

The Canterbury Tales Assignment

The General Prologue is contained in the class textbook and the complete text for all of *The Canterbury Tales* including *The General Prologue* can be found online on the following website:

<http://www.librarius.com/cantales.htm>. **For everything other than your pilgrim's description in *The General Prologue*, you will need to print a copy from the website and bring it to class.**

Note: when you are using the website, the Table of Contents is found on the LEFT of the page. Be sure you click on the "side-by-side translation" option for whatever text you wish to view or else you will be reading in the original Middle English.

Tasks:

1. Read and analyze the section of *The General Prologue* containing Chaucer's description of your assigned pilgrim.
2. Write a 1-2 paragraph analysis **inclusive of direct textual references with line numbers** of your pilgrim's description as contained in *The General Prologue*. Use the **Character Analysis Web** (provided as class notes) as a guideline for your analysis. Be prepared to share your analysis with the class. **DUE DATE: Thursday 4/12 (A) or Friday 4/13 (B)**
3. Print a copy of the tale associated with your pilgrim. **You MUST have a copy of your pilgrim's tale printed and with you in class each day beginning Thursday 4/12 (A) or Friday 4/13 (B).**
4. On the website provided (above), click on the "Links for Further Study of {your pilgrim's} Tale" link at the bottom left of the Table of Contents under your pilgrim's text and choose one (1) critical essay from the list that appears on the main screen. **Print, read and analyze this critical essay and include ideas from it in your final analysis of your pilgrim's tale; DUE Monday April 16 (A) or Tuesday April 17 (B).**
5. Read and analyze the tale associated with your pilgrim. Refer to the "An Analysis of a Canterbury Tale", "The Devices of Satire" and "Chaucer's Genres" handouts when analyzing your pilgrim and his/her tale (provided in class).

Final written analysis **MUST** include responses to questions 1-9 of the "An Analysis of a Canterbury Tale" handout in complete sentence/paragraph format and 1-2 paragraphs summarizing the critical essay you chose to read and discussing how it extends/enhances your understanding of the pilgrim and his/her tale. **Final draft must be typed in MLA format; DUE Monday April 16 (A) or Tuesday April 17 (B).**

6. Prepare a presentation for the class wherein you will discuss your pilgrim in depth. **Your presentation MUST include a brief summary of the tale associated with your pilgrim, your analysis of how the tale elaborates on Chaucer's description of the pilgrim in the General Prologue, and your final analysis of the social commentary Chaucer intended to make when creating this pilgrim and his/her tale.**

Presentations begin in class on **Monday April 16 (A) or Tuesday April 17 (B).**