The Romance of the Three Kingdoms is a great historical novel of China. It describes the important historical events that took place during the period from the later part of The Eastern Han Dynasty (25 - 220 A.D.) to the eventual downfall of the "Three Kingdoms" (220 - 280 A.D.). During this period of Chinese history, warfare was incessant and the Chinese Empire was divided and ruled by various generals. The country was torn apart by upheaval and Chaos.

Luo Guan-Zhong, the presumptive writer of the novel, was able to compose these political intrigues and military strives into this great novel. He described many historical figures who had their important roles to play in different aspects and situations. Lü Bu (呂布) was one of these historical figures.

Lü Bu was a great warrior of his time, and no one could stand against his prowess. Indeed, he was the man among the men, as his feed was the horse among horses. However, he lacked leadership and possessed many shortcomings in his character. He was greedy, selfish, ungrateful and treacherous. As such, he failed.

At the beginning of this Academic Exercise, I will examine the historical background leading to the emergence of Lü Bu, followed by an account of his life, and an analysis of his ideology, character, merits, the role he played in history, an overall evaluation of him, and his influences on later Chinese fiction and drama.