAS DAY.’ ‘It’s Christmas Day!’ said Scrooge to himself. ‘I haven’t missed it. The Spirits have done it all in one night. They can do anything they like. Of course they can. Of course they can. Hallo, my fine fellow!’” (pg. 110)</p>	<p>The resurrection of Scrooge is when he saw that he was in the present and that he could redo all the wrong he did before, so he could start treating better the people around him.</p>
<p>Return with the Elixir</p>	<p>“...He became as good a friend, as good a master, and as good a man, as the good</p>	<p>The return of the elixir is when Ebenezer became a good person for everybody</p>

	<p>old city knew, or any other good old city, town, or borough, in the good old world..." (pg. 116)</p>	<p>around him. With his knowledge of the previous lessons and his being in the present, he can amend his bad actions by his fellow men well.</p>
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Table 1. Literary Analysis Chart of the Hero's Journey Stages. Source: Researcher's own creation

The second Literary Chart developed in order to fulfill the second objective was done by analyzing and interpreting quotes from the book *A Christmas Carol* in order to determine the events that allowed Mr. Scrooge to change his behavior and attitude. The chart is the following.

Table 2

Literary Analysis Chart of Ebenezer Scrooge's Behavior Changes

Ebenezer Scrooge's Behavior Changes Literary Analysis Chart		
Events	Quotes	Interpretation of the Researcher
The Warning of Marley's Ghost	<p>“‘But you were always a good man of business, Jacob,’ faltered Scrooge, who now began to apply this to himself.</p> <p>‘Business!’ cried the Ghost, wringing its hands again.</p> <p>‘Mankind was my business. The common welfare was my business; charity, mercy, forbearance, and benevolence, were, all, my business. The dealings of my trade were but a drop of</p>	<p>At the beginning of the story, Scrooge was a lonely and selfish person who only cared about money and business. So, when Marley came to Scrooge's home, he warns him that if he doesn't change into a good person, he will suffer the consequences of his bad actions, he will suffer in the afterlife. Then, Marley warned Scrooge about the three ghosts that will visit</p>

	<p>water in the comprehensive ocean of my business!’” (pg. 23-24)</p>	<p>him as a chance to change his fate.</p>
<p>Regret of the present life</p>	<p>“And now Scrooge looked on more attentively than ever, when the master of the house, having his daughter leaning fondly on him, sat down with her and her mother at his own fireside; and when he thought that such another creature, quite as graceful and as full of promise, might have called him father, and been a spring-time in the haggard winter of his life, his sight grew very dim indeed. ‘Belle,’ said the husband, turning to his wife with a smile, ‘I saw an old friend of yours this afternoon.’ ‘Who was it?’</p>	<p>When Ebenezer saw his past, he realized that he could have had a happy family with his former fiancée, Belle. For this reason, he regretted his present life, as he was all alone.</p>

	<p>‘Guess!’</p> <p>‘How can I? Tut, don’t I know?’ she added in the same breath, laughing as he laughed. ‘Mr. Scrooge.’</p> <p>‘Mr. Scrooge it was. I passed his office window; and as it was not shut up, and he had a candle inside, I could scarcely help seeing him. His partner lies upon the point of death, I hear; and there he sat alone. Quite alone in the world, I do believe.’</p> <p>‘Spirit!’ said Scrooge in a broken voice, ‘remove me from this place.’” (pg. 50-51)</p>	
<p>The Condition of Cratchit Family</p>	<p>“‘Spirit,’ said Scrooge, with an interest he had never felt before, ‘tell me if Tiny Tim will live.’</p>	<p>Scrooge saw, with the help of the Ghost of Christmas Present, the poor living conditions of Bob Cratchit’s</p>

