

UNIT 2 Facing Challenges Nonfiction Connection

A STEM school

FROEBEL
BILINGUAL SCHOOL

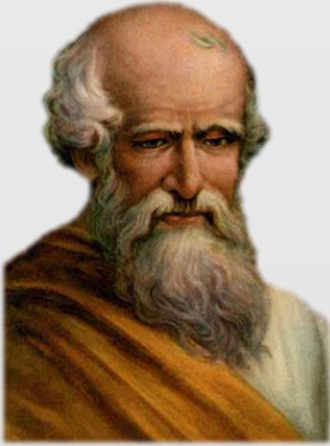
Home of the Space Generation



AHA MOMENT

WITH
JIM SOTO





"Eureka!" - Archimedes



"Oooh!" - Wreck-It Ralph



"¡Ahaa!" - Julia Alvarez

SPEAK YOUR MIND

We are surrounded by life and by death. On a daily basis we hear or read about real-life or imaginary stories of near-disasters in the news, movies, books, or television. Think of examples in which people built community (not walls) over shared troubles.

Take a minute to answer in the notebook.



EPIPHANIES

A black and white photograph of a hand holding a glowing lightbulb. The hand is positioned on the left side of the frame, with the thumb and index finger gripping the top of the bulb. The lightbulb is illuminated, casting a soft glow. The background is a plain, light-colored surface. The overall composition is simple and focused on the central subject of the hand and the lightbulb.

An **epiphany** is a moment when you suddenly feel that you understand, or suddenly become conscious of, something very important. It can refer to a moment of sudden insight in which the essence, or nature, of a person, thing, or situation is revealed.

In “Aha Moment,” Julia Alvarez portrays one fateful flight taken while on a book tour. The impact on Alvarez’s life from this event—her “aha moment”—remains long after the airplane lands. Her near-death experience teaches her valuable lessons about courage, camaraderie, and appreciation of life’s blessings. Predict what kind of an epiphany the author might have had from a rough flight. Then, as you read, look for what Alvarez describes as being “struck by lightning” or having an “aha moment.”



LITERARY CONCEPT

Diction

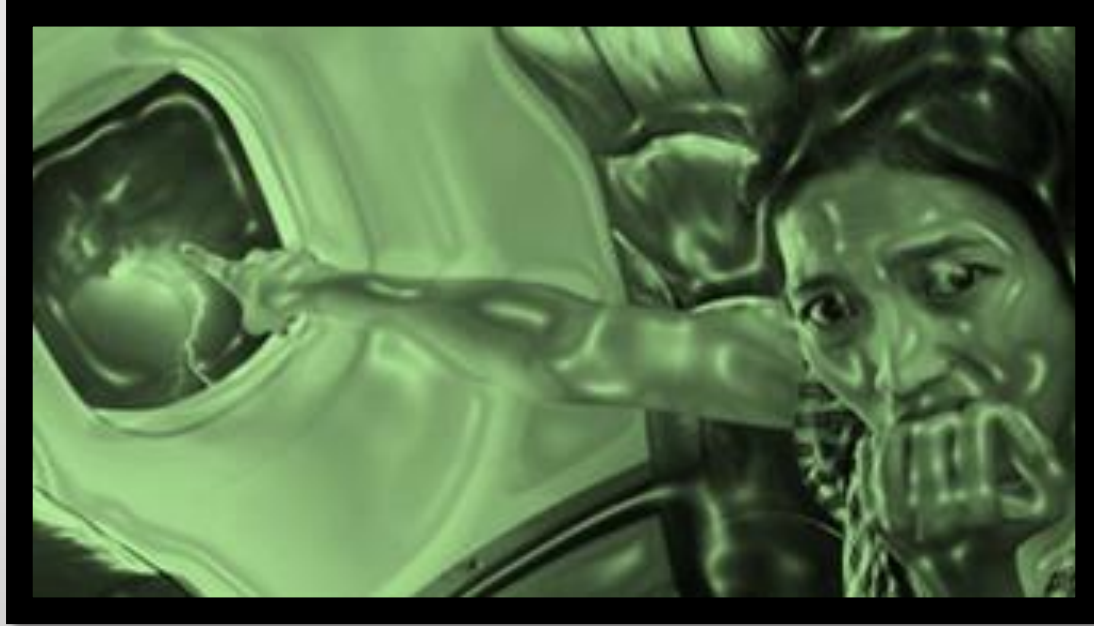
Refers to word choice. Much of a writer's style is determined by the types of words that he or she chooses. Diction can be formal or informal, simple or complex, contemporary or old-fashioned, coarse or refined. What words and phrases does Alvarez use to suggest violent movement, danger, and a sense of fear?



ASSESSMENT

After reading pgs. 113 -117, in your book, complete these activities:

1. REFER TO TEXT &
2. REASON WITH TEXT
3. & ANALYZE LITERATURE
 - **Diction** - Select a paragraph from the story that contains expressive vocabulary. Find the words that carry the most expression. Replace those words with your own that generally mean the same thing, such as replacing “scrambled” with “walked” or “hurried.” How does the change in word choice affect the impact of the passage?



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