Characteristics of the Monk

Description of Characters in the Tale

Lucifer – prideful, evil, cruel

Adam – first man, well respected, powerful
Samson – hairstrong, to hell due to a given by god
Hercules – strong, poisoned by Dejanira by accident
Nebuchadnezzar – proud king of Babylon, defeated Israel 2X
Balthasar – proud, worldly man
Antiochus – king, wanted to destroy Jerusalem making him to be punished by God, rotted to death
Zenobia – chaste, womanly warrior queen, defeated by John

Description of Characters in the Tale

Prologue:
- about the Monk he
- tells a series of
- tragedies
- about his life
- briefly
- goes on to the
- future chronological
- order

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Characteristics of the Monk

- Hunter
- Opposed Monastery
- Lavish lifestyle
- Rebellious
- Selfish
- Arrogant
- lustful
- Doesn't trust women

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Description of Characters in the Tale

Lucifer - prideful, evil, sinner

Adam - "first man," well respected, powerful

Samson - held power in hair that was given by god

Hercules - strong, poisoned by Deianira by accident

Nebuchadnezar-proud king of Babylon,defeated Israel 2X

Balthazar - proud, wealthy man

Antiochus - king, wanted to destroy Jerulam leading him to be punished by God, rotted to death

Holofernes - wealthy, wanted everyone to obey God, beheaded by Judith

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Description of Characters in the Tale

Nero - tyrant, corrupt ruler
Zenobia - beautiful woman, courageous, swift
Alexander - known as Alexander the Great, conqueror
Caesar - conqueror, assassinated by Brutus
Cresus - King of Lydia, arrogant, thought he was immortal
Barnabo Visconti - wanted to kill his nephew, instead his nephew found out and imprisoned him
Pierre de Lusignan - ruler of Alexandria
Pedro - known as Peter the Cruel, king of spain, lived in his brother's shadow
Ugolino - tyrant, traitor of Pisa, went to jail for crime, he resulted in cannibalism because of hunger

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Prologue:

- Monk introduces his tale as a series of tragedies.
- About men who have fallen into misery
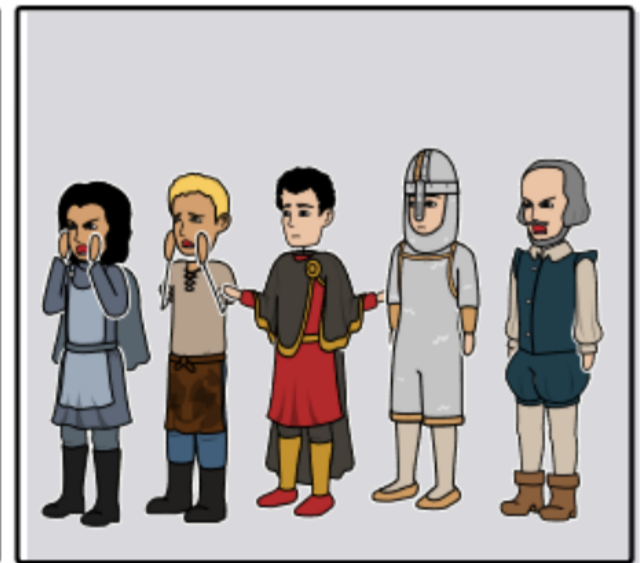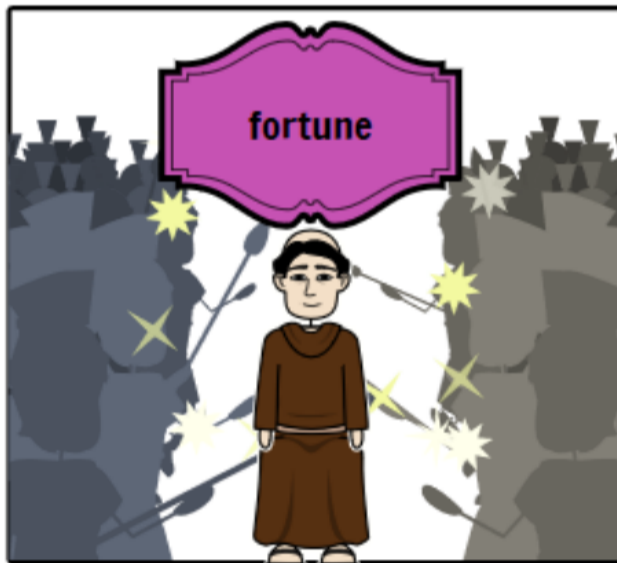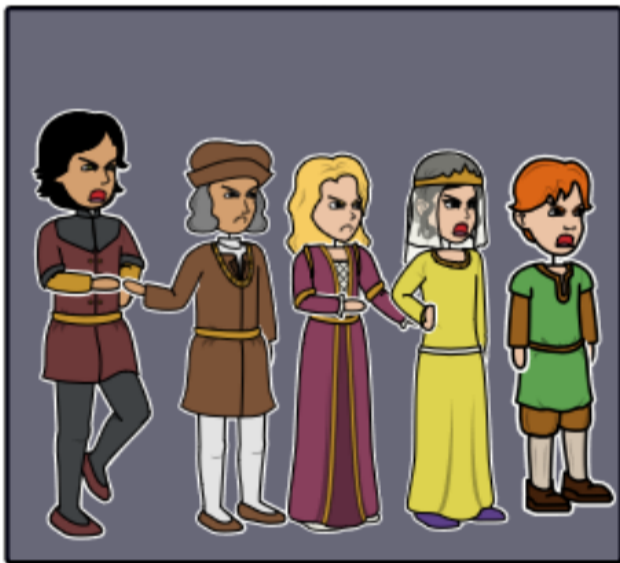- Stories do not follow chronological order