	<p>‘I see a vacant seat,’ replied the Ghost, “in the poor chimney-corner, and a crutch without an owner, carefully preserved. If these shadows remain unaltered by the Future, the child will die.’</p> <p>‘No, no,’ said Scrooge. ‘Oh, no, kind Spirit! say he will be spared.’</p> <p>‘If these shadows remain unaltered by the Future, none other of my race,’ returned the Ghost, ‘will find him here. What then? If he be like to die, he had better do it, and decrease the surplus population.’</p> <p>Scrooge hung his head to hear his own words quoted by the Spirit, and was overcome with penitence</p>	<p>life, his employee. He felt sadness, remorse, and guilt, especially for the little crippled boy, Tim.</p> <p>Scrooge saw that members of Bob Cratchit’ family were good people, especially tiny Tim, who needed help. Bob worked for Scrooge because he needed the money to support his family, but his salary was really bad If they did not have more money to spend in the future, they would not be able to pay for the operation of tiny Tim and the boy would die.</p>
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	<p>and grief.” (pg. 68-69)</p>	
<p>The End of Scrooge</p>	<p>““Good Spirit,’ he pursued, as down upon the ground he fell before it: ‘Your nature intercedes for me, and pities me. Assure me that I yet may change these shadows you have shown me, by an altered life!’</p> <p>The kind hand trembled.</p> <p>‘I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future. The Spirits of all Three shall strive within me. I will not shut out the lessons that they teach. Oh, tell me I may sponge away the writing on this stone!’”</p> <p>(pg. 106-107)</p>	<p>After Ebenezer saw what could happen in the future, not only to himself but to the people around him, as well; he wanted to change his life for good. The old Scrooge died there. That is the moment when he defeated his old self, his own destiny. The moment Scrooge decides to change for good, his fate changes.</p>

<p>The change of Ebenezer's destiny</p>	<p>“He was so fluttered and so glowing with his good intentions, that his broken voice would scarcely answer to his call.” (pg. 108)</p>	<p>Scrooge changed his destiny when he decided to change himself and to be a good person by making good actions.</p>
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Table 2. Ebenezer Scrooge's Behavior Changes Literary Analysis Chart. Source: Researcher's own creation

The third Literary Chart created by the researcher to accomplish the third objective, allowed analyzing and interpreting quotes from the book *A Christmas Carol* in order to evaluate the impact of the hero stages in Mr. Scrooge's life and the people around him. The chart is presented below.

Table 3

Literary Analysis Chart of the Hero Stages' Impact in Mr. Scrooge's Life

Impact of Hero Stages in Mr. Scrooge's Life Literary Analysis Chart		
Chapters	Quotes	Interpretation of the Researcher
Marley's Ghost	<p>“‘That is no light part of my penance,’ pursued the Ghost. ‘I am here tonight to warn you, that you have yet a chance and hope of escaping my fate. A chance and hope of my procuring, Ebenezer.’</p> <p>‘You were always a good friend to me,’ said Scrooge.</p> <p>‘Thank’ee!’” (pg. 24)</p>	<p>Jacob Marley, Scrooge's dead business partner, came to warn Ebenezer about how he would pay for his sins in a painful afterlife if he continued his current life style.</p>
The First of the Three Spirits	<p>“‘I told you these were shadows of the things that have been,’ said the Ghost.</p>	<p>Scrooge learned, through the first trial, that he became a lonely and grumpy person,</p>

	<p>‘That they are what they are, do not blame me!’” (pg. 51)</p>	<p>as he only pursued money and forgot all about many important things such as love and friendship by traveling through time with the ghost.</p>
<p>The Second of the Three Spirits</p>	<p>“‘... tell me if Tiny Tim will live.’ ‘I see a vacant seat,’ replied the Ghost, “in the poor chimney-corner, and a crutch without an owner, carefully preserved. If these shadows remain unaltered by the Future, the child will die.’” (pg. 68)</p>	<p>Scrooge, through the second trial, learned that his actions could affect the life of others. It is because his actions produce reactions in others. For example, his grumpy attitude kept the citizens of London away from him. But, in the case of his employee, Bob Cratchit, the Cratchit family lived in poor conditions and did not have money for the operation that tiny Tim needed to live because of the miserable salary that Scrooge paid for the job.</p>

<p>The Last of the Spirits</p>	<p>“I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future. The Spirits of all Three shall strive within me. I will not shut out the lessons that they teach...” (pg. 107)</p>	<p>Scrooge, through the third trial, learned that if he did not become a good person, he and others around him would suffer the consequences. For example one result is his death in loneliness and without anyone who will really care about his death. Another result is that one of the Cratchit children, tiny Tim, will die. When he learned all the lessons, he decided to change for good.</p>
<p>The End of It</p>	<p>“...He became as good a friend, as good a master, and as good a man, as the good old city knew, or any other good old city, town, or borough, in the good old world...” (pg. 116)</p>	<p>After his change, Scrooge started to make good actions. He became a better person to everyone by doing different actions such as spending money on charity projects, by helping the Cratchit family with their</p>

		economic situation, and giving smiles to people he saw everywhere.
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Table 3. Impact of Hero Stages in Mr. Scrooge's Life Literary Analysis Chart. Source: Researcher's own creation

4.3 Themes, Motifs, and Symbols

Literary works always have themes, motifs, and symbols that appear through characters, objects, and events inside stories. Of course, *A Christmas Carol* is not the exception. These elements inside in the story will be analyzed and interpreted by the researcher. For this, a Literary Analysis Chart will be used for the three elements. The table is as follows.

