El Rancho Unified School District
English Language Arts

Grade Level: 12	Text Title: The Prologue to "The Canterbury Tales"

Text-Dependent Questions:	Academic Vocabulary:
1. How does Geoffrey Chaucer use satire or irony to develop his characters? Provide specific examples that support his use of satire or irony. 2. How does Chaucer use figurative language to make the description of his characters more engaging? Provide examples to support your position.	Characterization Frame Story Pilgrimage Inferences Imply Irony Rhyming Couplets
Performance Tasks:	**Essential Skills:**

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- **Students will use a graphic organizer to analyze the traits, qualities and motives of his/her assigned character.**

- **Presentation: How does Chaucer create a picture of life in the middle ages through his character descriptions whether implied, inferred or directly stated?**

- **Writing Piece: Write your own prologue to a modern frame story. Set your frame story in an airport or a bus station where people are waiting or on a tour of a pilgrimage like the ones described in the closer look on page 128. Or you might choose to establish your frame story by using people stranded by a storm or waiting for rescue from an accident. You will have to decide who your narrator will be and who the travelers (4) will be and what their professions are. Model your prologue on Chaucer's, and describe your travelers in such a way that their inner natures are revealed. Your four characters must then relate a story that further reveals their inner natures.**

- **Students will be able to analyze how direct and indirect characterization contributes to the understanding of a specific time period.**

- **Students will identify imagery and how it contributes to the development of a character.**

- **Students will be able to explain how figurative language makes a text fresh, engaging, and beautiful.**

Common Core State Standards:

RL 12.1 Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.

RL 12.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choice on meaning and tone, including words with multiple meanings or language that is particularly fresh, engaging, or beautiful.

RL 12.6 Analyze a case in which grasping a point of view requires distinguishing what is directly stated in a text from what is really meant (e.g. satire, sarcasm, irony, or understatement).