Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period\_\_\_\_\_

***The Canterbury Tales***

*Brit LitA*

“The Prologue” Lines 1-121

1. Paraphrase lines 1-18 of the story.
2. Why does the group make their pilgrimage in April? (see lines 1-18)
3. Compare the picture on page 141 in the text with the opening to “Chaucer’s Prologue.” What details in the art match those in his text?
4. Who is the narrator of the poem? What is revealed about his character in this passage? (see lines 23-34)
5. What does the narrator set out to accomplish in “The Prologue”? (see lines 35-42)
6. What do the Knight’s actions on and off the battlefield reveal about his character? Support your answer. (see lines 43-74)
7. Reread the background note and side note on page 140 about Chaucer’s allusions to battles in lines 51-69. What assumptions might Chaucer’s audience have made, based on these allusions?
8. What conclusions can be drawn (based on the allusions from question seven) about the political situations in Europe, North America, and the Middle East at this time?
9. What does the expression “like father, like son” mean to you? Does the expression apply to the Squire and the Knight? Why or why not? (see page 143)
10. Describe your first impression of *The Canterbury Tales*.