

## Canterbury Pilgrims React

After reading Chaucer's *General Prologue* and several of the *Canterbury Tales*, you fall asleep and, as is to be expected, you have a vivid dream...some might even call it a vision.

In your dream you *are* one of the Canterbury pilgrims and you have just witnessed the telling of one of the tales we read in class. You must now react to that story *as your pilgrim*. Your reaction may be either internal (in your head) or external (to the other pilgrims), and *does not need to be in Middle English or in verse*.

**Tips:** when composing your reaction, you might reference, as a model or jumping off point, your pilgrim's portrait, their tale's prologue, and/or their reaction to another tale. Consider, for example, how a tale would be received when heard by the insecure and greedy Pardoner, when colored by the Wife of Bath's relationship to business and authority, or when viewed through the lens of the Knight's ideal chivalry.

You will be choosing *both the pilgrim and the tale* to which she/he/they are reacting. As such, your reaction should reflect knowledge and understanding of your selected pilgrim's portrait as well as an understanding of the major themes of and questions raised by your selected tale.

### Stipulations:

1. You *must* choose a pilgrim whose reaction to the selected tale Chaucer **does not** already describe (in other words, you can't write the Host's reaction to the Pardoner—Chaucer already did that);
2. Your reaction must be **at least 3 pages, double spaced, 1-inch margins**;
3. Your essay must have a title, come pre-stapled, and indicate your name somewhere on the document;
4. Your essay should justify your pilgrim's reaction with reference key aspects of his/her portrait *and* with salient details from the tale to which the pilgrim is reacting; *and*
5. You must have fun doing this. Seriously. Sentence *and* Solace.

**Deadlines:** due in class \_\_\_\_\_

### YOUR OBJECTIVES:

- TO DEMONSTRATE KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF CHAUCER'S *GENERAL PROLOGUE* AND AT LEAST ONE *CANTERBURY TALE*;
- TO CONSIDER THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN NARRATOR, VOICE, AND TALE MORE DELIBERATELY; AND
- TO SHOW CREATIVE THINKING AND THE ABILITY TO SYNTHESIZE AND REINTERPRET COMPLEX MATERIAL.

