Modern Moral

Standards

Students will be able to…

1. Identify defining characteristics of classic and popular literature of a variety of complex genres. C
4. Identify and model the components of a literary era's style. C
6. Infer and justify motive, resulting behavior, and consequences. C

7. Employ a wide range of strategies as they write and use different writing process elements appropriately to communicate with different audiences for a variety of purposes. C
10. Produce documents of publication quality. C

Task

Chaucer created the Wife of Bath's Tale and the Pardoner's Tale to teach lessons about hypocrisy, insincerity, and the errors of human judgment. What lessons might the tales of those in modern society reflect? Choose a modern figure and lesson, and weave his or her tale to serve as a reminder to future generations of our present culture's values and shortcomings. Model Chaucer's way—employ modern physiognomy to create your exemplum of 2-3 typed, double-spaced pages.

Rubric

	Wise beyond your years	Quite a tale to tell	Led astray	You haven't learned your lesson
Physiognomy	6—At least 3 symbolic physical features described in detail	5—At least 3 symbolic physical features lacking detail in description	4—Only 1-2 physical features described in detail	2—Only 1-2 physical features lacking detail in description
Format of tale	4—Successful imitations of Chaucer's approaches to exposition, dialogue, and resolution	3—Clear attempts to imitate Chaucer's approaches to exposition, dialogue, and resolution, with weaknesses in at least one	2—Clear attempts to imitate Chaucer's approaches to 2 of 3 story elements, with weakness in at least one	1—Clear attempts to imitate Chaucer's approach to 1 of 3 story elements, with major weaknesses
Moral		3—Appropriate lesson foreshadowed in the exposition and clarified in the resolution	2—Appropriate lesson clarified only in the resolution	1—Lesson unclear in the exposition and resolution
Development of exemplum	4—Narrator clearly exemplifies the lesson; accomplished in 2-3 pages	3—Narrator exemplifies most elements of the lesson; a bit more development needed (less than 2 pages)	2—Narrator may be present during the occasion of the lesson but does not exemplify the lesson; more development needed (less than 1 page)	1—Narrator's tie to the lesson is weak/unclear
Mechanics (spelling and punctuation)		3—Nearly error free	2—Some (3-5) errors	1—More than 5 errors

Total   /20