



**TEACHING HONESTY THROUGH MORAL  
VALUES IN ANDREA HIRATA'S NOVEL  
"EDENSOR" (ENGLISH VERSION)**



**NAILA MAULIDA**  
**SN. 20522103**

**2025**



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A word cloud centered around the word "honesty". The word "honesty" is the largest and most prominent. Other words of varying sizes surround it, including: "loyalty", "business", "growth", "confidence", "believe", "loyal", "sign", "assurance", "customer", "reliance", "respect", "hope", "truth", "relationship", "advertisement", "trust", "faith", "security", and "belief". The words are arranged in a circular pattern around the central word.

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**A THESIS**

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of  
*Sarjana Pendidikan* in English Education



By :

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K.H. ABDURRAHMAN WAHID PEKALONGAN  
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2025**

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*Assalamu 'alaikum Wr.Wb.*

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Demikian nota pembimbing ini dibuat untuk digunakan sebagaimana mestinya. Atas perhatian bapak/Ibu, saya sampaikan terima kasih.

*Wassalamu 'alaikum Wr.Wb.*

Pekalongan, 24 Juni 2025  
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IN ANDREA HIRATA'S NOVEL "EDENSOR" (ENGLISH  
VERSION)**

Has been established through an examination held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025  
and accepted in partial fulfillments of requirments for the degree of  
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## MOTTO

Aku ingin hidup mendaki puncak tantangan, menerjang batu granit kesulitan, menggoda mara bahaya, dan memecahkan misteri dengan sains. Aku ingin menghirup berupa-rupa pengalaman lalu terjun bebas menyelami labirin lika-liku hidup yang ujungnya tak dapat disangka. Aku mendamba kehidupan dengan kemungkinan-kemungkinan yang bereaksi satu sama lain seperti benturan molekul uranium: meletup tak terduga-duga, menyerap, mengikat, mengganda, berkembang, terurai, dan berpecah ke arah yang mengejutkan. Aku ingin ke tempat-tempat yang jauh, menjumpai beragam bahasa dan orang-orang asing. Aku ingin berkelana, menemukan arahku dengan membaca bintang gemintang. Aku ingin mengarungi padang dan gurun-gurun, ingin melepuh terbakar matahari, limbung dihantam angin, dan menciut dicengkeram dingin. Aku ingin kehidupan yang menggetarkan, penuh dengan penaklukan. Aku ingin hidup! Ingin merasakan sari pati hidup!

- Novel Edensor, Andrea Hirata (*Versi Bahasa Indonesia*), hlm. 42-43-





## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Praise be to Allah, the Cherisher and Sustainer of the world. Peace be upon to our prophet Muhammad SAW who has bring us from the darkness to the bright peacefull era. This thesis would not have been possible without the support of many people. Then, I would like to thank all of them sincerely.

1. First, I realize that the journey to completing this thesis was not easy, but I was fortunate to work with an inspiring supervisor. She constantly challenged me to develop myself, take off my bureaucratic hat, sharpen my analytical thinking, and find my own writing style. Ma'am Eros Meilina Sofa, M.Pd. did that and much more. I am so grateful to work under your supervision, Ma'am.
2. Second, I would like to express my gratitude for the BAZNAS Scholarship which has allowed me to continue my studies.
3. I am also indebted to thank the UKM SPEAC advisor, Ma'am Ryan Marina, M.Pd. Thank you for introducing me to English Debate, which ultimately led me to other great opportunities, making me see things from many perspectives. Your professionalism and humbleness really impressed me. Your jokes while accompanying me and all the UKM SPEAC members kept me sane. Thank you, Coach.
4. To my parents, thank you for all your prayers and love. if there's a greater word than "proud" to express my pride in being your child, that would be it.
5. Last but not least, Thanks for myself. Thank you for being awesome, Nai. Let's embrace the adventures ahead.

