The Wife of Bath Questions

1. Clarify: What does the wife of bath mean when she says, "**myself have been the whip**?”
2. In what lines is there a **sense of humor** present based on the friars from the wife’s point of view? What does that tell you about what she thinks about the friars of the world?
3. What is the feat that the Queen has the knight agree to? Why does he agree? Is it a feasible task? **Explain your answer.**
4. How long does the knight have to complete the task he has now accepted? Is that enough time? **Explain your answer?**
5. What does the knight do during that period of time? Is he using his time wisely? **Explain your answer.**
6. Why does the wife interrupt the story she is telling about the knight with yet another story about King Midas and his wife? What is the moral of the story dealing with **King Midas**?
7. Why is the knight very willing to listen to the old hag? Is it a wise one or not? **Explain your answer**.
8. What is the promise made by the knight concerning the answer to the question and the old hag?
9. How do you think the knight feels when he provides the Queen with the correct answer?
10. What causes the knight’s mood to change so rapidly after revealing the answer?
11. Why does the knight believe that marrying the old hag would be a **misalliance**? (**There are several reasons**).
12. How does the knight act after he has gone through with the “**promise**?” Is that fair to the old hag? Explain your answer.
13. Characterize the old hag by not by her appearance though.
14. How does the old hag **rebut** the knight’s argument on the topic of her age?
15. What is the answer to the old hag’s questions about which should the knight like better, a young beautiful wife that everyone should fawn over or an old woman that no one will envy and thus have a safe marriage?
16. Describe the ending of the story. How is it a **pertinent** ending? What is the moral taught to the reader?
17. Evaluate the knight. What kind of man is he at the beginning of the tale? How has he changed by the end of the tale?
18. In your opinion, do you thin the lesson that the wife teaches is still relevant today?