MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS WITH ANSWERS

1. What is the first Canterbury Tale?
   a) The Reeve's Tale  
   b) **The Knight's Tale**  
   c) The Miller's Tale  
   d) The Cook's Tale

2. Which tale in the first fragment seems to be unfinished?
   a) The Reeve's Tale  
   b) The Miller's Tale  
   c) The Knight's Tale  
   d) **The Cook's Tale**

3. Which tale tells the story of Symkyn the miller?
   a) The Shipman's Tale  
   b) **The Reeve's Tale**  
   c) The Miller's Tale  
   d) The Wife of Bath's Tale

4. Which characters are in love with Alison in the Miller's Tale?
   a) Gervase and Nicholas  
   b) Absolon and Nicholas  
   c) John, Absolon and Nicholas  
   d) Absolon and Gervase

5. What is the name of the carpenter in the Miller's Tale?
   a) Fred  
   b) **John**  
   c) Absolon  
   d) Nicholas

6. Who farts in Absolon's face?
   a) Alison  
   b) John  
   c) Gervase  
   d) **Nicholas**

7. Who cries out "Water" because their arse has been branded with a hot iron?
   a) Alison  
   b) John  
   c) Absolon  
   d) **Nicholas**
8. What is the genre of tales to which the Miller's Tale might belong?
   a) prose poem       c) modernist narrative
   b) romance           d) fabliaux

9. Which two characters are thought to be indistinguishable from each other in the Knight's Tale?
   a) Arcite and Palamon c) Theseus and Hippolyta
   b) Arcite and Theseus d) Theseus and Palamon

10. Who dies at the end of the Knight's Tale?
    a) Arcite               c) Palamon
    b) Hippolyta            d) Theseus

11. Who are Arcite and Palamon in love with?
    a) Emelye               c) Absolon
    b) Each other           d) Theseus

12. How many husbands has the Wife of Bath had?
    a) 2                    c) 4
    b) 3                    d) 5

13. The Wife of Bath's first name is...
    a) Bertha              d) She isn't given a first name, just "the Wife"
    b) Alison              c) Absolon

14. The Wife of Bath's fifth husband is named...
    a) Jankin               c) January
    b) Absolon              d) Theseus

15. The Wife of Bath suffers, a little, from which ailment...
    a) blindness            c) deafness
    b) leprosy               d) muteness
16. What does the Wife use as a bargaining tool?
   a) Sex
   b) Food
   c) Sleep
   d) Money

17. The Wife of Bath claims to hate...
   a) men
   b) eating
   c) clerks and glossing
   d) cattle

18. In the General Prologue, which character is swathed in ten pounds of cloth?
   a) The Miller
   b) The Wife of Bath
   c) The Reeve
   d) The Summoner

19. Which two characters are sometimes read as a homosexual couple?
   a) Chaucer and the Reeve
   b) The Friar and the Summoner
   c) The Summoner and the Pardoner
   d) The Miller and the Reeve

20. Chaucer is...
   a) a character in the pilgrimage, and the author of the work as a whole
   b) an imaginary character in the pilgrimage
   c) not the writer of the Canterbury Tales
   d) not mentioned within the text of the Tales

21. Which pilgrim throws a book into the fire?
   a) The Miller
   b) The Wife of Bath
   c) The Shipman
   d) The Reeve

22. What does the Man of Law refuse to tell a tale about?
   a) blackmail
   b) incest
   c) murder
   d) Christians
23. Who interrupts the Parson just before he is to tell his tale?
   a) The Shipman  c) The Manciple
   b) The Reeve     d) The Summoner

24. The Cook's real name is
   a) Geoffrey Chaucer  c) Roger Warren
   b) Roger of Ware     d) Harry Bailly

25. The Host's name is
   a) Geoffrey Chaucer  c) Roger of Ware
   b) Harry Bailey      d) Roger Warren

PART II

1. Why are the pilgrims going to Canterbury?
   (A) To meet King Henry III
   (B) To see a medieval mystery play
   (C) To worship the relics of Saint Thomas Becket
   (D) Because they are tourists

2. What does the Squire wear?
   (A) A velvet doublet and hose
   (B) Cloth embroidered with flowers
   (C) Green and peacock-blue hunting gear
   (D) A beaver hat

3. Who marries Emelye in the Knight's Tale?
   (A) Theseus
   (B) Arcite
   (C) Saturn
   (D) Palamon
4. According to the Wife of Bath, what do women most desire?

