Character Profile

**Directions:** Read the description of your pilgrim in the prologue. Using the descriptions from the book: Provide a profile of your character and a *commentary* on what the author is suggesting about your character.

**Must Haves:**

Profile:

* Title (pilgrim’s name)
* Description of your pilgrim (according to description given)
* Specific quotes and phrases that provide evidence of your pilgrim’s
  + Physical characteristics, clothing, and accessories
  + Words, experiences, personality traits

Author’s Commentary:

* Social class and why
* Inferences (Chaucer’s commentary)
  + Specific lines that lead to inferences about your pilgrim
  + Does he/she uphold the proper values of his or her social position? Any vices or virtues?
  + What is Chaucer criticizing?

**Example**

**The Miller**

**Physical Characteristics, Clothing, and Accessories**

* Chap of sixteen stone (561)
* Big in brawn and bone (562)
* Broad, knotty, and short-shouldered (565)
* Broad, red beard (568-569)
* Wart with red, bristly hair growing on his nose (571-572)
* Black nostrils and mighty mouth (573-575)
* Carried a sword and buckler (574) and bagpipes (583)
* Wore blue hood with a white coat (582)

**Words, Experiences, and Personality Traits**

* Likes to wrestle (564)
* Boastful of his strength (565-567)
* Likes to tell dirty jokes (576-577)
* Thief and cheater (578-581)

**Peasant Class**

* Supported by a trade

**Inferences**

* Chaucer compares him to a sow and fox suggesting he is wild and rough (568, 571)
* Chaucer compares mouth to a furnace door, suggesting he is uncouth and foul-mouthed (575)
* By stating he was a “master-hand” at stealing, Chaucer infers the miller has cheated customers his whole life (578). Major vice!
* Through his depiction of the miller as bawdy and belligerent, Chaucer is critiquing the peasant’s low station in life.

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**Physical Characteristics, Clothing, and Accessories**

**Words, Experiences, and Personality Traits**

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**Inferences**