

NAME:

DATE:

Introduction to *The Canterbury Tales* Enrichment Activity

DIRECTIONS: Respond to the following questions based on the introductory readings for *The Canterbury Tales* in complete sentences and using specific evidence.

1. Identify three (3) ideas and institutions that contemporary society is “indebted to the Middle Ages” for.

2. Identify and describe the two (2) major forms of literature that were a significant part of medieval culture.

3. Explain how Chaucer’s *The Canterbury Tales* “covers the full scope of the medieval narrative.”

4. Identify four (4) insights that can be revealed by determining key details when reading *The Canterbury Tales*.

5. What is Geoffrey Chaucer hailed as?

6. Describe how Chaucer made the English language respectable during the fourteenth century.

7. When did Chaucer begin writing *The Canterbury Tales*, and what is significant about the location of his burial?

8. Explain the common quest that joins the group of people that Chaucer brings together. Include four specific details from the first paragraph on page five (5).

9. Identify two (2) purposes Chaucer uses the general Prologue for in *The Canterbury Tales*.

10. When and where does the Prologue take place? (Be Specific)

11. Identify who proposes the storytelling contest. Clarify why he does so. Explain how this makes *The Canterbury Tales* a “frame story.”

12. Identify three (3) qualities that makes *The Canterbury Tales* a “classic medieval narrative.”

13. How many pilgrims does Chaucer introduce in the Prologue?

14. Whom do many literary scholars believe is the narrator of the *The Canterbury Tales*?

15. Define **Frame Story**.

16. Define **Allegory**.