## ABSTRACT

Maulida, Naila. 2025. Teaching Honesty Through Moral Values in Andrea Hirata's Novel "Edensor" (English Version)

This research is motivated by deep concern over the high level of academic dishonesty among senior high school students in Indonesia. Therefore, an analysis of the moral value of honesty in Andrea Hirata's popular novel "Edensor" (English Version) is crucial for exploring the novel's role as an alternative medium for character development. This study aims to analyze the moral value of honesty in the Edensor novel (English version) by Andrea Hirata and its contribution in teaching honesty to Senior high school students. The research method used is qualitative with a content analysis approach and semi-structured interviews with English teachers. The results of the study indicate that the value of honesty in the Edensor novel is represented through six indicators of honesty for high school students, namely: (1) completing tasks according to academic rules, (2) stating the advantages and disadvantages of a topic objectively, (3) openness in accepting other people's opinions, (4) expressing opinions according to beliefs, (5) honesty in transactions, and (6) respecting the property rights of others. These values are reflected through the narrative and dialogue of characters such as Ikal, Arai, and Katja. In addition, this novel has a significant pedagogical contribution in teaching honesty to Senior High School students. Research recommendations include the use of novels as creative teaching materials, teacher training, and adaptation of materials to improve the quality of learning.

**Keywords:** *Moral values, honesty, novel Edensor, Andrea Hirata, high school students.*

## ABSTRAK

Maulida, Naila. 2025. Mengajar kejujuran melalui nilai moral dalam Novel Edensor (Versi Bahasa Inggris) karya Andrea Hirata

Penelitian ini dilatarbelakangi oleh keprihatinan yang mendalam atas tingginya tingkat ketidakjujuran akademik yang terjadi di kalangan siswa SMA di Indonesia. Oleh karena itu, analisis terhadap nilai moral kejujuran dalam novel populer "Edensor" (English Version) karya Andrea Hirata menjadi sangat penting untuk mengeksplorasi peran novel sebagai media alternatif dalam pembentukan karakter. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis nilai moral kejujuran dalam novel Edensor (versi bahasa Inggris) karya Andrea Hirata dan kontribusinya dalam pengajaran kejujuran kepada siswa SMA. Metode penelitian yang digunakan adalah kualitatif dengan pendekatan analisis isi dan wawancara semi-terstruktur dengan guru bahasa Inggris. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa nilai kejujuran dalam novel Edensor direpresentasikan melalui enam indikator kejujuran untuk siswa SMA, yaitu: (1) menyelesaikan tugas sesuai aturan akademik, (2) menyatakan kelebihan dan kekurangan suatu topik secara objektif, (3) keterbukaan dalam menerima pendapat orang lain, (4) mengungkapkan pendapat sesuai keyakinan, (5) kejujuran dalam transaksi, dan (6) menghormati hak milik orang lain. Nilai-nilai ini tercermin melalui narasi dan dialog tokoh-tokoh seperti Ikal, Arai, dan Katja. Selain itu, novel ini memiliki kontribusi pedagogis yang signifikan dalam mengajarkan kejujuran untuk siswa SMA. Rekomendasi penelitian mencakup penggunaan novel sebagai bahan ajar kreatif, pelatihan guru, dan adaptasi materi untuk meningkatkan kualitas pembelajaran.

**Kata Kunci:** *Nilai moral, kejujuran, novel Edensor, Andrea Hirata, siswa SMA.*

## PREFACE

Praises and gratefulness are sent to Allah SWT, who has poured grace and bestowed me guidance, health, and patience so that the writing process of my thesis entitled “Teaching Honesty Through Moral Values in Andrea Hirata’s Novel “Edensor” (English Version)” can be completed. It is submitted to the English Education Department, UIN K.H. Abdurrahman Wahid Pekalongan, to fulfill one of the requirements of the *Sarjana Pendidikan* degree at the English Education Department of Faculty of Education and Teacher Training UIN K.H. Abdurrahman Wahid Pekalongan. This proposed study can be accomplished because of the support of several people. Then, on this occasion, I would like to express my sincerest gratitude to:

