



Aria: A Memoir of a Bilingual Childhood
By Richard Rodriguez

Quote Significance Activity

Directions: Match the event from the story with the significance of the event. All answers are used only ONCE. Be sure to look up the context of the event to make sure you get its significance.

1. ____ "This scene was inevitable. One Saturday morning I entered the kitchen. . . ."
 2. ____ "Thus, sometime afterward it happened: one day in school, I raised my hand. . . ."
 3. ____ Grandmother yells at him in the backyard AND his grandmother's death
 4. ____ He doesn't know what names to call his parents.
 5. ____ His relatives call him "*pocho*."
 6. ____ The games at dinner
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- A. He asserts his right and his obligation to claim his public identity.
 - B. He has trouble applying English to his intimate family life.
 - C. He loses his sense of home.
 - D. Intimacy is not dependent on language but on people who are intimate.
 - E. Language defines our cultural ties with others.
 - F. The family defines itself by its struggles in English.