



# The Canterbury Tales Unit Test

Name:

Date:

Score: \_\_\_\_\_/45

Part 1: Pick the best answer (1 pt).

1. \_\_\_\_\_ The literary term that means showing character through physical description is...
  - a. Characterization
  - b. Physiognomy
  - c. Description
  - d. Personification
2. \_\_\_\_\_ *Canterbury Tales* is written in...
  - a. Iambic Pentameter
  - b. Iambic Tetrameter
  - c. Free Verse
  - d. Blank Verse
3. \_\_\_\_\_ The most common rhyme pattern used in *Canterbury Tales* is...
  - a. Couplet using end rhyme
  - b. Couplets of internal rhyme
  - c. Abcabcbc
  - d. Abccabccabcc
4. \_\_\_\_\_ The best interpretation of the moral of “The Pardoner’s Tale” is...
  - a. When you go looking for death, you will never find it
  - b. Don’t drink and gamble
  - c. Be happy with what you have and don’t be greedy
  - d. Don’t trust a pile of gold that you find under a tree

5. \_\_\_\_\_ Who is the judge of the best tale?
- The knight
  - The host
  - The pardoner
  - Geoffery Chaucer
6. \_\_\_\_\_ What is the prize for the best tale?
- A free meal
  - A horse
  - A servant
  - A free trip to Jerusalem
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Which of the religious figures is described most positively?
- The nun
  - The friar
  - The parson
  - The monk
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Chaucer's writing voice is best described as...
- witty and crude
  - snobby and educated
  - prim and proper
  - extremely boring and dry
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Chaucer originally wrote *the Canterbury Tales* in what language?
- French
  - Old English
  - Middle English
  - Latin
10. In *The Canterbury Tales*, \_\_\_\_\_ people are usually described as morally corrupt.
- poor
  - common
  - rich
  - all of the above

Part 2: Answer 3 of the following 4 questions in a few complete sentences. If you answer all four correctly you will earn 2 extra credit points. (5 points each- 15 points)

1. Describe the conditions of the journey to Canterbury. Weather? Time of year? Etc...
2. Briefly describe the plot of "The Pardoner's Tale".
3. Give an example of physiognomy from the prologue.
4. What is the story of St. Thomas a'Becket? Why is he important to the *Canterbury Tales*?

### Part 3: Scansion

Divide the following 2 lines of iambic pentameter into syllables and indicate the stressed and unstressed syllables. (5 points)

He had his son with him, a fine young Squire

A lover and cadet, a lad of fire

### Part 4: Essay

Using specific examples from Chaucer's writing style, subject matter, and characters, explain how Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* shows him as an **advocate for the common man**. (15 points).