**Names/Nombres by Julia Alvarez**

**Pre-Reading Questions:**

1. What does it mean to be an individual?
2. What does it mean to be a part of a group?

3. Is it possible to be part of a group and still retain your individuality?

**Post Reading Questions:**

1. In paragraph 1, the family’s name is mispronounced by the immigration officer. Describe the author’s reactions to the mispronunciation.
2. How did Julia’s older sister get her name? Why did the older sister have the hardest time getting an American name? What happened with Mami and the other new mothers after the sister was born?
3. In “Names/Nombres,” why do Alvarez’s family members sit in the first row at her graduation ceremony?
4. How does Alvarez’s attitude about her and her family being different change during the story? Site evidence from the story in your answer.

**Analysis Question**: According to “Names/Nombres,” how does Julia Alvarez feel when she first comes to the United States and hears her name mispronounced?

**In an paragraph**, describe Alvarez’s changing thoughts about her name. How does she feel when she is first called Judy? How does she feel about her name when she graduates from high school? Finally, what does the name that appears below the title of this essay tell you about her feelings about her name as an adult?