1. Prof. Dr. H. Zaenal Mustakim, M.Ag., the rector of UIN K.H. Abdurrahman Wahid Pekalongan.
2. Prof. Dr. H. Muhlisin, M.Ag., the dean of the Faculty of Education and Teacher Training of UIN K.H. Abdurrahman Wahid Pekalongan.
3. Ahmad Burhanuddin, M.A., the head of the English Education Department, Faculty of Education and Teacher Training of UIN K.H. Abdurrahman Wahid Pekalongan.
4. My supervisor, Mrs. Eros Meilina Sofa, M.Pd., has provided suggestions, guidance, and input that guided me in writing this thesis.
5. All lecturers and staff of UIN K.H. Abdurrahman Wahid Pekalongan's English Education Department. I have been privileged, not only to learn, but also to receive inputs, suggestions, and assistance from various academics in this major.

Pekalongan, 28<sup>th</sup> Oktober 2025  
Yang membuat pernyataan,



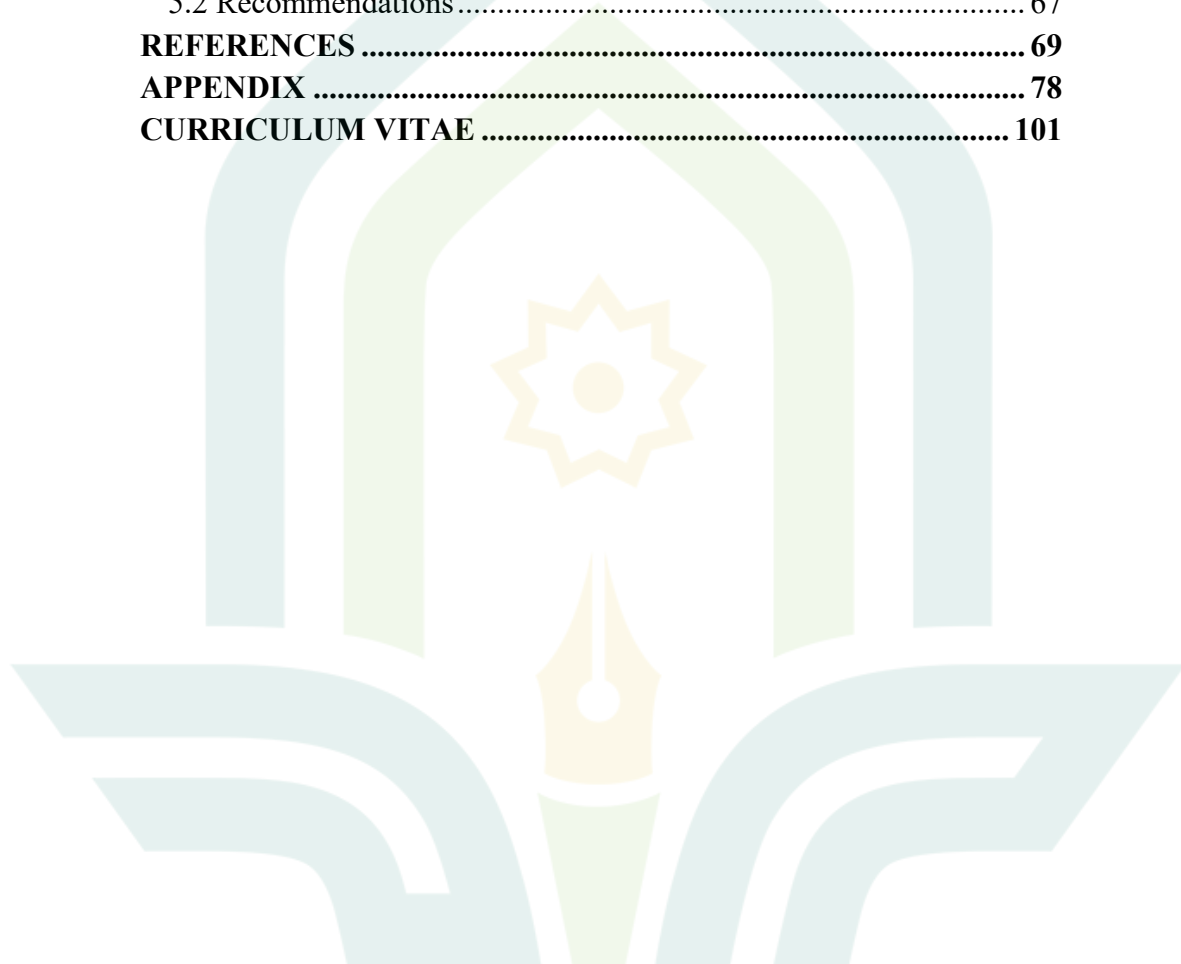
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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of Study

