




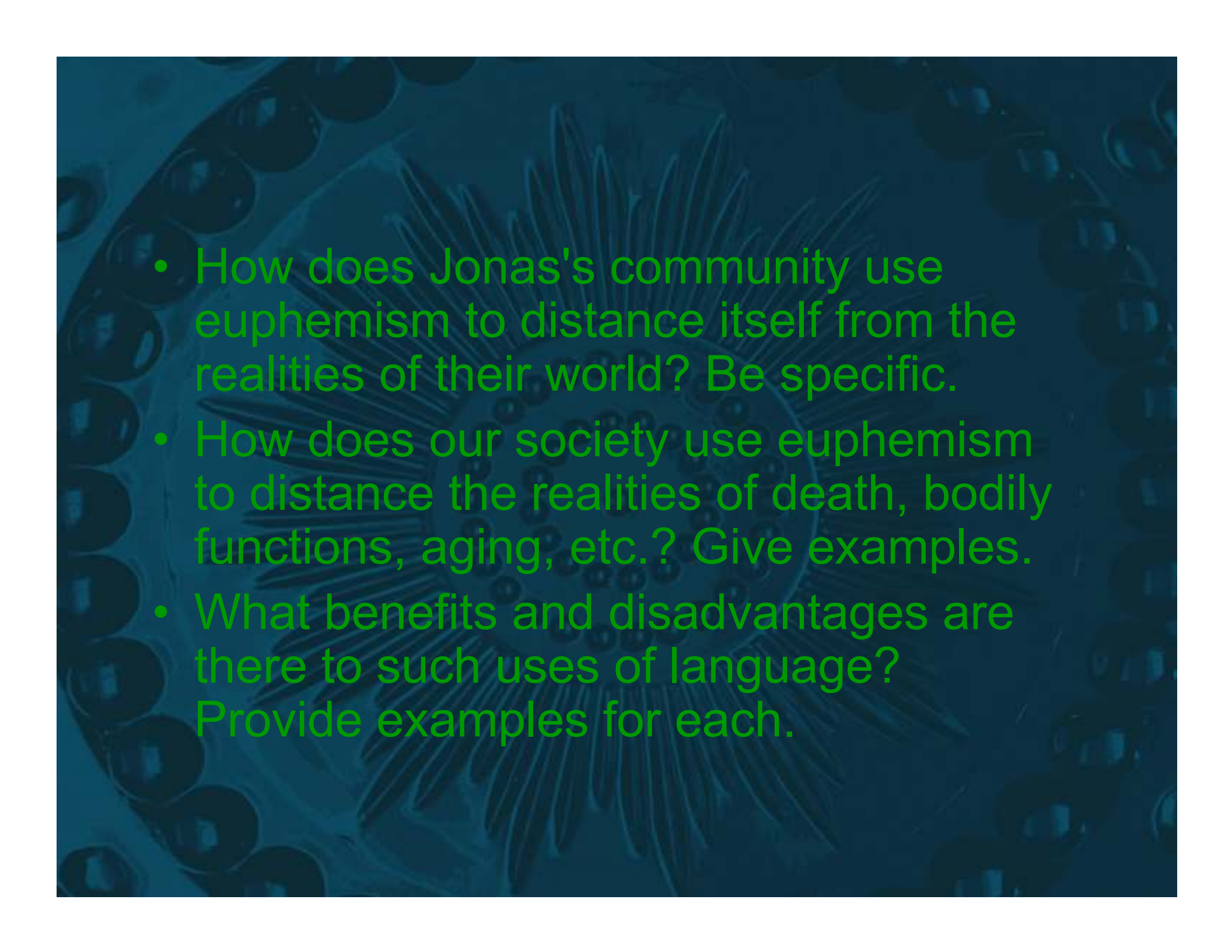
The Giver

Euphemisms

What is an Euphemism?

- ***Eu-phe-mism*** -yu fə-mɪz əm/ Pronunciation Key - Show Spelled Pronunciation [**yoo-fuh-miz-uh m**] Pronunciation Key - Show IPA Pronunciation
- *–noun* 1.the substitution of a mild, indirect, or vague expression for one thought to be offensive, harsh, or blunt. 2.the expression so substituted: “To pass away” is a euphemism for “to die.”

- 
- Although the society in The Giver stresses what it calls "precision of language", it is built upon a language that is NOT precise, but that deliberately clouds meaning. What does Jonas's community really mean by the following words?
 - Release (p. 2)
 - Feelings (p. 4)
 - Animals (p. 5)
 - Nurturer (p. 7)
 - Stirrings (p. 37)
 - Replacement child (p. 44)
 - Elsewhere (p. 78)

- 
- How does Jonas's community use euphemism to distance itself from the realities of their world? Be specific.
 - How does our society use euphemism to distance the realities of death, bodily functions, aging, etc.? Give examples.
 - What benefits and disadvantages are there to such uses of language? Provide examples for each.