REVISIT IDEA THAT KNIGHT BELIEVES HE IS THE EPITOME OF CHIVALRY, BUT WHAT’S HE LIKE, REALLY?

**JIGSAW: UNDERSTANDING AUTHOR PURPOSE AND THEMES WITHIN “THE KNIGHT’S TALE” AND “THE MILLER’S TALE”**

Now that you have read the intros to the Knight and the Miller in the General Prologue, we’re going to pick apart the tales themselves. Don’t worry – you won’t actually have to read the whole things (unless you want to….in that case, go for it!): you’re going to become experts on different parts of the tales and teach your section to the rest of the class. Please label your assigned section according to your group number. We will go over the first part of “Knight’s Tale” as a class as a model for how you’ll be approaching this activity.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Read and analyze your assigned section based on how the following themes are portrayed by Chaucer: **Marriage, Love, Honor, Loyalty, Violence,** and **Gender Roles**. Please also consider Chaucer’s **satirical angles** regarding these themes. Annotate your sections in a way that will help you put together a coherent presentation based on what you find. **You don’t need to identify ALL of these themes, but keep them in mind as you read.**

On Thursday, 9/28, your group will present your section in order to cover both tales in their entirety. **BRIEFLY summarize your section (1-3 sentences)**, then **explain how the themes you discovered operate within the section based on Chaucer’s message to his reader**. You should be able to point out **at least 2 direct quotes** to support your points (if you have **more evidence, it can be paraphrased**). To wrap up your presentation, **point out the most interesting part and tell us why you chose it.**

Presentations should not be longwinded: **please limit them to 5-7 minutes. Be wary of repeating yourself and keep your assertions and analysis succinct and clear**. Ensure that everyone in your group has an **equal role** in the presentation. Please look over the rubric for clarification of expectations.

**2nd: 4 groups of 3, 4 groups of 2; 4th: 4 groups of 4, 4 groups of 3; 6th: 6 groups of 3, 2 groups of 4**

**SEE WEBSITE FOR SUMMARIES OF TALES TO HELP WITH CONTEXT: PDFS AVAILABLE UNDER DOCUMENTS.**

KNIGHT’S TALE:

Group 1: pgs. 10-21 (lines 893-1274)

Group 2: pgs. 21-32 (lines 1275-1607)

Group 3: pgs. 32-43 (lines 1608-1966)

Group 4: pgs. 44-56 (lines 1967-2365)

Group 5: pgs. 56-67 (lines 2366-2742)

Group 6: pgs. 67-78 (lines 2743-3109)

MILLER’S TALE:

\*\*Both groups read the Prologue (pgs. 2-4: printed separately because I forgot to send them to the Print Shop, oops); just need to understand what’s happening and be able to briefly summarize the events. No annotations necessary unless you need them. You may confer with the other “MT” group to clarify any misunderstandings you have.

Group 7: pgs. 9-20 (lines 3187-3512)

Group 8: pgs. 21-32 (lines 3513-3854)