(A) Sovereignty over their husbands  
(B) True love  
(C) Perfect beauty  
(D) Great wealth

5. What does Chanticleer dream?

(A) That he will be killed by a wolf  
(B) That Pertelote will desert him  
(C) That he will be taken away by an orange, houndlike creature  
(D) That his friend will be murdered

6. Who are the three men searching for in the Pardoner’s Tale?

(A) The Wandering Jew  
(B) Greed  
(C) Jesus Christ  
(D) Death

7. Who is branded by a red-hot poker in the Miller’s Tale?

(A) Absolon  
(B) Alisoun  
(C) Nicholas  
(D) John

8. Which of the following tales is a fabliau?

(A) The Knight’s Tale  
(B) The Nun’s Priest’s Tale  
(C) The Wife of Bath’s Tale  
(D) The Miller’s Tale

9. Which pilgrim has a forked beard?

(A) The Summoner  
(B) The Merchant  
(C) The Reeve  
(D) The Physician
10. What is the moral of the Nun’s Priest’s Tale?
(A) Slow and easy wins the race.                (C) Beauty lies within.  
(B) Greed is the root of all evil.  
(D) Never trust a flatterer.

11. What is the Wife of Bath’s Prologue about?
(A) Her life with her five different husbands  
(B) Ovid’s Metamorphoses  
(C) How women deserve to hold high public offices just like men  
(D) A philosophical treatise on the astrolabe

12. When does The Canterbury Tales take place?
(A) In the Renaissance  
(B) In pre-Christian Britain  
(C) During the Norman invasion  
(D) In the late fourteenth century

13. For which social classes did Chaucer write?
(A) The nobility  
(B) All levels of society  
(C) Illiterate peasants  
(D) Merchants

14. What was Chaucer’s profession?
(A) Poet  
(B) Noble  
(C) Merchant  
(D) Civil servant

15. How many Canterbury Tales are there?
(A) 80  
(B) 24  
(C) 16  
(D) 50
16. What is a romance?
(A) An erotic tale of love and passion
(B) A story about Romans
(C) A story of knights, ladies, quests, and love
(D) A cheap book you buy from a drugstore

17. Which tale qualifies as part of a medieval sermon?
(A) The Wife of Bath’s Tale
(B) The Tale of Melibee
(C) The Physician’s Tale
(D) The Pardoner’s Tale

18. Which pilgrims are most richly attired?
(A) Miller, Yeoman, Summoner, Chaucer
(B) Wife of Bath, Squire, Monk, Physician, Franklin
(C) Knight, Nun’s Priest, Parson, Pardoner
(D) Friar, Reeve, Manciple, Man of Law

19. Which tales take place in the Orient?
(A) The Wife of Bath’s Tale and the Nun’s Priest’s Tale
(B) The Prioress’s Tale and the Knight’s Tale
(C) The Man of Law’s Tale and the Squire’s Tale
(D) The Miller’s Tale and the Clerk’s Tale

20. Which pilgrim carries a brooch inscribed with Latin words meaning “Love Conquers All”?
(A) The Prioress
(B) The Wife of Bath
(C) The Monk
(D) The Squire
21. At what time of year does the pilgrimage take place?

(A) In the dead of winter
(B) In the height of spring
(C) “That time of year when yellow leaves . . . hang upon these boughs”
(D) On a midsummer night

22. Which characters are connected to the Church?

(A) The Prioress, the Monk, the Friar, the Summoner, and the Pardoner
(B) The Miller, the Ploughman, and the Reeve
(C) The Knight, the Manciple, and the Host
(D) The Canon’s Yeoman, the Physician, the Clerk, and the Man of Law

23. Which tale is about a talking falcon?

(A) The Nun’s Priest’s Tale
(B) The Canon’s Yeoman’s Tale
(C) The Franklin’s Tale
(D) The Squire’s Tale

24. Which tales are about the patient suffering of women?

(A) The Wife of Bath’s Tale and the Prioress’s Tale
(B) The Knight’s Tale, the Cook’s Tale, and the Nun’s Priest’s Tale
(C) The Man of Law’s Tale, the Clerk’s Tale, and the Physician’s Tale
(D) The Tale of Melibee, the Parson’s Tale, and the Friar’s Tale

25. Why does the Pardoner upset the Host?

(A) The Pardoner is homosexual.
(B) The Pardoner tries to sell indulgences to the pilgrims, after he has already told them that he cheats people.
(C) The Pardoner has physically attacked the Host with his heavy bag of relics.

(D) The Pardoner refuses to give the Host an indulgence.