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Prologue

When ended was my tale of Melibee,
And of Prudence and her goodness,
Our Host said, "On my faith,
And by that precious body of Madrian,
(I swear that) I had rather than have a barrel of ale
That Goodelief, my wife, had heard this tale!
For she is in no way of such patience
As was this Melibeus' wife Prudence.
By God's bones, when I beat my knaves,
She brings me forth the great knobby clubs,
And cries, `**Slay the dogs every one**
And break them, both back and every bone!'
"And if any neighbor of mine
Will not in church bow to my wife,
Or be so bold as to offend her,
When she comes home she shakes her fists in my face,
And cries, `**False coward, avenge thy wife!**
By God's bones, I will have thy knife,
And thou shalt have my spinning staff and go spin!'
From daybreak to nightfall right thus she will begin.
`Alas,' she says, `that ever I was created
To wed a milksop, or a coward ape,
That will be browbeaten by every body!
Thou darest not defend thy wife's right!'
"This is my life, unless I will fight;
And out at door immediately I must hasten myself,

Character description of the Monk's wife.
Character desciption of the Monk himself.

Or else I am as good as lost, unless I
Be like a wild lion, fool-hardy.
I know well some day she will make me slay
Some neighbor, and then be on the run;
For I am perilous with knife in hand,
Albeit that I dare not stand up to her,
For she is strong in fighting, by my faith:
That shall he find that does or says something amiss to her --
But let us pass away from this matter.
"My lord, the Monk," said he, "cheer up,
For you must tell a tale truly.
Lo, Rochester stands here near by!
Ride forth, my own lord, do not interrupt our game.
But, by my pledged word, I know not your name.
Which shall I call you -- my lord Don John,
Or Don Thomas, or else Don Albon?
Of what monastic order are you, by your father's kin?
I vow to God, thou hast a very handsome complexion;
It is a noble pasture where thou goest to eat.
Thou art not like a penitent or a ghost:
Upon my faith, thou art some officer,
Some worthy sexton, or some provisioner,
For by my father's soul, according to my judgment,
Thou art a master when thou art at home;
No poor cloistered monk, nor no novice,
But a governor, wily and wise,

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