

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Canterbury Tales

The Pardoner's Tale



Directions: Answer the following questions, *in complete, detailed sentences* utilizing quotes for support.

1. What does the Pardoner say is the moral of all his sermons? What does he admit is the irony in his preaching on this theme?
2. How are the rioters characterized in the opening?
3. What quest do the rioters start out on in the beginning and how does that change once they arrive at the tree?
4. What does the pot of gold symbolize, and ultimately how does it prove fatal to all three?
5. How is Death characterized throughout the story?
6. Who do you think is to blame for the rioters' death- themselves or Death? In other words, who is the main antagonist? Explain.

7. What does this show about their relationship and them stating “they’ll live and die for each other”? Explain the irony in this.

8. What moral does the tale convey? How is it different from the moral Chaucer wants you to draw from the tale?

9. After telling his tale, how does the Pardoner anger the Host? How does their exchange reinforce the Pardoner’s description of himself from his Prologue?