Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Semester Two Final: Part Two

Directions: In a well-developed, five paragraph essay (complete with thesis and specific examples to support it) respond to one of the following questions. In each question, there are a few sub-questions designed to get you thinking about the prompt. Please be sure to respond to them all for full credit. In your body paragraphs, be sure to use the chunk format (one or two chunks) in your body paragraphs.

1. One of the most important functions of literature is that authors use fiction to speak truth to power. Both Shakespeare and Chaucer use their writing to criticize and/or satirize people or institutions that hold a lot of power. In the Canterbury Tales, this critique is mostly aimed at the church. In Shakespeare’s Julius Caesar, he levels his criticism at Caesar. What is being criticized about each of these? Is one critique more comedic and one more serious? Does one author provide more effective criticism than the other? Explain.

2. Julius Caesar and Romeo and Juliet are both Shakespearean tragedies in which after a series of events, good people end up dead. Compare and contrast the motivations that drive Brutus, and Romeo and Juliet to take desperate measures. All three characters love something. Is one of these types of love nobler than the other? Is one of these types of love more dangerous than the other?

3. Of the three texts we have studied this semester, which of them most strongly exemplifies a Christian world view? Which of them provides the best map for us to grow closer to Christ? What virtues and vices are illustrated through the triumphs and trials of the characters we have studied so closely this semester?