Huda Essa (post webinar response): Hello everyone! Thank you all for joining our webinar and most of all, thank you for the work you do to support young people and adults alike! I am truly honored to have had you join me and hope for the opportunity to collaborate with you again!

I watched the webinar myself after it was posted on the website and only then became aware of tech issues that were occurring. I was not aware of that happening at the time and just want to thank you so much for your patience. Those lags in the video led to my words being jumbled together quickly and deletions of terms and statements. If anything is unclear that I can help with, please do reach out to me so that I can help with those clarifications. You can reach me directly through my website where you’ll find a contact form at the bottom of the page. Culturelinksllc.com

My responses can be found below in this same color font.

13:57:44 From Adriana Spicer to All panelists: hi, there!
13:59:04 From Richard Romero to All panelists: Is there a link for the presentation?
14:02:41 From Jan Gustafson Corea to All panelists: Hello everyone! Welcome to CABE 2020 Virtual Community!
14:03:03 From Jan Gustafson Corea to All panelists: You can find resources from Huda’s presentation at www.cabe2020.org
14:03:08 From Tina Tran to All panelists: Hello Olivia! It is so nice to see you.
14:03:44 From Jan Gustafson Corea to All panelists: If you have questions today, please add them to this chat box.
14:04:44 From Jan Gustafson Corea to All panelists: If you have questions today, please add them to this chat box.
14:06:44 From Clara Garcia to All panelists: Hi
14:08:53 From Jan Gustafson Corea: Hello everyone! Welcome to CABE 2020 Virtual Community! You can find resources from Huda’s presentation at www.cabe2020.org
14:09:02 From Jan Gustafson Corea: If you have questions today, please add them to this chat box.
14:09:44 From Clara Garcia to All panelists: No audio
14:09:59 From Olivia Yahya to All panelists: checking on connection
14:10:05 From Jorge Pere, to All panelists: Sorry 😞 I have lost connection.
14:10:13 From Veronnica Whiteley to All panelists: te coneco has been interrupted
14:10:14 From Nora Ruan to All panelists: There is a lot of lag on this webinar
14:10:15 From Diana Vides to All panelists: Are there technical difficulties..the presentation is frozen...
14:10:17 From Clara Garcia to All panelists: AWWW!! Just when it was getting started
14:10:19 From Wei Lai to All panelists: OK
14:10:27 From Veronnica Whiteley to All panelists: The connection
14:10:27 From Ana Hernandez to All panelists: thanks
Hello Jan! I ended up sharing this answer at the end of the webinar. Keep in mind that almost every discussion you have with students can also be had with adults... staff and parents, included. Parents can share their input about what they know or don't know about their family origins, histories, names, etc. This includes discussing their childrens' names and their own names. You can begin by asking their input about what they know about their names... meaning, why it was given, was the name choice influenced by any cultural norms such as being named after an older family member, etc. I suggest checking out the supplemental resources (there is an article and a supplemental guide) included in my website's Books and Resources page and apply any of those discussions to involving parents. You could even set up a document or other means of sharing of names that families could add to. ie. In a shared Google doc, share the TED Talk Video with them and explain the importance of building relationships to strengthen your community. Remind them that their input is invaluable and that everyone has so much to learn from one another. You could then ask them something along the lines of “Please list your name along with any information that you know about them. ie. What it means, what language it comes from, why you were given that name, the national origin of that name, correct pronunciation, how you feel about your name, etc...” Parents can share their name stories and if any of them would like to share a video explanation, that would be awesome, too. The answers could very likely offer some jumping off points to explore further topics. You could also do something where everyone states the country they are
from and one positive attribute of that culture or a positive contribution made by someone from that country… Again, check out the resources and use ideas to apply to parent communications. If you have any other questions, please reach out to me!

14:27:46 From Elena Janred to All panelists: What suggestions do you have for teachers to pronounce names that are very hard to say?

Hello Elena! In a one on one conversation with a student, I would explain that it is important to me that I pronounce their names correctly. I would have them say it to me “the way their parents or families say it” as I wrote down my own little pronunciation key that made sense to me. I would practice with them and encourage them to help me get it right because practice makes better.

