After reading the characterization of the Knight at least three times and recalling all the study of characterizations we carried out in class, write a **textual analysis discussing how the knight's portrait comes to life.** 

Make sure you include:

- An introduction with your expectations
- The structural categories the poet resorted to create the knight
- The language used (semantic fields, tone, figures of speech, rhyme, syntax, ...)
- The message the poet wants to convey

## THE KNIGHT

A knight there was, and he a worthy man, Who, from the moment that he first began To ride about the world, loved chivalry, Truth, honour, freedom and all courtesy. Full worthy was he in his liege-lord's<sup>1</sup> war, And therein had he ridden (none more far) As well in Christendom as heathenesse<sup>2</sup>, And honoured everywhere for worthiness<sup>3</sup>. At Alexandria, he, when it was won; Full oft the table's roster<sup>4</sup> he'd begun Above all nations' knights in Prussia. In Latvia raided he, and Russia, No christened man so oft of his degree. In far Granada at the siege<sup>5</sup> was he Of Algeciras, and in Belmarie. At Ayah was he and at Satalye When they were won; and on the Middle Sea At many a noble meeting chanced to be. Of mortal battles he had fought fifteen, And he'd fought for our faith at Tramissene

Three times in lists, and each time slain<sup>6</sup> his foe<sup>7</sup>.

This self-same worthy knight had been also At one time with the lord of Palatye Against another heathen in Turkey: And always won the sovereign fame for prize. Though so illustrious, he was very wise And bore<sup>8</sup> himself as meekly as a maid. He never yet had any vileness<sup>9</sup>said, In all his life, to whatsoever weight. He was a truly perfect, gentle knight. But now, to tell you his entire array<sup>10</sup>, His steeds<sup>11</sup> were good, but yet he was not gay. Of simple fustian wore he a jupon<sup>12</sup> Sadly discoloured by his habergeon<sup>13</sup>; For he had lately come from his voyage And now was going on this pilgrimage

- <sup>1</sup> Liege-lord= owner of the lord's land
- <sup>2</sup> Heathenesse= non Christian countries
- <sup>3</sup> Worthiness= value
- <sup>4</sup> Roster=list
- <sup>5</sup> Siege = cruel battle
- <sup>6</sup> Slain = killed
- <sup>7</sup> Foe = enemy
- <sup>8</sup> Bore = behaved
- <sup>9</sup> Vileness 0 bad word
- <sup>10</sup> Array = way of dressing
- <sup>11</sup> Steeds = horse
- <sup>12</sup> Jupon = a cotton tunic

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> discoloured by his habergeon = stained with mud and blood