**WRITE YOUR OWN CANTERBURY TALE**

Georgia English Standards:

ELAGSE11-12RL3: Analyze the impact of the author’s choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a story or drama (e.g., where a story is set, how the action is ordered, how the characters are introduced and developed).

ELAGSE11-12RL5: Analyze how an author’s choices concerning how to structure specific parts of a text (e.g., the choice of where to begin or end a story, the choice to provide a comedic or tragic resolution) contribute to its overall structure and meaning as well as its aesthetic impact.

ELAGSE11-12RL6: Analyze a case in which grasping point of view requires distinguishing what is directly stated in a text from what is really meant (e.g., satire, sarcasm, irony, or understatement).

ELAGSE11-12W3: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.

ELAGSE11-12W4: Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

ELAGSE11-12W5: Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience

ELAGSE11-12W10: Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.

Assignment Description:

Geoffrey Chaucer intended to write more than 120 tales for his magnum opus, The Canterbury Tales. He died before he finished, but now it is your chance to contribute to his work. You will be writing your own Canterbury Tale. Unlike Chaucer’s tales, your story can be written in prose (normal paragraphs and sentences). However, for extra credit, you may write in verse with rhyming couplets.

Your story will consist of two parts: the prologue and the tale.

The prologue will introduce your tale and describe the storyteller in detail. The actual tale will be narrated by your storyteller, so make sure you are writing in your character’s voice and not just your own. Also, your story must have some kind of moral or message.

You have two options for completing your story.

1. The tale may be told by a pilgrim you create who joins the others on their pilgrimage to Canterbury in the Canterbury Tales. This tale will be set in medieval times.
   1. Your prologue should be at least 1 half page.
   2. Your tale should be at least 1 full page.
   3. Your pilgrim and tale must be set in the Middle Ages and therefore the tale your pilgrim tells the others must be temporally possible.
2. You may set the story in modern times. Describe a situation in 2015 in which a group of people get together and tell stories. For this option, your prologue will be similar to the Canterbury Tales General Prologue in that it will introduce each of the characters assembled. The tale, then, will be one character’s story.
   1. Your prologue should be at least 1 half page.
   2. Your tale should be at least 1 full page.

Your story may be based on personal experiences, but it must be original.

This writing assignment is worth 75 points total.

Canterbury Tales Writing Assignment

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Prologue\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/25

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| --- | --- |
| The Prologue is separate from story and properly titled | \_\_\_\_/5 |
| The story meets the minimum length requirement | \_\_\_\_/5 |
| The student describes the storyteller and the situation | \_\_\_\_/10 |
| The student uses grammar, writing, and spelling conventions appropriately. | \_\_\_\_/5 |

Tale\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/50

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| The story is separate from prologue and properly titled. | \_\_\_\_/5 |
| The story has a clear beginning, middle, end to story. | \_\_\_\_/10 |
| The story has a thought-provoking moral or message. | \_\_\_\_/15 |
| The assignment meets minimum length requirements. | \_\_\_\_/5 |
| The student uses grammar, writing, and spelling conventions appropriately. | \_\_\_\_/5 |
| The story is written from storyteller’s point of view. | \_\_\_\_/10 |

Extra Credit

Rhyme Scheme\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/10

TOTAL