**(H)ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA) 2022-23 March 20, 2023**

**Today’s Agenda (Day 128)**

1. Homework Check:

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1. Class Activity:

🡪JOURNAL PROMPT #14: Reflect on the following questions:

1. Do you recall a time when you were ashamed or embarrassed by your identity or that of your family? If so, explain. If not, explain.
2. What are some things (actions, behaviors, attitudes, etc.) about YOU or your FAMILY that you wish you could change? Why?
3. What do you think it will take for you to be wholeheartedly comfortable in “your own skin” / with who you are (every aspect, including your background)? When do you think you might reach that point? Explain.

🡪 **CONT’D: The Namesake –** read aloud & discussion & assignment questions

HOMEWORK:

* BEGIN: The Namesake – Jumpa Lahiri 🡪 ~~Ch 1 – 3 [Wed, Mar. 15~~], Ch 4 – 6 [Fri, Mar. 17]; Ch 7 – 9 [Wed, Mar. 22]; Ch 10 – end [Fri, Mar 22]
* STUDY:
* **TERM ESSAY #4:**

The Namesake - Vocabulary

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Abate | Abhor | Acrid | Agitated | Albeit | Aloof | Anecdote |
| Anomaly | Apprehensive | Arbitrary | Auspicious | Avert | Banal | Bequeath |
| Chide | Coalition | Commemorate | Concede | Conjure | Context | Covet |
| Culminate | Dais | Diffident | Disconcerting | Dismayed | Disparage | Dissertation |
| Dwelling | Elicit | Elusive | Emaciated | Emancipated | Endearing | Entity |
| Exasperated | Excruciating | Façade | Fastidious | Fleeting | Fresco | Haughty |
| Heritage | Highlight | Imply | Indifferent | Indulgent | Listless | Midwife |
| Momentous | Monopoly | Morose | Nostalgia | Novel | Obsolete | Parched |
| Pensive | Perish | Perpetually | Precarious | Preside | Probate | Profound |
| Prudent | Relentless | Remnant | Replenishing | Resignation | Respective | Reveres |
| Solace | Sulk | Unwittingly | Warrant | Wrest |  |  |

REMINDERS:

* THE NAMESAKE NOVEL QUIZ #1 [Ch 1 –6] 🡪 Mar. 21
* THE NAMESAKE Vocabulary Quiz 🡪 Mar. 27
* THE NAMESAKE NOVEL QUIZ #2 [Ch 7 –12] 🡪 Mar. 30

**(H)ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA) 2022-23 NOVEL ACTIVITY**

**THE NAMESAKE – Jhumpa Lahiri**

## Discussion Question 1

## Compare and contrast Ashima and Ashoke. What are their goals in life as stated in this chapter? What differences do you see in their personalities that come from those differing goals? Which character is more firmly rooted in traditional Indian culture and why? What happened to Ashoke that moved him further from Indian culture than might otherwise be expected?

## Discussion Question 2

## In two paragraphs, debate the practicality of the cultural ways of naming babies, the American and the Indian ways and which is more practical.

## Discussion Question 3

## Dual cultural identity is one of the themes of this book. Discuss how Ashima and Ashoke gradually absorb the American as well as their native Indian culture and the problems American culture causes Ashima in particular. Cite examples from Chapter 2 to illustrate this happening. Do you believe either of them is aware of this merging of cultural identities? If so, do you believe they accept the change willingly or do they resent it? Cite examples from Chapter 2 to illustrate your beliefs.

## Discussion Question 4

## Write a couple of paragraphs discussing the advantages and disadvantages for immigrants from India living in neighborhoods where most of their neighbors are people from their home country in terms of learning about America.

## Discussion Question 5

## Discuss the differences between American and Indian cultures as described in Chapter Four. Mark those differences that bothered Gogol and Sonia the most.

## Discussion Question 6

## Discuss the scenes in which the author shows Gogol's dissatisfaction with his cultural heritage. How does she show that dissatisfaction during his fourteenth birthday party? How does she show it through the family visit to India? How does she show it after the family return to America? Cite examples from Chapter 4 to support your answers.

## Discussion Question 7

## What steps does Gogol take to deliberately create a new lifestyle for himself which is different from that of his family and his childhood? Describe his actions and cite examples from Chapter 5 to support your answers.

## Make a list of the people Gogol makes friends with in college. Discuss how those people came into his life and what about those particular people appeal to him. How do they influence him and aid in his change or personal growth?

## Discussion Question 8

## Come up with a list of characteristics that Gogol wants in a woman and another list of characteristics his parents would like to see in a woman he might have a relationship with. Are there any characteristics on both lists? Why or why not?

## Explain how the relationship with Ruth ends and what effect this has on Gogol. Is the breakup related to Gogol's Indian heritage? What does this breakup signal for Gogol's future romantic relationships?

## Discussion Question 9

## How does the author show Gogol's physical separation from his family and his childhood home? Is this separation by choice or by necessity? What happens when he attends a party with a friend from the firm where he now works? What does he admire about Maxine and her family? Why? Describe the life Gogol lives with the Ratliffs during this stage of his life. Does he believe he has found happiness? Do you believe Gogol is now the person he has always wanted to be? Cite examples from Chapter 5 and 6 to support your answer.

## Discussion Question 10

## How does the author show the ever-growing gulf between Gogol and his family and heritage? How does the author compare and contrast Gogol's home with Maxine's? How does she use the characters of Maxine and Ashima to then further intensify those cultural differences?