

UNIT 2 Facing Challenges Nonfiction Connection



The Obligation to Endure

WITH
JIM SOTO

SPEAK YOUR MIND

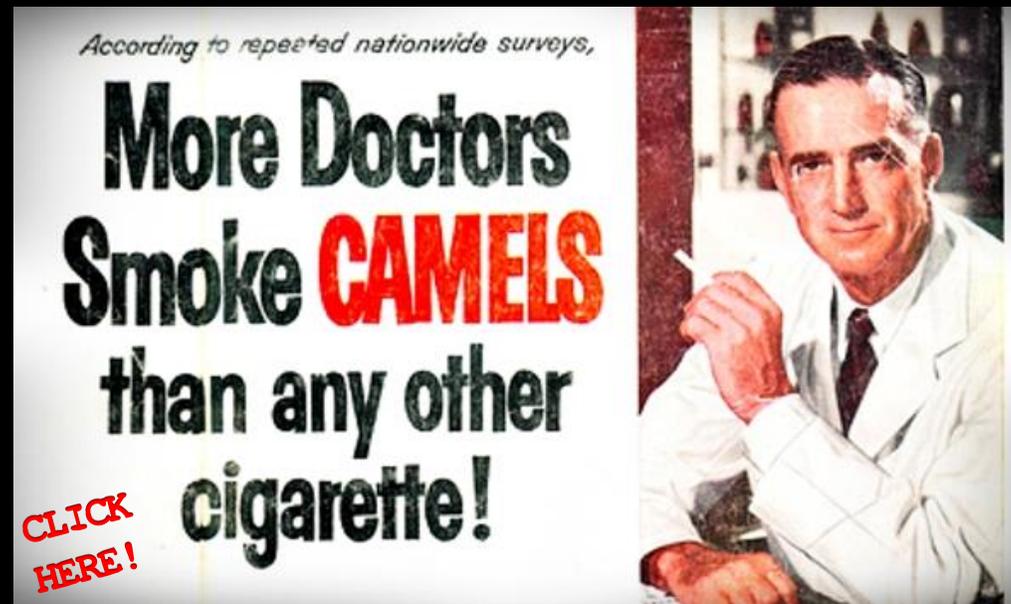
Given the choice of knowing or not knowing the facts about imminent environmental and health dangers, would you prefer to know or not?

Take a minute to explain your response in the notebook.



TOBACCO & CHEMICAL INDUSTRY PROPAGANDA

Would you believe me if I told you that there was a time when medical propaganda stated it was fine to smoke cigarettes?!