Table 4

Literary Analysis Chart of Themes, Motifs and Symbols

Literary Analysis Chart of Themes, Motifs and Symbols		
Themes	Quote	Interpretation of the Researcher
Christmas	“...But I am sure I have always thought of Christmas time, when it has come round—apart from the veneration due to its sacred name and origin, if anything belonging to it can be apart from that—as a good time: a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time: the only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when	It is a religious holiday, as well as, a time to treat people with kindness and generosity. Qualities that Scrooge does not possess at the beginning of the story; because he was a grumpy and selfish person that does not like Christmas. But, at the end of the story, he became a good and kindhearted man who likes

	<p>men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely, and to think of people below them as if they really were fellow-passengers to the grave, and not another race of creatures bound on other journeys...’’ (pg. 6)</p>	<p>Christmas. So, the behavior of Ebenezer towards the holiday reflects his change.</p>
<p>Redemption</p>	<p>“‘I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future. The Spirits of all Three shall strive within me. I will not shut out the lessons that they teach....’’ (pg. 107)</p>	<p>Redemption can be found when Scrooge was saved from his terrible fate by changing from a grumpy and selfish person to a kindhearted man.</p>
<p>Social Injustice</p>	<p>“...They were not a handsome family; they were not well dressed; their shoes were far from being water-proof; their clothes were</p>	<p>The social injustice is perceived through the life conditions in London, such as Fred's friends, who were rich and the Cratchit Family,</p>

	<p>scanty; and Peter might have known, and very likely did, the inside of a pawnbroker's. But, they were happy, grateful, pleased with one another, and contented with the time..." (pg. 71)</p>	<p>who were poor. The difference between social classes is presented in the third chapter. The dinner of Bob Cratchit, the family had the best clothes they could find and they only had as a principal meal a goose because they could not afford to buy a turkey. But in Fred's dinner, people were well-dressed and had many types of food, including dessert.</p>
Motifs	Quote	Interpretation of the Researcher
<p>Scrooge's Bed</p>	<p>"To his great astonishment the heavy bell went on from six to seven, and from seven to eight, and regularly up to twelve; then stopped. Twelve! It was past two when he went to bed. The clock was wrong. An icicle</p>	<p>Scrooge's bed appears in almost all the important events of the story, as it is here where Ebenezer meditated on all the events that had happened to him.</p>

	must have got into the works. Twelve!’’ (pg. 28)	
Weather	Running to the window, he opened it, and put out his head. No fog, no mist; clear, bright, jovial, stirring, cold; cold, piping for the blood to dance to; Golden sunlight; Heavenly sky; sweet fresh air; merry bells. Oh, glorious! Glorious! (pg. 109-110)	The weather appeared constantly through the events of the book in order to reflect the transformation of Scrooge. For example, in the first chapter, the weather does not affect Scrooge at all; it reflects his grumpy and selfish character. However, in the last chapter, he feels happy about the weather; it reflects his change into a good and kindhearted person.
Symbols	Quote	Interpretation of the Researcher
Marley's Chains	‘‘It held up its chain at arm's length, as if that were the cause of all its unavailing grief, and flung it heavily upon the ground again.’’ (pg. 24)	The heavy chain was the penitence for the life actions of Jacob Marley as a ghost. It represents the penitence and suffering in the afterlife of people who did bad

