

Summer Reading Study Guide
A Lesson Before Dying by Ernest J. Gaines
2008 St. Edward High School Summer Reading

Complete each sentence or statement.

- 1) Who fired the first shot? _____

- 2) The story is set in _____ (town)

_____ (parish) _____ (state)

- 3) The story takes place between the month of _____, _____
(year) and the month of _____, _____ (year)

- 4) What gift does Grant get Jefferson? _____

Match the characters to their descriptions.

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| a) Henri Pichot | f) Thelma Claiborne |
| b) Farrell Jareau | g) Vivian Baptiste |
| c) Irene Cole | h) Grant Wiggins |
| d) Dr. Joseph Morgan | i) Sam Guidry |
| e) Shirley | j) Moses Ambrose |

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| _____ 5) Wife of Joe, runs the restaurant | _____ 10) Preacher |
| _____ 6) School superintendent | _____ 11) Cousin of Jefferson. |
| _____ 7) Plantation owner, sheriff's
brother-in-law | _____ 12) Schoolteacher, becomes
Jefferson's best friend |
| _____ 8) Yard worker, handyman for Mr.
Pichot | _____ 13) Waitress |
| _____ 9) School teacher, Grant's
Girlfriend | _____ 14) Sheriff |

Match the characters to their descriptions.

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| a) Paul Bonin | e) Peggy |
| b) Edna Guidry | f) Murphy |
| c) Matthew Antoine | g) La Cox |
| d) Mr. Oscar | h) Inez |

- _____ 1) Friend who teaches with Vivian.
- _____ 2) Sister of Henri Pichot.
- _____ 3) Deputy who is kind to Grant.
- _____ 4) Henri Pichot's maid.
- _____ 5) Mr. Wiggin's mentor.
- _____ 6) Person who shaves Jefferson.
- _____ 7) Dead godfather of Jefferson.
- _____ 8) Black mortician in the town.