**Discuss how gender, power and social class are presented in the text and shaped by the context.**

Gender – 1. Women

Power – 1. Between men and women 2. Social class 3. As wealth

Social class – 1. Church 2. Mobility 3. Gentility

Gender

* In the Wife of Bath Prologue and Tale, Chaucer illustrates an alternative way to reinforce the value of women.

Power

* Chaucer illustrates the regeneration / redistribution of power in his society.
* Chaucer establishes the differences between men and women and how power plays a role in their relationships and society as a whole.
* Chaucer demonstrates the determination of identity is based on gentility and weath, both of which are associated with the noble class.
* Chaucer discusses the ideas of wealth and power through the character of the Wife of Bath and he perspectives on marriage and her husband’s wealth.

Social class

* The character of the Wife is an example of social mobility, as a women sha has gained wealth and power through selling fabric and marriage. She represents the newly wealthy class of merchants and artisans.