		<p>actions during their lives.</p> <p>Marley showed the chain to Scrooge because he wants to show him that he will suffer this if he does not become a good person.</p>
The Ghost of Christmas Past	<p>It was a strange figure—like a child: yet not so like a child as like an old man, viewed through some supernatural medium, which gave him the appearance of having receded from the view, and being diminished to a child's proportions. (pg. 30)</p>	<p>The ghost represents the memories of how Ebenezer was before becoming the grumpy and selfish man portrayed at the beginning of the story.</p>
The Ghost of Christmas Present	<p>“...In easy state upon this couch, there sat a jolly Giant, glorious to see; who bore a glowing torch, in shape not unlike Plenty's horn, and held it up, high up, to shed its light on</p>	<p>The giant symbolized the generosity and goodwill that Scrooge did not have in on his lonely life events during the present.</p>

	Scrooge..." (pg. 55)	
The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come	<p>"It was shrouded in a deep black garment, which concealed its head, its face, its form, and left nothing of it visible save one outstretched hand. But for this it would have been difficult to detach its figure from the night, and separate it from the darkness by which it was surrounded."</p> <p>(pg. 86)</p>	The phantom denoted the fear of death and the doubts about the future of the main character.
Scrooge's Gravestone	<p>"Scrooge crept towards it, trembling as he went; and following the finger, read upon the stone of the neglected grave his own name, EBENEZER SCROOGE." (pg. 106)</p>	The gravestone represented the possible future of Ebenezer Scrooge if he did not become a kindhearted person.
Ignorance and Want	<p>"...This boy is Ignorance. This girl is Want. Beware them both, and all of their</p>	The children's Ignorance and Want symbolized two aspects. Want is the life

	<p>degree, but most of all beware this boy, for on his brow I see that written which is Doom, unless the writing be erased. Deny it!’ cried the Spirit, stretching out its hand towards the city. ‘Slander those who tell it ye! Admit it for your factious purposes, and make it worse. And bide the end!’” (pg.84- 85)</p>	<p>condition of poor people and Ignorance is the unawareness of wealthy people about lower social classes who needed help. It reminds Scrooge that wealthy people, like him, can improve the life conditions of poor people around them, providing them with money.</p>
<p>Turkey</p>	<p>“‘Do you know whether they’ve sold the prize Turkey that was hanging up there?—Not the little prize Turkey: the big one? ‘What, the one as big as me?’ returned the boy. ‘What a delightful boy!’ said Scrooge. ‘It’s a pleasure to talk to him. Yes, my buck!’ ‘It’s hanging there now,’</p>	<p>The turkey represents the transformation of Ebenezer from a selfish person to a generous man sending a free turkey to the Cratchit Family.</p>

	replied the boy. 'Is it?' said Scrooge. 'Go and buy it.''' (pg. 110)	
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Table 4. Themes, Motifs, and Symbols of A Christmas Carol Literary Analysis Chart. Source: Researcher's own creation

Chapter V

Conclusions and Recommendations

5.1 Purpose of the Conclusion

In every investigation, the conclusion is placed in the last chapter. The purpose of a conclusion is to show the results of the objectives established at the beginning of the project. On the contrary, the recommendations are tools investigators use to provide significant pieces of suggestion in further studies associated with the subject under examination. In the case of this research, the conclusions will be about the outcomes of the specific objectives of the analysis, and the recommendations will be some suggestions for future investigations associated with this topic.

5.2 Conclusions

The purpose of this descriptive and qualitative research was to analyze the book *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens by utilizing the Hero's Journey stages. In order to perform the conclusions, three specific objectives were used to analyze the book. The first one was to identify the different stages Mr. Scrooge goes through to become a hero; the second was to determine the events that allow Mr. Scrooge to change his behavior and attitude; and the third one was to evaluate the impact of the hero stages in Mr. Scrooge's life and the people around him. In order to accomplish these specific objectives, analysis literary charts were used by the researcher. After the analysis of the three objectives, the conclusions are necessary. So, the outcomes of those objectives will be explained in the conclusions of the next three sections.

5.2.1 To identify the different stages Mr. Scrooge goes through to become a hero

The first objective was to identify the different stages Mr. Scrooge goes through to become a hero and it can be said that the objective was accomplished. The 12 stages of Hero's Journey refined by Christopher Vogler appeared in the book. The first stage was The Ordinary World. This world is where the accountant, Ebenezer Scrooge, has his daily life routine in London. The second stage was The Call to Adventure. The call happened when Jacob Marley's ghost appeared in Scrooge's house and told him that he had a chance to change his terrible fate.

