



UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

ASSIGNMENT 6
MIDDLE ENGLISH II

Using Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* **or** John Langland's *Piers Plowman*, find examples of each of the following:

1. A minimal pair distinguished by /f/ and /v/
2. **Two** nouns inflected for the accusative (direct object)
3. **Two** nouns inflected for the dative (indirect object)
4. An inflected adjective + noun (like "fast horse" or "tall building")
5. Loss of [h] before [l], [n], or [r]
6. OE prefix <ge-> to ME *i-* or *y-*

You will need the Middle English Dictionary (MED).

<https://quod.lib.umich.edu/m/middle-english-dictionary/dictionary>

You may need the *Canterbury Tales*:

<https://chaucer.fas.harvard.edu/pages/text-and-translations>

You may need *Piers Plowman*:

<http://piers.chass.ncsu.edu/texts/Bx/P?view=critical>