

Dear students,
attached you will find tasks for Sophie@Home.
See you soon and take care.
C. Becker-Rolfs

The Namesake

Two worlds collide

2 Read the beginning of Chapter 6 of "The Namesake" (to p. 109, l. 21). Describe Gogol's current situation.

3 Continue reading and compare Gogol's parents (Ashima and Ashoke Ganguli) to Maxine's (Lydia and Gerald Ratliff). Point out similarities and differences, as well as Gogol's feelings and attitudes towards them.

Gogol – Nikhil – Nick

4 What effect do Gogol's and Maxine's parents respectively have on Gogol's sense of belonging?

5 Examine the development of Gogol's identity and his self-image in the course of the chapter. Point out particularly relevant moments throughout the story and draw a graph in the chart below mirroring the development of Gogol's identity. Refer closely to the text as you mark the moments when and why he feels most (Bengali-)Indian or then American.

Indian identity



American identity

6 Speculate on Gogol and Maxine's future relationship. Find a summary of the novel online. Were you right?