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At school Julia tries to fit in with all the American kids getting an english name. At home she speaks Spanish and her parents call her by her real name, Hoo-lee-tah.. By the end of the essay Julia realizes that she can be both Dominican and American.

At school Julia was a different person than at home. In the text it says “I, her namesake, was known as Hoo-lee-tah at home. But at school I was Judy, Judith or Juliet” This means that Julia still liked being called Hoo-lee-tah at home, but at school she just wanted to fit in with everyone at school so she let them make up names for her.

Towards the middle of the story she just wanted to be American. “I was the popular kid in high school, and it showed in my name. My friends called me Jules or Hey Jude.” Julia just wants to fit in with everybody else by forgetting that she is Dominican and letting her American side take over.

At home Julia lets her Dominican side shine through by speaking spanish and not english with her family. “Back home my Tios and Tias and primas Mami and Papi, and mis hermanas had a party for me with sancocho and a store bought pudin inscribed with happy birthday Julia.” When you know how to speak english and you are speaking it at school it is very easy to forget your how to speak your language. Julia made sure she didn’t forget it even when she was trying to fit in.

In the end Julia is half American and half Dominican. She is american around her friends but dominican with her family. Julia realizes that she can be bicultural.