The Prologue to “The Pardoner’s Tale” Questions

1. Pick three Middle English words and trace their roots from Middle English to modern English.
2. Why is the Host so upset at the opening of the Pardoner's Tale? What has angered and saddened him?
3. In lines sixteen through nineteen, what objects does Harry Bailey pray God to bless?
4. Harry says his "herte" will be lost unless he has any one of three possible remedies to his sadness. What are those three possible remedies?
5. Who does the Host ask to tell the next tale? Read this line carefully. What pronoun (thou or you) does the Host use to refer to that pilgrim?
6. What does he call him?
7. What does the Pardoner say is always the "theme" (main point) of his sermons? Why is that suitable or appropriate to his purposes?
8. What are some the Pardoner's money-making tricks?