Vocabulary 31-40 - A Lesson Before Dying

31. gestured, pg. 148,155,215
   a. While he spoke, Albert Martin III gestured toward the tree, and everybody looked at the tree and at the single gift under it.
   b. I made a respectful gesture for him to precede me, but he would not move, was afraid to move, until Inez took the lead.

32. chaos, pg. 88
   a. Then it was over. And there was nothing but chaos. People screamed. Some shot pistols in the air.
   b. When the fire broke out, the alarms went off and there was chaos. People were unsure as to what they should do next.

33. anthology, pg. 89
   a. He kept me after class and handed me a collection of stories. It was not Joyce’s Dubliners but an anthology of short stories.
   b. We had to read an anthology of famous American authors in my English class.

34. universality, pg. 90
   a. I read the story and reread the story, but I still could not find the universality that the little Irishman had spoken of.
   b. Many themes in literature are universal. People of all cultures, at all times in history have had to deal with similar problems.

35. gruesome, pg. 240
   a. A woman was saying that she had seen it, and it looked gruesome. A man said it did look gruesome, and that’s why they called it Gruesome Gerty. (the electric chair)
   b. The scene of the horrible car crash was gruesome. There was blood everywhere.

36. coarse, pg. 236
   a. Finally, he told one of the women that Miss Lucy had sent him up there for a spool of coarse white thread.
   b. The surface of the board was rather coarse, it was rather rough and it appeared to need sanding.

37. mulatto, pg. 196, 198
   a. I could hear the mulatto bricklayers talking over in the corner.
   b. I knew that like so many of the mulattos in this part of the state, they did bricklaying or carpentry, and possibly some house painting. All this kept them from working in the fields side by side with niggers.

38. scapegoat, pg. 191
   a. That’s why they were always looking for a scapegoat, someone else to blame.
   b. People who refuse to take responsibility for their own mistakes, always blame others for what they have done wrong. They always look for a scapegoat.

39. emancipation, pg. 198
   a. Since emancipation, almost a hundred years ago, they would do any kind of work they could find to keep them from working side by side in the field with niggers.
   b. Near the end of the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln declared an Emancipation Proclamation. This law made all slaves free of their slaveowners.

40. tarpaulin, pg.235, 236
   a. He didn’t pay any close attention to the black truck with the gray tarpaulin cover, but he would tell people later at the Rainbow Club that he did feel a cold chill when the truck went by.
   b. The tarpaulin had been rolled back, and two men sat at the tail end of the truck, talking and smoking cigarettes.