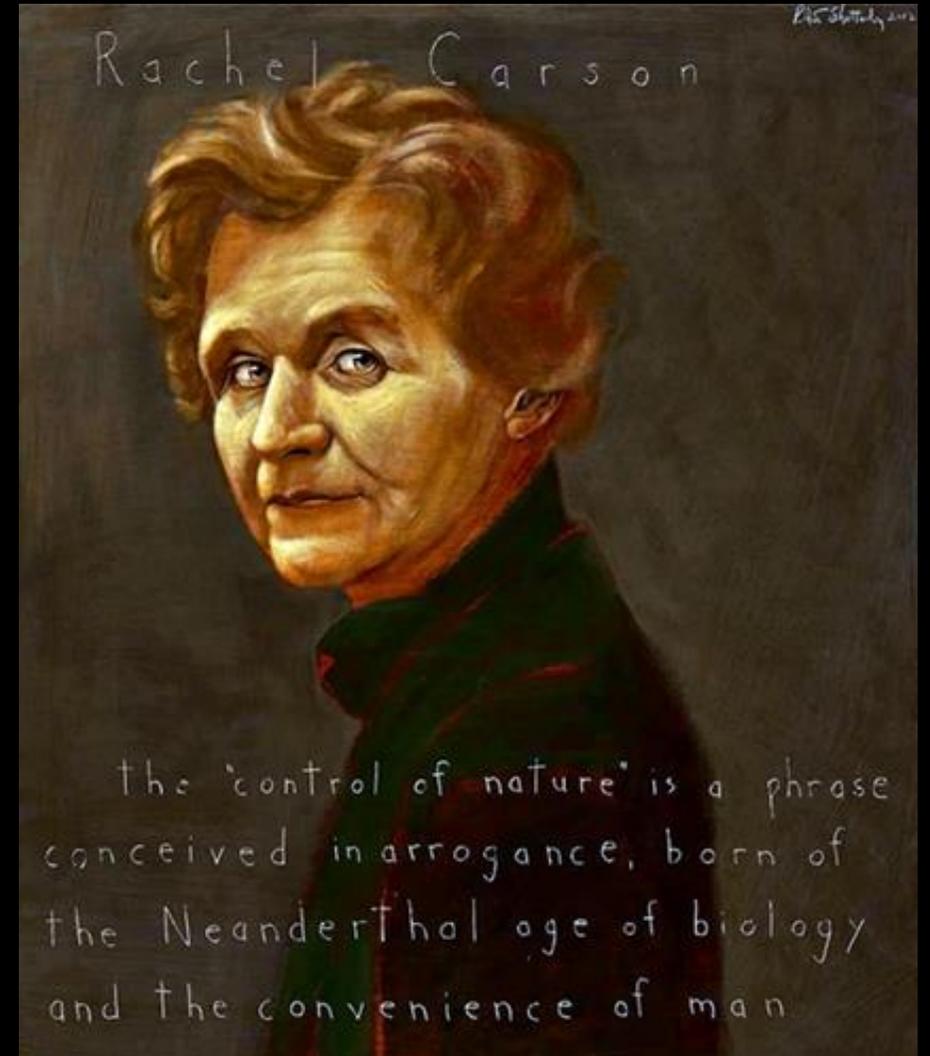


Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT), manufactured by Montrose Chemical, was an insecticide used in agriculture. The U.S. banned DDT in 1972. Research has linked DDT exposure to autism, obesity, birth defects, infertility and cancer. DDT accumulates in the environment and harms wildlife. Some countries outside the U.S. still use DDT to control of mosquitoes that spread malaria.



SILENT SPRING

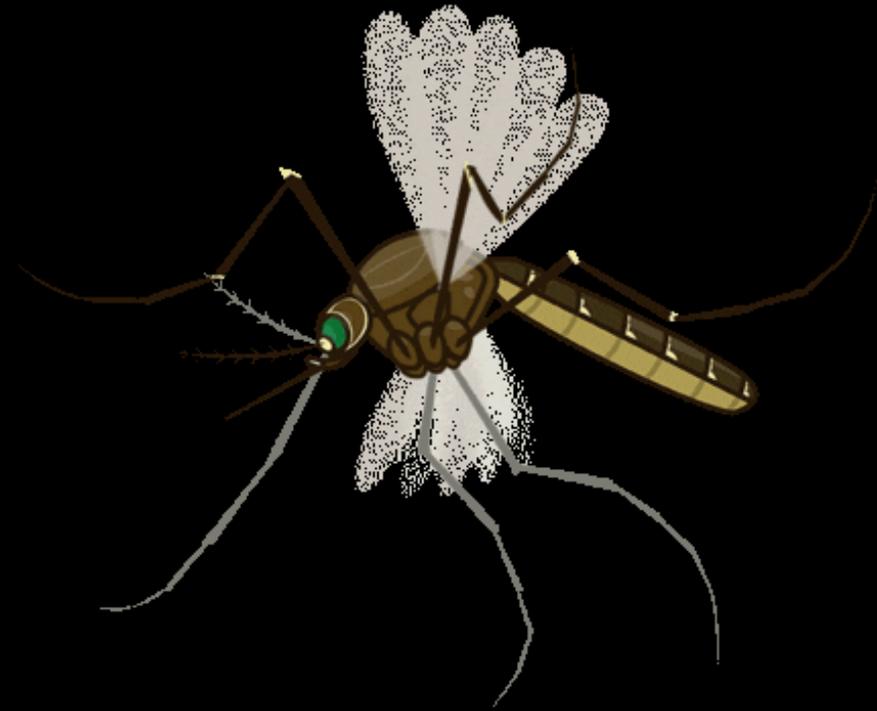
A letter from a **Boston Globe** reporter in 1958 first interested Rachel Carson in the harmful effects of DDT. The insecticide (the word ending *-cide* means “killer of”) was being used to eliminate mosquitoes in Boston, Massachusetts, but it was killing birds as well. Carson began to question the use of insecticides and other dangerous chemicals. Carson’s book *Silent Spring* inspired the first pesticide-control laws in U.S. history.





In May 1963, Rachel Carson appeared before the Department of Commerce and asked for a “Pesticide Commission” to regulate the untethered use of DDT. Ten years later, Carson's “Pesticide Commission” became the **Environmental Protection Agency** (EPA), which immediately banned DDT use in the U.S.

LITERARY CONCEPT



Argumentative Essay

An argumentative (also, *persuasive*) essay, like the excerpt from *Silent Spring*, tries to convince readers to agree with the writer's opinions, or argument. For their part, readers of an argumentative essay should evaluate the evidence the writer provides. They should consider the kinds of facts, examples, and other details the writer uses to support the argument.

LITERARY SKILL

FACT OR OPINION CHART

Fact: Since the mid-1940s over 200 basic chemicals have been created for use in killing pests.

Opinion: Future historians may well be amazed by our distorted sense of proportion.

Fact:

Fact:

Distinguish Fact from Opinion
As you read “The Obligation to Endure,” keep notes on statements that appear to be opinions as well as statements that could be easily proved. Create a Fact or Opinion Chart, like the one below, by jotting down the facts and opinions you found within the selection. Support your reasoning by offering “proof” for each statement.

ASSESSMENT

After reading pgs. 146 -153, in your book, complete these activities:

1. REFER TO TEXT &
2. REASON WITH TEXT
3. & ANALYZE LITERATURE
 - **Argumentative Essay** - Summarize the main points about pollution that Carson makes. Then list the types of evidence she provides in support of her opinions. Finally, write a short critique of the essay, in which you take a stand or express your own opinion on the issue.

L'INSECTOLINE



A BASE DE **D. D. T.**

MET **D. D. T.**

ALS HOOFDBESTANDEEL

TIMBRE AU VERSO • ZEGEL OP KEERZIDE

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