Literary works can be created because of creative and genius thoughts of writers (Hale, 1995). There are many things that can be used as inspiration by writers in creating their works, one of which is social phenomena. Literary works inspired by social phenomena can then be combined with imagination to produce works of art of high artistic value.

There are various forms of literary works, one of which is novels. A novel is a prose story that has a long plot and contains a series of stories of someone's life (Putri, 2020). It is not uncommon for us to find that in novels there are moral values contained in them. With moral values presented as a story that is contained in a novel, it can influence the morality of the reader.

Moral values in novels usually reflect the author's outlook on life regarding moral values. Moral values are teachings about the good and bad behavior of people in social life, so that it can be seen that a person who is moral is able to judge good and bad things, understand something that can be done and should not be done (Hatima et al, 2019). Although morals are in individuals, morals are in a system that is in the form of rules.

Moral values have been a major concern in education since ancient times, especially in terms of character development of the younger generation (Vessels & Huitt, 2005). Adolescence is an age where a person is productive, energetic and full of creativity and innovation, but behind this statement, there are things that make us concerned, namely the facts from BNN which show that 24% of drug users in Indonesia in 2018 were someone with student status. Concerns about the decline in moral standards require a deeper understanding of how moral values are presented in various forms of media, including novels. Previous research Nurlinda (2024) has shown the influence of novels on the moral development of readers and their understanding of right and wrong.



Through the explanation of morals, the moral that is quite important is the moral of honesty. The main goal of education is to form honesty because honesty is the basic capital in living together and the key to success (Emosda, 2011). Honesty can teach about balance and harmony, such as honest about personal roles, honest about rights and responsibilities, honest about the existing order, honest in thinking, behaving, and acting.

Considering the importance of honesty as one of the moral foundations that must be upheld in social life, it is very ironic when we witness that currently, reality actually shows the opposite; dishonesty has become a phenomenon that is rooted in almost all levels, especially in the context of schools. If honesty is lost, chaos and disharmony will dominate the situation, such as engineering and manipulation, encroachment of rights, oppression, and so on. Meanwhile, children's dishonesty in the school environment, such as cheating on tests or exams. According to Megawangi (2004) in his research in five vocational schools in Bogor explained that 81% of students often lie to their parents, 30.6% have forged signatures, 13% often steal and 11% often extort money. Even a number of teachers at Bekasi State Elementary Schools gave answers to questions to their students during the EBTANAS, because they wanted their schools to get a good ranking in terms of average NEM achievement. Academic dishonesty is like a virus that has become an epidemic in the world of education, A study of 113 high school students, based on their religious affiliation, found that 64.6% of students committed academic dishonesty when the proctor left the exam room (Kirana & Lestari, 2017). In other situations, 71.7% of students were honest when the exam invigilator was a more disciplined teacher. Another study also found that there was academic dishonesty in the high category of 42.7%, where the participants of the study were 12th grade high school students totaling 875 from 56 cities in 22 provinces throughout Indonesia (Paulus & Septiana, 2021). The study by Mushthofa et al, (2021) regarding academic dishonesty in the implementation of exams in schools showed that 93.5% of students admitted to having cheated

while studying in high school. Based on the results of the study above, it can be seen that the level of academic dishonesty is high among high school students. This is in line with the findings of Clariana et al, (2012) which show that academic dishonesty tends to increase rapidly during the high school period leading to university. In fact, according to Suryana et al, (2022) adolescence in the age range of 15-18 years is an important period for the development of intellectual abilities and concepts in order to carry out further developmental tasks in adulthood, which is the longest life span.

