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A Lesson Before Dying Vocabulary

The following is a list of vocabulary words for **A Lesson Before Dying Vocabulary Tests**. Please make sure to study thoroughly the words so that you are prepared for the tests.

TEST DATES ARE ON THE BACK OF PAGE 3. BE PREPARED FOR EACH TEST!

Ch. 1-17 Part 1

1. **cynicism**: the belief that all human action is motivated by selfishness
2. **modicum**: small quantity of a particular thing especially something considered desirable or valuable
3. **antebellum**: occurring or exists before or a particular war, especially the American civil war.
4. **satchel**: a small bag, often having a shoulder strap, used for carrying books, clothing and other items; pouch
5. **Creole**: a person of mixed European and black descent, especially in the Caribbean, West Indies, or Latin America.
6. **stealth**: cautious and surreptitious action or movement
7. **mulatto**: person mixed with a white and black ancestry, especially a person with one white and one black parent.
8. **mortuary**: morgue, statuary, monument, church
9. **grudgingly**: reluctant, unwilling; discontent
10. **illegible**: not clear enough to be read.
11. **parain** - godfather
12. **parish**: county in Louisiana
13. **sentiments**: tender emotion
14. **ashy**: pale as ashes
15. **innate**: inborn or natural
16. **yam**: dessert, vegetable, meat, drink
17. **theological**: relating to the study of god

Ch. 1-17 Part 2

18. **humanitarianism**: a person promoting human welfare and social reform : philanthropist
19. **plantation**: an estate on which crops such as coffee, sugar, and tobacco are
27. **agitated**: feeling or appearing troubled or nervous
28. **superlative**: the highest level or degree attainable

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cultivated by resident labor

20. **derrick**: a large crane used to lift and move heavy objects
21. **pastoral**: having to do with the country; having to do with the pastor of a church
22. **conspiracy**: the act of secretly planning together to commit something unlawful; plot
23. **universality**: universal range; same everywhere
24. **primer**: an elementary textbook for teaching children to read; notebook
25. **godmother**: a female godparent that guides and supports the organization or family. if the parents die then that god parents takes care of the child
26. **relented**: to become more lenient, compassionate, or forgiving; soften
29. **quarter**: a section, district, or certain part of a community
30. **caste**: a social class of people
31. **tyrant**; a cruel and oppressive ruler
32. **vexing**: causing irritation or annoyance
33. **backsliders**: relapse into bad ways or error
34. **trustee**: prisoner, deputy, reporter, companion

Ch. 18-31 Part 1

1. **photocollage**: education, books, collection, photosynthesis
2. **inflection**: change in pitch or tone of the voice
3. **alabaster**: a compact fine-textured usually white gypsum used for carving
4. **feat**: an achievement that requires great courage, skill, or strength.
5. **precedent**: an earlier event or action that is regarded as an example or guide to be considered in subsequent similar
6. circumstances; preceding in time, order, or importance
7. **chifforobe**: a piece of furniture having
10. **stock**: a person's heritage; supply
11. **jazz**: blues, rhythm, song, nonsense
12. **wool-gathered**: daydreaming
13. **inclement**: stormy, harsh **moral obligation**: a personal choice
14. **nativity**: the occasion of a person's birth
15. **Lent**: a period of 40 weekdays from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday
16. **Ash Wednesday**: the beginning of Lent

American Literature

Mrs. J. Glover

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both drawers and space for hanging clothes

8. **mosquito bar**: curtain used for excluding mosquitoes

9. **crokersacks**: a sack; burlap

Ch. 18-31 Part 2

18. **brogans**: a heavy, sturdy shoe; work shoes

19. **gumbo**: a soup or stew thickened with okra pods

20. **dignity**: the quality of being worthy of esteem or respect

21. **myth**: a traditional story accepted as history

22. **emancipation**: the act of freeing or liberating

23. **guillotine**: machine for beheading people

24. **tarpaulin**: material such as waterproof canvas used to cover and protect things from moisture

25. **mortician**: one whose business is the management of funerals

26. **gravity**: pull, levity, solemnity, force

17. **tranquil**: free from disturbance; calm

27. **rustic**: simple, country, antique, rural, ornate, corroded

28. **sentiments**: religion, education, opinions, laws

29. **generator**: an apparatus for producing electricity, gas, steam, or another product

30. **gruesome**: causing repulsion or horror; grisly; extremely unpleasant

31. **sharecropper**: farmers who give a share of their crops to the land owner

32. **corrugated**: shaped into alternating parallel grooves and ridges

33. **abreast**: side by side and facing the same way, alongside or even with something.

34. **transformation**: a thorough or dramatic change in form or appearance

TEST DATES	
Ch. 1-17 Part 1	March 23, 2018
Ch. 1-17 Part 2	April 6, 2018
Ch. 18-31 Part 1	April 13, 2018
Ch. 18-31 Part 2	April 20, 2018