

English Literature
Tale Analysis Project

Now that we have read the Prologue and several tales together, it is time for you to dig into a few tales for yourself. Over the next few days you will read two additional tales and complete the analysis questions. The culminating evaluation will be a literary analysis comparing two tales of your choosing.

Overview of class activities:

Day 1 – Reading/Work day

Day 2 – Reading/Work day

Day 3 – Paper Assignment/Thesis

Day 4 – Read “The Pardoner’s Tale” and complete worksheet.

Day 5 – All reading analysis due

Literary Analysis essays due

For each tale you choose to read, you need to complete the following information on your own paper. Be sure to clearly identify which questions/points you are addressing.

1. Who is telling the tale?
2. What additional information do we learn about the teller in the tale prologue?
3. Describe each of the main characters (physical as well as personality)
4. What is the setting of the tale?
5. Provide a brief plot synopsis (include conflicts and resolutions)
6. What is the theme(s)? Explain.
7. Identify any humor and any satire being used. Explain.
8. What is the genre of the tale? Prove it.
9. How is the tale related to the teller of the tale?
10. How does this tale relate to other tales told?
11. What is good and / or bad about the tale and how it is told?

