Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Participation Questions: “​Names/Nombres​” by Julia Alvarez**

**DIRECTIONS:** *Using both what we read and your own personal experiences, answer the following questions in complete sentences.*

1)​ In the essay, Alvarez notes that her mother thought that the pronunciation of her name didn't matter, and quotes her as saying: "You know what your friend Shakespeare said, 'A rose by any other name would smell as sweet.'" Do you agree with Alvarez's mother? Why or why not?

Why doesn’t Julia’s mother encourage her to correct others when they say her name incorrectly?

*Can you remember a time when someone said your name incorrectly? Did you correct them? Why or why not?*

2)​ Julia says, “I was Hoo-lee-tah only to Mami and Papi and uncles and aunts who came over to eat sancoco on Sunday afternoons...” Why is it only Julia’s family who pronounces her name correctly?

*Does your family call you by a different name or a different pronunciation than others do? Explain.*

3)​ Julia’s friends have nicknames for her. “Friends called me Jules or Hey Jude and once a group of troublemaking friends my mother forbade me to hang out with called me Alcatraz.” Does she like the nicknames her friends call her? Why or why not?

*Have you ever had a nickname given to you by your friends? Did you like the name? Why or why not?*

4)​ Julia shares the story of her mother telling the women in the hospital the story of her sister’s name. “Her mother-in-law had recently died, she apologized, and her husband had insisted that the first daughter be named after his mother, Mauran. My mother thought it the ugliest name she had ever heard, and she talked my father into what she believed was an improvement, a combination of Mauran and her own mother's name, Felicia. ‘Her name is Mao-ree-shee-ah,’ my mother said to the group.” Why does Julia include the story of her sister’s naming in the short story about her own name?

*Is there a story behind how you got your name?*

5)​ Julia tries to hide her heritage from her friends. She feels shame when her friends see her as a foreigner as seen in this quote, “They were just being curious, I knew, but I burned with shame whenever they singled me out as a ‘foreigner,’ a rare, exotic friend. ‘Say your name in Spanish, oh, please say it!’ I had made mouths drop one day by rattling off my full name, which, according to the Dominican custom, included my middle names, Mother’s and Father’s surnames for four generations back. ‘Julia Altagracia María Teresa Álverez Tavares Perello Espaillat Julia Pérez Rochet González.’” I pronounced it slowly, a name as chaotic with sounds as a Middle Eastern bazaar or market day in a South American village.” If Julia’s friends are interested in her name, why does she feel ashamed?

*Has your name ever made you feel ashamed? Why or why not?*