

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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English 12: British Literature

25 January 2019

### Canterbury Tales Prologue Assignment

There are twenty three characters in *The Canterbury Tales* by Geoffrey Chaucer. You are to pick ONE character and write a brief description. You will need to include ALL of the following:

- \_\_\_\_\_ The character's name (1 point)
- \_\_\_\_\_ The character's occupation and what it entails (1 point)
- \_\_\_\_\_ The character's personality traits (1 point)
- \_\_\_\_\_ His/her reason for making the pilgrimage (1 point)
- \_\_\_\_\_ What mental and physical qualities does he/she have? (1 point)
- \_\_\_\_\_ What symbolism is used to describe appearance? (1 point)
- \_\_\_\_\_ How does society view him or her? How does he view himself/herself? (1 point)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Does he take his profession seriously or loosely? (1 point)
- \_\_\_\_\_ What labels can you place on him? (i.e. drunkard, wise person, etc.) (1 point)
- \_\_\_\_\_ What is the narrator's tone when describing him? (1 point)
- \_\_\_\_\_ What does he eat? Come to conclusions about character. (1 point)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Look for literary devices: hyperbole, metaphors, irony, similes (1 point)
- \_\_\_\_\_ What elements/devices of satire are present in this section? (1 point)
- \_\_\_\_\_ What is the author's purpose of including this character in the text? (1 point)
- \_\_\_\_\_ What is Chaucer satirizing (ridiculing) with this Pilgrim? (1 point)

#### Character Options:

Squire (75-96)	Friar (205-273)	Oxford Cleric (289-312)	Skipper (392-414)	Doctor (415-442)
Yeoman (97-115)	Merchant (274-288)	Sergeant at the Law (313-334)	Cook (383-391)	Wife of Bath (443-474)
Nun (116-162)	Parson (475-524)	Pardoner (675-720)	Plowman (525-541)	
Monk (163-205)	Host (753-842)	Summoner (627-674)	Miller (547-570-)	

\_\_\_\_\_ / 15 points total

Example: The Knight- you are not permitted to do the Knight on this assignment since I used this example! 😊

The Knight was a distinguished man who followed the rules of chivalry, truth, honor, and generosity. He was noble in war as well as religion. He had been all over the world, showing his dedication and nobility to his lord and country. Despite being protective, he was gentle, wise and modest. Although he owned expensive horses, he did not dress as if he was from wealth. His clothes were dark, stained and had smudges where his armor had left a mark. He had just come home from war and was eager to make the pilgrimage as his way to give thanks.

**Notes:**

<b>The character's name</b>	<b>The character's occupation and what it entails</b>	<b>The character's personality traits</b>	<b>His/her reason for making the pilgrimage</b>