**Using information in the *General Prologue* as well as *The Wife’s of Bath’s Tale*, work together to respond to this question so you are ready for class discussion. Cite examples from relevant lines in the text.**

**Work together, as these questions will require some serious thought. Each student will be required to prepare a written response, which you will use as notes for our discussion. In order to earn participation points for today, I will need to hear everyone’s voice in our discussion.**

1. In what ways does the Wife of Bath’s tale fit her personality? Consider the following: the secret the old hag tells the guilty knight, and the knight’s solution to the problem of choosing an ugly, loyal wife or a beautiful, unfaithful one.

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2. Do you think Chaucer’s portrayal of the Wife of Bath is an indication that he possibly held progressive views about women for his time? Why do you respond the way you do?

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**Work together, as these questions will require some serious thought. Each student will be required to prepare a written response, which you will use as notes for our discussion. In order to earn participation points for today, I will need to hear everyone’s voice in our discussion.**

3. Discuss the irony we find in the Wife’s prologue and tale.

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**Work together, as these questions will require some serious thought. Each student will be required to prepare a written response, which you will use as notes for our discussion. In order to earn participation points for today, I will need to hear everyone’s voice in our discussion.**

4. How do the final lines of her tale reveal her character?

and may Christ Jesus send

Us husbands meek and young and fresh in bed.

And grace to overbid them when we wed.

And – Jesu hear my prayer! – cut short the lives

Of those who won’t be governed by their wives;

And all old, angry niggards\* of their pence,

God send them soon a very pestilence.

\*This word is not what you may think it is. If you do not know the definition, I strongly suggest you **look it up** in the dictionary. Then you will understand why the key word here is *pence*.