



The Canterbury Tales II – The Animated Collection

Begin by quickly getting out your charts of all the characters from “The Prologue.” Watch closely and keep a running list of how many characters (the claymation ones) that you can identify (you may be surprised by the number). The questions and parts of the questions in **bold face** below are what should be given attention during the movie – the other parts of the questions (thinking parts are in italics) should be contemplated afterwards.



For both parts, you must answer ALL nonitalicized questions – jot them down as you watch – IN ADDITION, you must answer all starred * italicized questions (2,4,6,8,11,14,16,19,20,21,24,27,28,31). You may also answer the NONstarred italicized questions for up to 10 points EC each. AT the Top your Answers, please note how many nonstarred italicized questions you answered (if you answered any of those). These questions should be answered in complete sentences (jot down the answers now, while you are watching the movie) and turned in on a separate sheet of paper(s). They are not to be typed and must be handwritten (neatly)

While you are watching jot down answers to the parts of the questions that are not in italics – what is in italics should be answered after the movie is over – but when you write up (do not type) you answers – keep the nonitalic and italic answers together (for some questions, you are only required to answer the nonitalic questions), in other words – in the sheet you turn in, ALL the answers to question 2 (nonitalic and italic) should be together and precede all the answers to question 3 (italic only).

HOMEWORK: Monday (11/19) -- You will be given time to work on these questions in class (they will be collected at the end of the class period – if you want to finish them at home, especially if you are doing any for extra credit, do them during the weekend AND you may use classtime for reading Fredrigo’s Falcon), for Tuesday, you are to read Fredrigo’s Falcon at home **Tuesday** Fredrigo’s Falcon pgs 155-159

Monday (11/26) Out of class reading: The Weaving of Women’s Tales (176-179) and Shakespeare’s Sister 1124-1127 (200 point discussion class point as well).

1. What is ironic about *the “Chaucer” character being quieted and being the only one stopped as he tries to tell a tale. How does it echo what the church “tried” to do on his deathbed?*

*2. **Pay close attention to the short intro of the Merchant – why has he been in “hell.”** His reason will have something to do with his tale. *How can you relate this to the Wife of Bath’s prologue and her advice about marriage. How does the Merchant’s remarks echo the Pardoner’s fears (in The Wife of Bath’s Prologue)? Remember the connection between prologues and tales with the Pardoner and the Wife of Bath – how are the (the Merchant’s) prologue and tale related? How does it echo what happens to John the Carpenter in The Miller’s Tale?*

The Merchant’s Tale

3. **How is “January’s” (the old man in his tale) talk of training a spouse like another character’s (from the opposite point of view). Be specific. Notice the men talking in the bathhouse, how does this subvert (look it up) any stereotypes of men and women?).**

*4. **How is January (and his fantasies and illusions) his own “Shaper.” Be specific. What is the connection with his delusions – and the delusions that the Carpenter(John) had in “The Miller’s Tale.” Notice that in that story too – he is deluded both in a tale (‘Nowell’s Flood’) and with regard to his young wife?**

5. **Why the cuckoo song? think back to the Anglo-Saxon “The Husband’s Message” (you have a def).**



*6. **Why a garden for this part of the story?** *Think of other gardens. Apples? Be specific.*

7. **Why is he made blind?** *How is this just? How is it almost unnecessary? Consider the line that the narrator says about him being able to “see as far as a ship on the horizon and not see enough.”*

*8. **Does anything that the gods (especially Persephone) say during their discussion about love and marriage support some of the Wife of Bath’s contentions about marriage from her Prologue?**

9. **After she is caught**, what advice, of the Wife of Bath’s (from her prologue), does May (the young wife) seem to adhere to?

The Pardoner’s Prologue & Tale – don’t forget to keep looking for characters

10. **Before the Pardoner speaks, the pilgrims see a group of penitents (holy men that whip themselves to pay for their sins), how does it affect their mood – what do they seem to want to immediately do?** How can we connect this with the Pardoner and his tale?

*11. Giving what you know about Bubonic plague, **why do you think they find Rats under the wagon when they first go looking for death?**

12. **How do the animators of this film invoke “death” in the personage of the old man?** (for instance look at his cane). Notice how the old man is ALSO death, and the apothecary (druggist). *How does that make a wonderful kind of sense? How does it not make sense given that the old man was desperately seeking death.*

The Franklin’s Prologue & Tale – don’t forget to keep looking for characters

13. **How does the movie’s portrayal of the squire specifically fit in with his description in the General Prologue?**

*14. *How does the Franklin’s tale naturally follow the exchange with and depiction of the squire?*

15. **How does what the Franklin says about love “fit in” with or “oppose” the first tale from this film?**

*16. **Again, a garden – why this action at that place?**

17. **How does Dorigen’s faithfulness deconstruct¹ the views of love and marriage from the first tale?**

18. Metaquestion: **The illusionist in this tale** is comparable (metaphorically) to _____. *How, why? Be specific. There are many answers here, just be specific in supporting whatever you say.*



*19. **Is what her husband instructs her to do admirable? Why does he do it?**

*20. **Listen carefully to the words about the nobility of squire and knights.** *How do these words address Chaucer’s version of the squire (go back to your General Prologue)? Remember the difference between that squire and his father. How were the validity of these words and ideals argued against in The Wife of Bath’s Prologue and Tale?*

¹ Take apart in an intellectual kind of way. To break apart the parts of the point or argument so it no longer is valid.

21. All the pilgrims go to Canterbury for different reasons (remember our discussion) – but watch closely their reaction to having finally reached there – *what statement does the filmmaker appear to be making – why?

The Journey Back – Canterbury and the Squire's Tale

22a Even given what you answered in question 20 – **notice the placement of the pilgrims at Canterbury.** *Are they all at the church? What are the others doing? Be specific. Are they all here for the Pilgrimage?*

22b. **Do the ones at the church all stay there – again – how does this make the characters and Chaucer's story (or this movie version of it anyway) more realistic (or does it)?** See 22a. *Be specific.*

23. **How does the Squire act differently once he notices the host (Chaucer or Bailey) is there?** *Why? Why specifically the host – what is the assumption that the host will do with these stories?*

***24. What specific parts of “The Wife of Bath's Prologue” do we see in her words and actions in Canterbury?**

25. **How does the squire's *tale* fit in or correspond to the description of him that we have from “The Prologue”** – *you may want to wait until the tale is finished to consider this question.*

26. **What gifts does the emperor of China and all Arabia give?**

***27. What animal does the princess find crying in the trees – what is its sad story?** *Again, consider this after you are finished – how does the princess's ring correspond with Chaucer's ability to listen and render characters in a true to life fashion? How does this oppose Grendel's idea of what the ‘Shaper’ does?*

***28. Why does the princess not want to get married?** *Have you seen anything in any of the other tales (including the Miller's (you will get to hear this -- if you haven't already, “The Wife of Bath's Prologue & Tale” that makes you sympathetic Be specific.)*

29. **How does the prince's search for his brother parallel the falcon's story?** *How does this later make sense given what we find out by the end of the story?*

30. **How is the prince's spell broken?**

***31. What trick does the emperor use to save the kingdom – notice even the birds are reunited (ahhh – now the 2nd part of question 29 makes sense).** *Can you tie this to the Dragon's advice to Grendel to go ahead and serve as a “foil” for mankind – think hard – and answer specifically?*