

The Canterbury Tales BIG Assignment

Type (or write neatly) the answers to the following questions: (Yes, complete sentences.)

Lost and Found (Hypocrisy and Satire in the Prologue)

(25) Hypocrisy: Claiming to have moral values or beliefs which do not necessarily align with or match one's own behavior. Example: A teacher who states that she believes reality television is the road to ruin for American society, auditions and appears on the Real Housewives of OC.

1. Write down your own example of hypocrisy that you have witnessed.
2. Now, thinking about your Pilgrim from the Canterbury Tales, what is the expected behavior of this character in medieval society?
3. Does your character behave as is expected (according to your description above)? If so, explain how this is true. If not, explain how s/he behaves differently than expected. For example, the Knight should be honorable, chivalrous and brave.
4. Based on your understanding of your pilgrim's character, if your pilgrim found a purse or satchel (many were carried by the pilgrims in the Middle Ages) which contained a silver coin (quite a large sum to any of our pilgrims), papers giving the bearer a large allotment of land and ownership contracts for several young ponies), which of the following actions would s/he take?
 - A) Announce s/he had found the purse and search to find its owner
 - B) Take the coin and then search to find the owner of the purse
 - C) Stash the entire purse away in his/her saddlebag and never say a word
 - D) Use the coin to pay for a meal at the next pub for all the pilgrims
 - E) Leave the purse where s/he found it
 - F) Give the purse to the next poor person that s/he meets
 - G) Give the purse to the Host and let him deal with it

Once you decide what your pilgrim would do, explain your reasoning and determine whether or not your pilgrim is a HYPOCRITE, based on your choice.

(25) Satire: A kind of writing that ridicules human weakness, vice, or folly in order to bring about social reform. Example: Characters on the TV show "The Simpsons" are often shown behaving badly in order to comment on or reveal flaws in our modern American society.

5. Is Chaucer SATIRIZING the role of your character in medieval society? If so, explain what he is saying about this class of person; if not, explain what he is praising about this person.
6. Why is your character satirized (or not)? What does this say about Chaucer's attitude toward your character? Defend his choice to use (or not use) satire.

(25) **Create a visual of your assigned character.** You must use the information given in the text to base your drawing on. Use any medium you wish—markers, crayons, computer programs, etc.

1. The character name must go on the picture.
2. Underneath the name, you must include a quote from the text about the character. Choose something of importance.

(20) 3. You must include four quotes from your character's prologue or description in the general prologue. Copy the quote and give a 3-4 explanation of what the quote is revealing about your character's personality.

(25) **Create a one-page summary of your character's tale.**

(25) **Create a one-sheet visual of your character's tale.**

Then, answer these questions:

1. Each tale teaches a lesson or explores the theme of vice versus virtue. After summarizing the plot of the tale told by your pilgrim, discuss which of the Seven Deadly Sins below is being discussed in the tale.
2. (20) Give at least four quotes from the tale to support your assertions.
 - Lust - animal/non-romantic sexual desire
 - Gluttony - overeating/drinking
 - Greed - want \$, material things
 - Sloth - laziness or depression
 - Wrath - anger, malice
 - Envy - jealousy
 - Pride - cocky, self-centered

(35) **Share your poster with the class and explain the components.**

(200pts Total)