The third stage was Refusal of the Call. It happened at the time when Ebenezer refused to meet the incoming ghosts. However, he finally accepted his chance to change. The fourth stage Meeting the Mentor: Scrooge is a hero that met three mentors, and each one of them taught him lessons through time travel. The first mentor was the Ghost of Christmas Past who showed the protagonist the Hero in him in the past. The second mentor was the Ghost of Christmas Present who showed Scrooge his present. The third and last mentor was the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come who showed the hero his future if he did not change. The fifth stage was Crossing the Threshold. The hero crossed the threshold when the Ghost of Christmas Past arrived at his house. It happened because when time stopped, the bedroom of Ebenezer is converted into the main scenario of special world of the journey, where all tests began.

The sixth stage was Tests, Allies, Enemies. The protagonist had four allies in his adventure: Jacob Marley and three of Christmas ghosts. Jacob Marley is a friend of Scrooge who wants to avoid the terrible fate of Ebenezer. The three Ghosts are not only mentors,

they are allies because they helped the hero to realize he can be a better person. On the other hand, the enemy is Ebenezer's own fate because if he does not change from a bad person into a good one, he will pay for his bad actions in the afterlife, as Jacob does. The seventh stage was Approach to the Inmost Cave. It occurred when Scrooge and the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come entered a graveyard in order to see the name of the dead man that everybody talked about in the future to come. The eighth stage was The Ordeal. It happened when Scrooge found his own name in the gravestone in the churchyard. In there, he confronted the Ghost of the Christmas Yet to Come regarding his future, and he apparently lost the battle.

The ninth stage is the Reward. Scrooge's rewards were two, the lessons given by his mentors and his return to the present. First one, the lessons given by Scrooge were the knowledge he needed to change himself in order to become a better person. The second was Ebenezer's return to the present was important because the time stopped when the trials began, and each time travel was supposed to happen on different days; however, all the tests happened on one single day when he returned to his bedroom, so he gained time to change his fate. The tenth stage was The Road back. This happened at the end of the third trial when Scrooge decided to be a good person, after all he saw and learned from the trials, because he comprehended that he can amend his bad actions by doing good actions to everyone around him. The eleventh stage was Resurrection. Scrooge's resurrection occurred when he saw that he was in the present and that he could redo all the wrong he did before, as he could start treating his fellowmen better. Finally, the twelfth stage was Return with the Elixir. It happened when the hero became a good person to everybody around him. He used his knowledge of the previous lessons and his time at the present in order to make amends of his bad actions by treating the people around him more humanely.

The researcher found the hero's stages that Ebenezer Scrooge went through to become a hero. The stages are: First, the ordinary world; second, The Call to adventure; third, Refusal of the call; fourth, Meeting a mentor; fifth, Crossing the threshold; sixth, Test, allies, enemies; seventh, Approach to the inmost cave; eighth, The ordeal; ninth, Reward; tenth, The road back; eleventh, Resurrection; twelfth and final, Return with the elixir. All of them are the Hero's Journey stages refined by Christopher Vogler that Ebenezer Scrooge had to go through to become a hero.

As a conclusion, the researcher used the Literary Analysis Chart of the Hero's Journey stages in order to identify the different stages Mr. Scrooge undergoes to become a hero. The results of the literary analysis chart showed that the researcher found that all the stages of the hero's journey stages redefined by Christopher Vogler do appear in the story. The researcher accomplished the objective which was the identification of the different stages Mr. Scrooge undergoes.

5.2.2 To determine the events that allow Mr. Scrooge to change his behavior and attitude

The second objective was to determine the events that allow Mr. Scrooge to change his behavior and attitude. The objective was accomplished by the analysis of five events that allow Mr. Scrooge to change his behavior and attitude in a literary analysis chart. All the events are from different chapters of the story. The events appeared in the five staves or chapters that *A Christmas Carol* has. In the first stave, The Warning of Marley's Ghost appeared. In the second chapter, Regret of the Present Life took place. In the third stave, The Condition of Cratchit Family appeared. In the fourth chapter, The End of Scrooge happened. Fifth and final stave, The Change of Ebenezer's Destiny took place.

The first event was The Warning of Marley's Ghost. In the first chapter of the story, Scrooge was a lonely and selfish person who only cared about money and business. So, when Marley came to his home, Jacob warns Ebenezer that if he does not transform into a good person, he will suffer in the afterlife the consequences of his bad actions. After that, Marley warned Scrooge about the three ghosts that will visit him for an opportunity to change his terrible fate.

