

Canterbury Tales Background

Multiple Choice

Identify the letter of the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

Comprehension

The questions below refer to the selection "The Middle Ages 1066–1485: The Tales They Told."

- _____ 1. The 1170 martyrdom of Thomas à Becket, the Archbishop of Canterbury, led to —
- hardships for the common people of England
 - the establishment of a new religion
 - changes within the Church of England
 - greater power in England for the Church of Rome
- _____ 2. The *most* positive effect of the medieval church was —
- the creation of a refuge for landless serfs
 - a rebellion against the monarchy
 - the use of Latin for everyday business
 - the fostering of common beliefs and symbols
- _____ 3. The Black Death ultimately resulted in —
- increased awareness of proper sanitation
 - freedom for the serfs and greater power for the lower classes
 - victory for the Lancasters over the Tudors
 - the reemergence of Anglo-Saxon religion
- _____ 4. The Canterbury Tales was written by
- | | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| a. Geoffrey Chaucer | c. Toni Morrison |
| b. William Shakespeare | d. George Orwell |
- _____ 5. The purpose of the Canterbury pilgrims was to journey to
- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| a. a cathedral to get married | c. a cathedral to pay homage to a fallen archbishop |
| b. a tavern to get food and drink | d. a new land in search of freedom |
- _____ 6. The pilgrims included all of the following types of people EXCEPT
- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| a. religious officials | c. children |
| b. women | d. working class individuals |
- _____ 7. The tellers told tales on the journey in order to
- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| a. relieve boredom | c. both a and b |
| b. win a dinner | d. neither a nor b |
- _____ 8. Knights acted as which type of modern group of people?
- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| a. mayors and governors | c. business leaders |
| b. military and police | d. child care workers |
- _____ 9. The code of chivalry meant that knights should treat
- | | |
|--|--|
| a. all women with kindness and courtesy | c. all serfs with kindness and courtesy |
| b. all women with authority and boldness | d. all businessmen with suspicion and fear |
- _____ 10. Courtly love meant that knights
- | | |
|---|---|
| a. could marry whenever they wanted | c. should remain chaste forever |
| b. could have a non-intimate "girlfriend" | d. should court a woman for three years |
- _____ 11. The Black Death was a plague which
- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a. killed 1/2 of all people | c. killed 3/4 of all people |
| b. killed 1/3 of all people | d. killed all people |
- _____ 12. Most of those who died in the black plague were
- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| a. royalty | c. lower class |
| b. middle class | d. clergy |
- _____ 13. The Catholic Church often deceived and mistreated its parishioners by
- | | |
|--|--|
| a. misusing the funds that were donated | c. selling phony pardons and misinterpreting the Bible |
| b. refusing to allow sinners into the congregation | d. |

True/False

Indicate whether the sentence or statement is true or false, and then correct it if it is false.

___ 14. The Wife of Bath is dressed very modestly and conservatively for the journey.

___ 15. The Wife of Bath has had five husbands.

___ 16. The Wife of Bath is hoping to find her soulmate on this pilgrimage.

___ 17. The Knight is a valiant and courageous fighter.

___ 18. The Knight does not follow the chivalric values of courtesy, honesty and honor.

___ 19. The Knight wears worn out clothing on this pilgrimage.

___ 20. The Miller is extremely honest at his trade, never dreaming of cheating anyone.

___ 21. The Miller is a large, heavysset, offensive individual who intimidates the other pilgrims.

___ 22. The Miller is a physically attractive individual on the outside, meaning that he is probably very unattractive on the inside.

___ 23. The Pardoner preaches long sermons about giving money to the church.

___ 24. The Pardoner is described as being a rather girlish, sissy man who may possible be a eunuch.

___ 25. The Pardoner is on this journey to forget about his religious responsibilities for a while.

Canterbury Tales Background Answer Section

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. ANS: D
2. ANS: D
3. ANS: B
4. ANS: A
5. ANS: C
6. ANS: C
7. ANS: C
8. ANS: B
9. ANS: A
10. ANS: B
11. ANS: B
12. ANS: C
13. ANS: C

TRUE/FALSE

14. ANS: F
15. ANS: T
16. ANS: F
17. ANS: T
18. ANS: F
19. ANS: T
20. ANS: F
21. ANS: T
22. ANS: F
23. ANS: T
24. ANS: T
25. ANS: T