According to Suseno (2018) there are seven good attitudes that are the basis for a strong moral personality. Namely honesty, authentic values, responsible, independent, brave, humble, realistic and critical. Honesty is at the beginning of moral values, because honesty is the basis of the 7 moral values. Honesty is very important for everyone. With honesty, it will be easier for someone to live other moral values. In this study, the novel that contains the moral value of honesty in it is the Novel "Edensor" by Andrea Hirata. This novel tells how friendship in everyday life can be drawn as a moral value that is used as a guideline in life.

Although research on moral values in literature has been widely conducted, research that specifically focuses on contemporary Indonesian literature, especially the works of Andrea Hirata, is still relatively limited. While previous research by Putri (2020) has analyzed moral values in general in the novel "Edensor", a comprehensive analysis of specific moral values, which in this study is honesty embedded in "Edensor" is still lacking. This study aims to fill this gap by analyzing moral values that focus on one moral value, namely honesty.

This study is unique in its focus on Edensor, a novel by Andrea Hirata known for its blend of science fiction, fantasy, and moral messages. Andrea Hirata's works are widely read in Indonesia, making "Edensor" a very relevant text for understanding the moral landscape presented to a wide audience. This study seeks to uncover the moral values of honesty conveyed through the characters, plot, and narrative of novel "Edensor". By analyzing the moral values

contained in this popular novel, this study hopes to contribute to a broader understanding of the role of literature in shaping moral perceptions and potentially offer insights into the values prevailing in Indonesian society. Similar research Ahyar (2019) has highlighted the importance of examining popular literature to understand its cultural and social impact.

## **1.2 Problem Identification**

Based on the background of the study, this research has identified a problem, namely the high level of dishonesty, especially academic cheating among Senior High School students in Indonesia, creating an urgent social and moral problem, marked by alarming data on the prevalence of lying and cheating. Honesty is a basic moral value and the key to success in social life, so this moral decline requires efforts to strengthen values through various media, including literary works. Although there has been much research on moral values in literature, there is a significant gap due to the lack of comprehensive analysis that specifically focuses on the value of honesty in popular contemporary Indonesian novels such as "Edensor" by Andrea Hirata. Therefore, this study is urgent to fill this gap by analyzing in depth the representation of honesty in the novel through characters and narratives. Thus, this study is expected to contribute to the understanding of the role of literature in shaping public moral perceptions and offer insights to respond to the ongoing moral crisis.

## **1.3 Limitation of Problem**

Based on the discussion on the research background and problem identification, this research is focused only on how the representation of the moral value of honesty in Andrea Hirata's novel "Edensor" (English Version) and how this novel can be a reference for teaching the value of honesty to Senior High School students.

### **1.4 Formulation of the Problems**

Based on background above, this research is conducted with the formulation of the problem related to:

1. How moral values of honesty are represented in Andrea Hirata's Novel "Edensor" (English Version)?
2. How do the moral values of honesty in Andrea Hirata's novel "Edensor" (English Version) contribute to teaching Honesty to Senior High School Students?

### **1.5 Operational Definition**

1. Novel: A novel is a story about one of the episode in human life, an extraordinary event in life, a crisis that allows for a change in the fate of an extraordinary event in life, a crisis that allows for a change in the fate of (Khatka, 2023).
2. Moral values: Moral values are a view of the values that cover various issues of life and human life that can be distinguished from the daily problems of human life (Subur, 2015) .
3. Honesty: According to KBBI, etymologically honest means being honest, not lying (for example by saying the truth), not cheating (for example in a game always following the applicable rules), they are the people who are respected. Honesty is the trait (state) of being honest, sincerity, and uprightness.

### **1.6 Aims of the Study**

The main objective is to deeply identify and analyze how the moral values of honesty are expressed in the characters, plot, narrative in the English version of the novel "Edensor" by Andrea Hirata and the implementation of the moral value of honesty in the Andrea Hirata's Novel "Edensor" (English Version) as teaching material in high school.

