

Name _____

Pilgrim Lexis Answer Key

Vocabulary in Context Chart (Sample Answers)

Word (Middle English)	Context Clues in Passage	Best Guess Meaning	Modern Equivalent
chivalrie	Listed with "trouthe and honour"	Code of conduct for knights	Chivalry (knightly honor, bravery, courtesy)
trouthe	Paired with honour and virtue	Loyalty, honesty, integrity	Truth (faithfulness, moral integrity)
curteisye	Described alongside "freedom" and knightly qualities	Politeness, respectful behavior	Courtesy
freedom	Listed with knightly virtues	Nobility of spirit, generosity	Generosity or noble character (not political freedom)

Teacher Notes:

- Emphasize that *The Canterbury Tales* is valuable for teaching **historical linguistics** and **cultural values**.
- Encourage students to connect Middle English terms with modern cognates while noting subtle shifts in meaning.
- Accept answers that show **logical reasoning from context** even if not perfectly accurate; this builds critical vocabulary skills.