The second event was Regret of the Present Life. In the second chapter of the book, Ebenezer saw his past, and he realized that he could have had a happy family with his former fiancée, Belle. Due to this event, he regretted his present life, as he was all alone.

The third event was The Condition of Cratchit Family. In the third chapter of the story, Scrooge saw the poor living conditions of Bob Cratchit's life, his employee, thanks to the Ghost of Christmas Present. He felt guilt, remorse, and sadness, especially for the little crippled boy, Tim. Scrooge observed that members of Bob Cratchit family are good people, especially tiny Tim, who needed help. Bob works for Ebenezer because he needs the money to support his family, but the payment of his boss is really low. So, if they do not have more spare money in the future, they won't be able to pay for the surgery of tiny Tim and the boy will die.

The fourth event was The End of Scrooge. In the fourth chapter of the novella, Ebenezer wanted to change his life for good, after he saw what could happen in the future to himself and to the people around him. The old Scrooge died right there because it was the moment when he defeated his old self, his own destiny; he decided to change for good, his destiny also changed.

The fifth and final event was The Change of Ebenezer's Destiny. In the last chapter of *A Christmas Carol*, Ebenezer Scrooge altered his fate when he decided to change himself and to be a good person by making good actions.

The researcher found specific events that allow Mr. Scrooge to change his behavior and attitude. The events were, first, The Warning of Marley's Ghost; second, Regret of the Present Life; third, The Condition of Cratchit Family; fourth, The End of Scrooge; fifth and final, The Change of Ebenezer's Destiny. All of them are the events, in the perspective of the researcher, which have allowed Mr. Scrooge to change his behavior and attitude.

As a conclusion, the researcher used the Ebenezer Scrooge's Behavior Changes Literary Analysis Chart in order to determine the events that allow Mr. Scrooge to become a different person. The results of the literary analysis chart showed that the researcher found five events that in the story allowed the change of behavior and attitude of the protagonist. Therefore, this chart showed the events that allow Ebenezer to change his life. Anyway, the researcher reached the objective which was the determination of the events that allow Mr. Scrooge to change his whole life.

5.2.3 To evaluate the impact of the hero stages in Mr. Scrooge's life and the people around him

The third objective was to evaluate the impact of the hero stages in Mr. Scrooge's life and the people around him. The objective was accomplished in this case by using a literary analysis chart in order to explain in each chapter of the book, how the most significant events in the hero's journey of Ebenezer Scrooge impact his life and those around him. The most significant appeared in each of the five staves or chapters of A

Christmas Carol. For that reason, specific moments were selected for each one of the chapters.

The first significant moment appeared, in the first stave, with presence Marley's Ghost. Here, Jacob Marley, Scrooge's dead business partner, came to warn Ebenezer about how he would pay for his sins in a painful afterlife if he continued his current life style.

The second significant moment occurred within the second stave, The First of the Three Spirits. Here Scrooge, by traveling to the past with the first ghost, learned through the first trial that he became a lonely and grumpy person, as he only pursued money and forgot all about the most important things in life, such as love and friendship.

The third significant moment happened within the third stave, The Second of the Three Spirits. Here Ebenezer, through the second trial, learned that his actions could affect the life of those around him. It was because his actions produced reactions in others. For example, his grumpy attitude kept the citizens of London away from him. But, in the case of his employee, Bob Cratchit, the Cratchit family lived in poor conditions and did not have money for the operation that tiny Tim needed to live because of the miserable payment that Scrooge gave for the job.

The fourth significant moment took place within the four stave, The Last of the Spirits. Here Ebenezer Scrooge, through the third trial, learned that if he did not become a good person, he and others around him would suffer the consequences. For example one result was death in loneliness and without anyone who will really care about his death. Another result was that of the Cratchit children, tiny Tim, will die. When he learned all the lessons, he decided to change for good.

The fifth and last significant moment passed in the stave five, The End of It. Here Scrooge started to make good actions after his change. He became a better person for everyone by doing different actions such as spending money on charity projects, by helping the Cratchit family with their economic situation, and smiling to people he sees everywhere.

