

Core E – Rhetoric I | *The Canterbury Tales* – General Prologue Writing Assignment

**Directions:** Choose one of the following prompts and write a 2-3 paragraph response. Each paragraph should have a strong, persuasive topic sentence which addresses the prompt, an assertion that narrows the focus of the topic sentence and sets reader up for the evidence, in the form of at least 2 properly integrated quotes. Quotes should then be followed by sentences of analysis, describing how or why the quote supports the claim rather than just restating the quote.

Prompt #1 – Choose one character from *The General Prologue* and explain Chaucer’s attitude toward him/her. You should include textual evidence that supports your view including character description (manner of dress, behavior, speech, etc.) and Chaucer’s use of irony and satire.

Prompt #2 – Chaucer satirizes many of the religious characters as he introduces them in *The General Prologue*. Choose one religious character that he critiques and one he seems to respect and compare/contrast Chaucer’s portrayal of each. Why does he praise one and critique the other?

- ✓ Length: 2-3 well-developed paragraphs.
- ✓ Use MLA formatting (typed, double spaced, 1-inch margins, size 12 Times New Roman font, etc.).
- ✓ EDIT for spelling, grammar, punctuation errors before turning in or I will give it back to you without grading it. I am not your editor.
- ✓ **Due 8/30** (Turn-it-in by 8 a.m., also bring a printed copy to class.

Remember:

**Topic Sentence**

**Assertion**

**Evidence**

**Analysis/Commentary**