Tecla Stabile

***1. Chaucer***

**a) When was Chaucer born, and when did he die?**

Geoffrey Chaucer was born in 1342 and died in 1400.

**b) What were his links to royalty?**

Geoffrey Chaucer used to be a page of the Countess of Ulster. He also was a knight of the shire for Kent.

**c) What roles did he fulfill in life?**

Geoffrey Chaucer was a page, a knight and diplomatic during his life.

**d) What was happening in Europe during his lifetime?**

In Europe during Geoffrey Chaucer’s lifetime very significant events was “The Hundred Years War” and

“The Peasants' Revolt”.

***2. The Canterbury Tales***

**a) What is a frame story (or frame narrative)?**

A frame story is a literary technique where an introductory or main narrative from where a second narrative or a shorter stories is based. The frame story leads readers from a first story into one or more other stories. The frame story may also be used to inform readers about aspects of the secondary narrative that may otherwise be hard to understand.

**b) How does this technique of storytelling apply to The Canterbury Tales?**

In the Canterbury Tales the story of the pilgrims moving to Canterbury is the base for the introduction of more short tales. Each short tale has a different characters.

***3. The Prologue***

**a) What season is this? What are the clues Chaucer gives us?**

In the prologue is spring as the reader can understand from “April”, “March”, “sweet breath”, “young sun”, and “little birds make melody”. All this expressions convey the idea of the reborn of nature, that is associated to Spring. The idea is reinforced by the presence of the two months.

**b) Look at the differences between modern English and Middle English**.

Modern English is more harmonious than middle English, middle English has more harsh sound.

Showers = shoures

drought = droghte

vein = veyne

breath = breeth

young = yongue