The researcher found specific significant moments where the hero stages impact in Mr. Scrooge's life and his fellowmen. The important moments appeared in each of the five staves or chapters of the book, Marley's Ghost, The First of the Three Spirits, The Second of the Three Spirits, The Last of the Spirits, and The End of It. All of them are the moments the hero stages impact the life of Ebenezer Scrooge and those around.

As a conclusion, the researcher used the Impact of Hero Stages in Mr. Scrooge's Life Literary Analysis Chart in order to evaluate the impact of the hero stages in Mr. Scrooge's life and his people. The results of the literary analysis chart showed that the researcher found five significant moments in the story, one for each chapter, where the stages of the hero's journey impact Scrooge's life and those around him. The first significant moment was the call to adventure when Ebenezer heard from Jacob Marley's Ghost about his terrible fate and the chance to change his destiny. The second significant moment was the first trial when Scrooge learned through the first trial that he became a lonely and grumpy human being as he only pursued money and forgot all about the most important things in life such as love, friendship, among others. The third significant moment was the second trial when Ebenezer realized that his actions produced reactions in the life of others. The fourth significant moment was the third trial when Ebenezer Scrooge learned that he and others around him would suffer the consequences if he did not become a good person. The fifth and last significant moment was the return with the elixir when

Scrooge started to make good actions after his change. Therefore, this chart showed the significant moments that serve to evaluate the impact of the hero stages in Mr. Scrooge's life and those who surrounded him; in any case, the researcher accomplished the objective which was the evaluation of the impact of the hero stages in Mr. Scrooge's life and the others.

5.3 Restatement of the Research Question

The researcher accomplished all the objectives proposed in the research. As a result, the research question, which is: How the Hero's Journey is to be applied in the book *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens? remains unchanged.

5.4 Recommendations

The purpose of the next recommendations is to give some advice to other investigators that can contribute in further studies with the information associated to this research.

For the future literary analyses, there are some general advices. First, it is good to choose a book that is likeable and serve as motivator to do the analysis. Second, it is a must to be very familiar with the book. Third, it is necessary to read as many times as possible the text. Fourth, it is also important to find unknown words from the text in the dictionary. Fifth and final, it is vital to be aware of the hero's journey literary theory to analyze the book, which leads to know and to understand every stage of the theory

The investigation could be carried out in different ways. First, the research could be applied using, for example, the archetypes of the hero, archetypes of hero's journey, or both. Second, the instruments used for the analysis can be others, such as interviews to

characters or the author of the book. Third and last, the target group can be also psychologists and students of psychology. Therefore, the research could be different in all areas.

In addition, the topic has other future possibilities. One, the analysis can be focused on the Psychological or Marxist Literary Approach instead of the hero's journey literary theory. Another one is this analysis can be applied in the future by other researchers with their own perspectives of the topic. A final one may be that the analysis of the hero's journey stages can be applied to other books. Therefore, that is why future investigations can be done for the numerous possibilities literature offers.

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Appendixes

Appendix 1

Figure 1

Literary Analysis Chart of the Hero's Journey stages

Literary Analysis Chart of the Hero's Journey stages		
Stage of Hero's Journey	Quote	Interpretation of the Researcher
The Ordinary World		
The Call to Adventure		
Refusal of the Call		
Meeting the Mentor		
Crossing the Threshold		
Tests, Allies, Enemies		
Approach to the Inmost Cave		
The Ordeal		
Reward		
The Road Back		
The Resurrection		
Return with the Elixir		

Figure 1. Literary Analysis Chart of the Hero's Journey Stages by Yuliana Salon (2019)

Appendix 2

Figure 2

Literary Analysis Chart of Ebenezer Scrooge's Behavior Changes

Ebenezer Scrooge's Behavior Changes Literary Analysis Chart		
Events	Quotes	Interpretation of the Researcher
The Warning of Marley's Ghost		
Regret of the present life		
The Condition of Cratchit Family		
The End of Scrooge		
The change of Ebenezer's destiny		

Figure 2. Literary Analysis Chart of Ebenezer Scrooge's Behavior Changes by Yuliana Salon (2019)

Appendix 3

Figure 3

Literary Analysis Chart of the Hero Stages' Impact in Mr. Scrooge's Life

Impact of Hero Stages in Mr. Scrooge's Life Literary Analysis Chart		
Chapters	Quotes	Interpretation of the Researcher
Marley's Ghost		
The First of the Three Spirits		
The Second of the Three Spirits		
The Last of the Spirits		
The End of It		

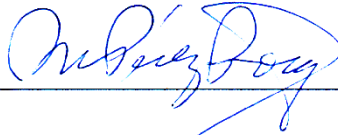
Figure 3. Literary Analysis Chart of Hero Stages' Impact in Mr. Scrooge's Life by Yuliana Salon (2019)

Appendix 4

Tribunal Examinador

Esta Tesina fue aprobada por el Tribunal Examinador de las Carreras de Inglés de la Universidad Internacional de las Américas, como requisito para optar por el grado de Bachiller en Inglés.