### **1.7 Significance of the Research**

1. Theoretical Significance: This study helps to improve the reader's knowledge about the Moral Values in Andrea Hirata's novel "Edensor" (English Version).

2. Empirical Significance: This study provides insight into the Moral Value honesty in Andrea Hirata's Novel "Edensor" (English Version).
3. Practical Significance: This study improves the knowledge of students and teachers about the Moral Value honesty in Andrea Hirata's Novel "Edensor" (English Version) so that they pay more attention to the Moral Value honesty in the world of education.



## **CHAPTER V**

### **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **5.1. Conclusions**

This study aims to analyze the moral value of honesty in the Edensor novel (English version) by Andrea Hirata and its contribution to teaching honesty to high school students. Based on the framework of thought used, namely Franz Magnis Suseno's theory (1989) on honesty as the basis of moral personality, as well as indicators of honesty for high school students by Fathurrohman (2013), this study produces several important findings.

First, the value of honesty in the Edensor novel is represented through six indicators of honesty for high school students, namely: (1) completing tasks according to academic rules, (2) stating the advantages and disadvantages of a topic objectively, (3) openness in accepting other people's opinions, (4) expressing opinions according to beliefs, (5) honesty in transactions, and (6) respecting the property rights of others. This representation is seen through the narrative and dialogue of characters such as Ikal, Arai, and Katja, who show integrity and responsibility in various situations.

Furthermore, the value of honesty in the Edensor novel has a significant pedagogical contribution to teaching honesty in high school. Teachers can use narratives and conflicts in novels as a medium to discuss moral dilemmas, build students' awareness of the importance of honesty, and train critical thinking skills. For example, the story of Ikal and Arai's failure in work can be linked to the importance of academic honesty, such as avoiding plagiarism or manipulation of grades.

Besides that, the findings of this study support Suseno's theory (2018) that honesty is the foundation of other moral values. In the context of education, internalizing the value of honesty through novels can shape students' characters who are not only academically intelligent but also have integrity. This is in line with

the goals of character education which emphasize the balance between knowledge and morality.

Overall, Andrea Hirata's novel *Edensor* (English Version) has been proven to be used as a medium for teaching honesty for grade 10-12 high school students because it presents concrete examples that are relevant to students' lives. Through a multidisciplinary approach (for example, integrating the novel's theme into economics or sociology lessons), the value of honesty can be taught holistically and sustainably.

## **5.2 Recommendations**

Based on the findings and conclusions above, this study provides several suggestions for various parties:

First, for educators, it is recommended to utilize Andrea Hirata's *Edensor* (English Version) novel as a creative and contextual teaching material. Teachers can design activities such as group discussions, role-plays, or reflection projects to connect the value of honesty in the novel with students' real experiences. For example, students can analyze the actions of characters and compare them with situations in the school environment.

Second, for further researchers, it is recommended to explore more deeply the impact of using the *Edensor* novel on changes in student behavior longitudinally (a research method that observes changes in variables over a long period of time). Further research can measure the extent to which the internalization of honesty values through literature affects students' attitudes in the long term, for example through observation or questionnaires.

Third, for schools and education policy makers, it is recommended to integrate literary works such as Andrea Hirata's *Edensor* (English Version) into the character education curriculum. Schools can provide training for teachers to optimize the use of novels as a medium for learning moral values, including appropriate evaluation techniques (e.g., portfolios or project assessments).

Fourth, for authors and publishers, it is recommended to provide a more student-friendly adaptation version of Andrea

Hirata's Edensor (English Version) novel, such as a concise edition or accompanying materials (e.g., teacher's guidebooks) that facilitate implementation in the classroom. Thus, the value of honesty contained in the novel can be accessed more widely and effectively.

With proper implementation, Andrea Hirata's Edensor (English Version) novel can not only enrich students' knowledge about global insight, but also become a transformative tool in building a young generation that is honest and has strong character.

