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### What Is Alzheimer's

Alzheimer's disease is the most common  
slowly destroys memories and think  
years before symptoms appear.  
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Explanation: My artwork is a depiction of an old woman suffering from Alzheimers, however she is not just any old woman, I chose to draw my grandmother, who suffers from this brain disorder. I watched as my grandmother's condition worsened and the person she once was slowly slipped away, which is represented by the portions of her face drawn in black and white. Black and white symbolizes dullness, and the skewed, disjointed, version of reality that they eventually succumb to in their final stages of life. I specifically chose to have the phrase, "What is Alzheimer's" protrude the most to display how despite the fact that more than 6 million Americans are living with Alzheimers, many do not truly understand what happens to the mind during this process, and do not try to. Due to this stigma, many loved ones of the patients end up in denial, and undermining their condition, leading to uncomfortable final stages of life for the person with Alzheimer's. I recall my grandmother not wanting to eat or drink, but my grandfather still trying so hard to make her, because he believed that by some miracle she could get better, but the sad reality is that you cannot heal from this. 13.9% of the population age 71 and older suffer from Alzheimer's, and while you may be reading this thinking Alzheimer's is a distant and even niche issue, it is something that may eventually touch your life. My Grandfather knew nothing about dementia, the whole situation hit him head on and he was completely unprepared, which is something that can be prevented for so many by breaking the stigma around it.