M.Sc. Catalina Guerrero Troyo
Tutora



Licda. Margarita Pérez Roig
Lectora

Lic. Leslie Elizondo Mora
Director de las Carreras de Inglés

Appendix 5

Carta del Director de Carrera

San José, 22 de abril de 2020

Señores
Universidad Internacional de las Américas
Estimados señores:

El suscrito Lic. Leslie Elizondo Mora, Director de las Carreras de Inglés, hace constar que ha revisado la Tesina del estudiante, Yuliana María Salon Piedra, portadora de la cédula de identidad no. 116390066, que ha titulado: *Analysis of the Book A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens through the Hero's Journey Stages*.

La mencionada Tesina, responde a los requisitos exigidos en la Guía que nuestra carrera tiene para estos casos. Por tanto, se autoriza al autor para que lo presente ante el tribunal examinador nombrado para esta ocasión.

Atentamente,

Lic. Leslie Elizondo Mora
Director de las Carreras de Inglés

Appendix 6

Carta del Lector

San José, 22 de abril de 2020

Licenciado
Leslie Elizondo Mora
Director de las Carreras de Inglés
Universidad Internacional de las Américas

Estimado señor:

La estudiante Yuliana María Salom Pedra, portadora de la cédula de identidad no. 116390066, ha presentado para su lectura y corrección de estilo la tesina denominada *Analysis of the Book A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens through the Hero's Journey Stages*. He revisado y corregido la coherencia de los objetivos con el marco teórico, instrumentos y resultados, la calidad del trabajo y la relevancia del trabajo. Por lo tanto, hago constar que este se encuentra listo para ser presentado a la Universidad como trabajo de graduación.

Atentamente,



Licda. Margarita Pérez Roig
Lectora de Tesis

Appendix 7



Universidad Internacional de las Américas Código de Ética

La suscrita **Yuliana María Salon Piedra**, número de carné: 116390066 graduada del grado de **Bachillerato en Inglés** de la Universidad Internacional de las Américas, se compromete a cumplir, durante el ejercicio profesional, con el Código de Ética de la Institución, que se rige por los siguientes principios:

PROBIDAD: actuar siempre con rectitud y honradez.

PRUDENCIA: actuar con pleno conocimiento de la materia sometida a su consideración.

JUSTICIA: permanente disposición hacia las funciones de la profesión, bajo los lineamientos legales que debe respetar todo profesional.

RESPONSABILIDAD: cumplir con los deberes, tanto en calidad como en oportunidad.

DISCRECIÓN: guardar respeto sobre los hechos o informaciones de los que tenga conocimiento con motivo del ejercicio profesional, sin que esto perjudique las funciones y responsabilidades.

INDEPENDENCIA DE CRITERIO: no involucrarse o comprometerse con situaciones, intereses o actividades contrarias a la moral, a la sana crítica y que, por ley, sean incompatibles con las funciones profesionales correspondientes.

DIGNIDAD Y DECORO: actuar con sobriedad y moderación.

TOLERANCIA: evidenciar una actitud paciente y de comprensión ante las opiniones divergentes que puedan expresar otras personas.

EQUILIBRIO: desempeñar las funciones profesionales con sentido práctico, buen juicio y equidad.

ACTUALIZACIÓN: comprometer parte del tiempo en actualizar los conocimientos y adaptarlos en el desarrollo de la actividad profesional.

VOCACIÓN: mostrar siempre apego al trabajo y a la educación recibida, como fundamentos para el desempeño laboral.

BUENA FE: toda conducta o comportamiento, criterio emitido y labor desempeñada debe basarse en los más altos principios éticos y tendrá como fundamento la buena fe.


Yuliana María Salon Piedra

Cédula: 116390066