

Work for English IV

Day of the Week	Description of work
Monday & Tuesday	1) Read <i>Beowulf</i> pg 62-70 2) Answer questions 1-9 from pg 71 3) Complete the Beowulf writing assignment by selecting one of the prompts and responding to it in a well-developed essay
Wednesday & Thursday	1) Read "A History of the English Church and People" pg 98 2) Answer questions A, B, and C from the margins 3) Complete the following writing assignment: Judging Bede: Evaluative Essay Determine for yourself what makes the selection a strong or weak piece of historical writing. As you consider the selection, you should take these attributes of historical writing into account: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the author's knowledge of the material • the author's interpretation of the material • the author's style • the author's ability to convey historical events and characters in an interesting way Share their thoughts about <i>A History of the English Church and People</i> by writing a brief evaluative essay.
Friday	1) Read the summary for the Prologue first 2) Then begin reading "The Prologue" from <i>The Canterbury Tales</i> pg 144 3) As you read, take notes on the characters including the following: Name of character, details about the character's appearance in the story, and conclusions you can draw about the character's personality *Will continue reading next week

from THE CANTERBURY TALES: THE PROLOGUE

Summary

THE PROLOGUE

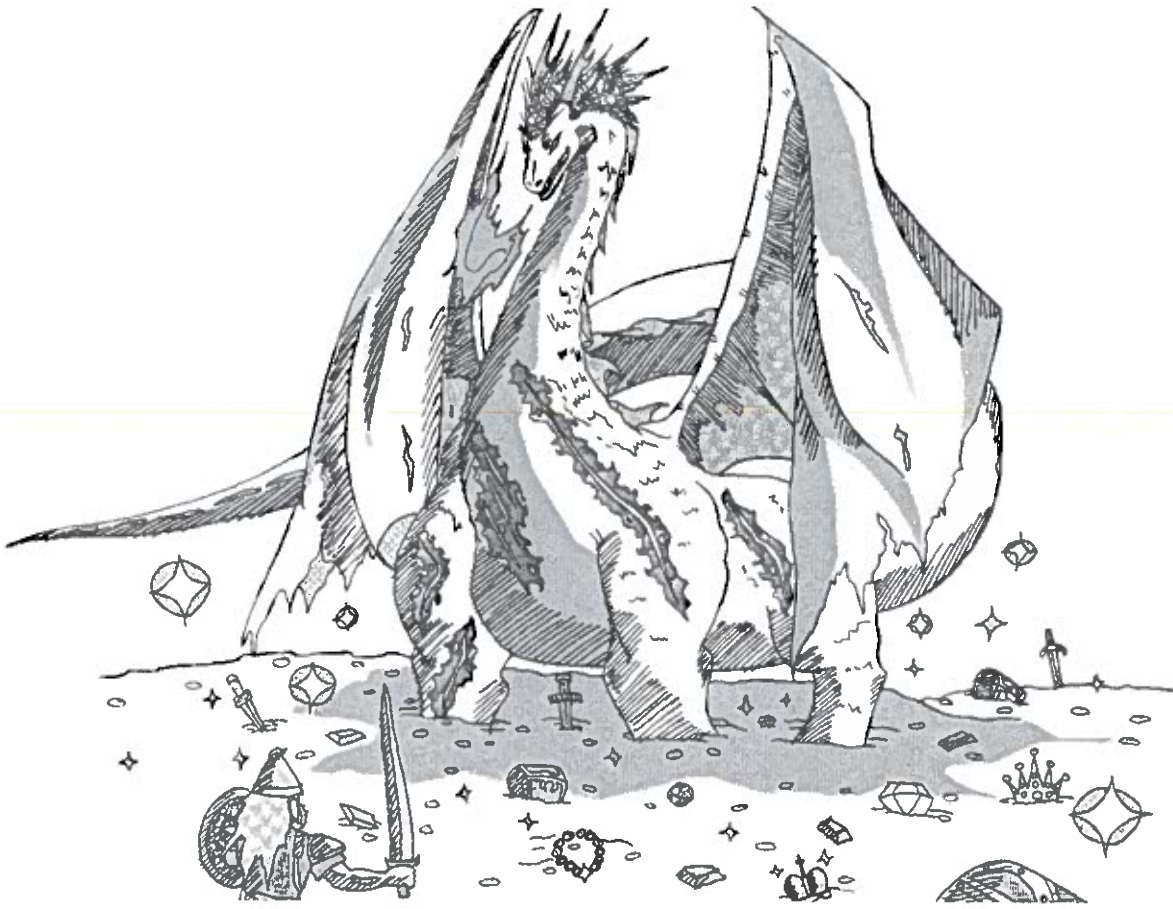
FROM THE CANTERBURY TALES

Geoffrey Chaucer

Setting: Countryside outside of London, late 14th century

It is spring in England. The narrator is going to Canterbury to visit a religious shrine. At an inn he meets 29 other men and women who are making the same pilgrimage. Among the pilgrims are a knight, a nun, a cook, a doctor, and many other types of people. The narrator describes them and tells what he knows about their pasts.

The inn's host serves dinner. He suggests an enjoyable way for the pilgrims to pass the time on their trip. Each person will tell two tales on the way to Canterbury. Then they will tell two more on their way back. The person with the best story will win a dinner at the inn.



Beowulf Writing Prompts

1. Explain how the use of allusions (to the Bible and other works) helps illuminate the theme of *Beowulf*
2. Analyze the differences in the three fights and explain how they trace the development of Beowulf as a hero
3. Was Beowulf's confidence/cockiness an asset or a tragic flaw?
4. Compare the idea of an honorable hero in Beowulf's time to modern representations
5. How do elements of language influence elements of literature? How does the language in Beowulf influence the reader's understanding?
6. Compare Beowulf to modern heroes; how they're different, better/worse, characteristics (societies/differences in culture and how they affected individual perspectives and decisions)
7. How does Beowulf represent everything the Anglo-Saxons stood for (morals, values etc.)?
8. Compare myth & reality: which elements of Beowulf appear to reflect the reality of the time, and which elements serve storytelling purposes?
9. How did the evolution of the English language favor some ideas and omit others?

