

Name: _____

Miss Skirtich

English 12: British Literature

21 February 2019

The Pardoner's Tale Writing Prompt

Choose one of the following prompts and respond accordingly. Each response should be about a page in length and follow the conventions as listed at the end of this worksheet. Remember to cite the text in proper MLA format (Chaucer page #). Example: "If you will do exactly what I say/And don't start think up some other way" (Chaucer 97). If you have any questions about how to properly format your quote, ask me and I can help you! 😊

Please label your document "Your Last Name- TPT WP#1" and share with Miss Skirtich in OneDrive and on Turnitin.com!

1. Consider how the Pardoner's moral of his story is *Radix malorum est cupiditas*, or "The root of all greed is money." Using 3 pieces of textual evidence and your own support of the text, explain how this mantra proves to be true in the story in a one page response. Then, reference situations in contemporary society where greed is fueled by money. Use as many connections to your own personal life as you can in relation to the story.
2. Select one of the seven deadly sins listed below (pride, envy, gluttony, lust, anger, greed, sloth) and tell a tale in which the sin is the focal point. This is a creative writing assignment! Have fun with it. Your moral tale can be as realistic or unrealistic as possible.

Example: *Deadly Sin*: Greed *Moral Tale*: Greed Can Lead to Death (This is what *The Pardoner's Tale* is!)

- a. Pride is an excessive belief in one's own abilities.
- b. Envy is wanting what others have, be it status, abilities, or possessions.
- c. Gluttony is the desire to eat or consume more than you require.
- d. Lust is a powerful craving for such as sex, power and money.
- e. Anger is the loss of rational self-control and the desire to harm others.
- f. Greed is the desire for material wealth or gain.
- g. Sloth is laziness and the avoidance of work.

Compose your response on a OneDrive document, using the following guidelines to help you compose a great response:

- a. Use 12pt. Times New Roman font, 1" margins throughout the entire document, double space the body of your paper. The MLA heading is on the top here!
- b. When talking about characters, always use PRESENT TENSE instead of past tense. Since characters live on forever in books and plays, we refer to them in present, even if they die in the text.

Example: When Alison comes to see Nicholas, she kisses him because she loves him and not Absalon.

- c. Only use 3rd person voice when speaking. This means to never use 1st person or 2nd person POV. That means no I, you, we, us. Use he, she, it, they, the reader instead.

Example: Instead of "We learn about The Miller's drunkenness in the story" say "The reader learns about The Miller's drunkenness in the story."

- d. Limit your use of TO BE verbs. These verbs are helping verbs that attach themselves to other active verbs and water down the meaning of your sentences. Make your verbs more active and help to illustrate your point by eliminating these pesky words.

Caution: NEVER change words inside of quotes. As soon as you do that, it's no longer a quote.

Example: Instead of saying, "Absalon and Alison are fighting throughout the story" say instead, "Absalon and Alison fight throughout the story."