1. **Key Ideas and Details** (a) When the story opens, what are the rioters doing, and what captures their attention? (b) **Generalize:** What sort of people are they? Explain how you know.

2. **Integration of Knowledge and Ideas** The Pardoner is quite open about the manipulative use to which he puts the tale. Do the Pardoner’s reasons for telling the story detract from its moral truth? Explain.

3. **Integration of Knowledge and Ideas** The tale refers to the time of the plague. (a) What does the tale suggest about the effects of such a disaster on society? Support your answer. (b) **Apply:** Can stories such as this one encourage people to behave well even in times of crisis? Explain.

4. **Integration of Knowledge and Ideas** Do you think the desire for gain is ultimately destructive, as the Pardoner’s tale suggests, or can it lead to positive consequences? Explain.

5. **Integration of Knowledge and Ideas** What can you learn about life in the Middle Ages from “The Pardoner’s Tale”? Use at least two of these Essential Question words in your response: role, principles, reproach, excess. [Connecting to the Essential Question: How does literature shape or reflect society?]