

**Physiognomy** – a person’s physical appearance and the relationship between that physical appearance and a person’s personality and character (judging a person by his/her features).

Examples:

- red-headed = quick-tempered
- buxom = jolly
- broad forehead = intelligence, good breeding
- very thin = stringy, bad-tempered
- neat = proud
- wearing red = aggressive
- wearing black = melancholy
- wearing blue = constant in love
- wearing green = lightness in love, envy
- gapped teeth = bold, aggressive, traveler, amorous
- white neck = sign of licentiousness (promiscuousness)

**Psychological Theory of Chaucer’s Time:** Astrology-based. This theory gave the planets in a person’s horoscope at birth and their positions at different times in life.

**Body Humors**

People in Chaucer’s time believed that four body humors (or moistures) were the source of disease and personality types, much like we think of glands and genes today. The body fluids, or humors, of which man is composed—blood, phlegm, choler (bile), and melancholy (black bile) with their “qualities” of hot, cold, dry, and moist—determined character and behavior.

<b>Sanguine:</b>	“sanguine”	Blood	Hot and moist
<b>Choleric:</b>	“choleric”	Yellow bile	Hot and dry
<b>Melancholy:</b>	“melancholy”	Black bile	Cold and dry
<b>Phlegmatic:</b>	“phlegm”	Phlegm	Cold and moist

TYPE	EFFECTS	ASSOCIATED WITH	CHARACTERISTICS	WEAKNESSES
<b>Sanguine</b>	Body humor that causes a person to be cheerful	Sensuality	Talkers, lively, promoters, impulsive, vivacious, congenial	Nervy, changeable, outgoing, interrupts
<b>Choleric</b>	Body humor that causes a person to be angry	Unkindness, wrath, instability, pride	Confident, positive, self-reliant, leaders, inventive, aggressive	Gutsy, lofty, tactless, workaholics
<b>Melancholy</b>	Body humor that causes gloominess	Depression and delusion	Pensive, orderly, analytical, profound, faithful	Depression, resentful, reticent, negative
<b>Phlegmatic</b>	Body humor that causes sluggishness or apathy	Sloth, obesity, and laziness	Serene, listeners, negotiators, content, peaceful, dry-humored	Anxious, indecisive, slow, shy