Another tip is in reference to language sounds… consider the sound that you can’t pronounce and ask students who can access that sound to think about words in the English language that make that same sound or a very similar sound at the least. Ie. For names that have a rolled r, some people find it difficult to pronounce that sound. I am fortunate to have easy access to that sound because it is present in the other language I speak. So, I thought about it and realized that what we do with our tongue to make that sound is similar to what we do with our tongue when we use a common American English dialect to say words that have a double d or double t in them. We don’t usually pronounce the d’s or t’s in those words the way we pronounce them when they are at the beginning of a word. Ie. the double tt in sitting or bidder result in a similar action of our mouths and tongues as those of when we roll an r. Next, one can imagine those letters there in place of the rolled r in the name. If the name Clara includes a rolled r, imagine the double tt sound there… like Clawtta

I admit this is a question that is tough to answer without audio ;) All in all, the most important piece is to be willing to show humility, ask for help, and show your students and others that practicing is worth the effort. An added benefit is that once you have mastered that one sound, you will be able to more easily state all other names with that same sound or one similar to it. :)

14:33:05 From Julienne Cruz Medina to All panelists: Great point!

Thank you, Julienne!

14:33:55 From Laurie Nesrala-Miles to All panelists: In some second language classes, teachers assign, or have students choose “classroom name” from the target language. What are your thoughts about this?

Hello, Laurie! The answer can be found at the end of the webinar. If you have any more questions, please don’t hesitate to reach out to me!

14:40:15 From Clara Garcia to All panelists: How do we teach students to respond with love and respect when others say and/or act ignorantly towards them?

Hello, Clara! The answer can be found at the end of the webinar. If you have any more questions, please don’t hesitate to reach out to me!
From Vanessa Ruiz: Here is the link to leave a review on the book. Please copy and paste this into your browser:
https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/069269532X/ref=as_li_tl?ie=UTF8&tag=hudaessa-20&camp=1789&creative=9325&linkCode=as2&creativeASIN=069269532X&linkId=a0e6711ee26e615b79d249f20892b1aa
Thank you, Maria and Nadine, for your review! If anyone else is willing to leave a quick review of the book at the link above, please know that your review will lead to more young people being exposed to this story and that would be GREATLY APPRECIATED!

From Charles Perez: Thank you :)
Thank you, Charles!

From Sara Lebron: What is the best way to respond to who say it doesn’t matter how we pronounce their names?
Hello, Sara! I would say that the answer is similar to the one I gave at the webinar about teaching students to love and respect their names. If you have any more questions, please don’t hesitate to reach out to me!

From Patricia Ramos Mendez to All panelists: THANK YOU
Thank you, Patricia!

From Clara Garcia: CLARA in spanish please
Thank you, Clara. I thought it may be pronounced that way when I received your question but because I couldn’t see the chat box, I just repeated the way it was read to me. I am sorry. I gave it some attention in one of my responses above about pronunciations. ;)

From Rocio Martinez to All panelists: Thank you. I understand exactly.
Thank you, Rocio!

From Sara Lebron: What is the best way to respond to a students who says it doesn’t matter how we pronounce their name?
Please see response above.

From Charles Perez: I like to respond to my student saying, "It is important to me, please spell you name or repeat your name"
Thank you, Charles. Yes! Love it!

From Ling Kiki Wei: I love this idea by teaching or learning other's names to get to know each other. As in work, Are there any good tips to ask new people about how to pronounce their name ? without making them feeling annoyed? and a better smart way to memorize it?
Hello, Ling! Thank you! I would explain from the start why it’s important to you to do so. Ask them to say it slowly so that you can write down your own pronunciation key (see my response to another question above about learning pronunciations). For memorizing, maybe consider mnemonics? If the process of getting their name right takes more time
than you'd like, tell them to let you know if it ever gets annoying. If they tell you to give it up, at least you’ll know that you tried your best and you can still show gratitude for what you did gain from learning their name (meaning, cultural traditions, history, etc.) If you have any more questions, please don’t hesitate to reach out to me!

From Julia Soto to All panelists: Thank you. What a great learning opportunity to incorporate in your instruction.

Thank you, Julia! I am so pleased you found this helpful. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions.

From Jackeline Gaitan to All panelists: Thank you!

Thank you, Jackeline!

From Diane Kemp Lopez to All panelists: Beautiful book and excellent presentation! As a Spanish teacher (college level), I sometimes pronounced the student’s names as they would be said in Spanish. For some students, I was pronouncing their names as they might be called at home. For others, it was kind of playful for them to hear a different pronunciation or to know that Michael is Miguel. I called the students as they wanted to be called so as not to make anyone uncomfortable. What do you think?

Thank you, Diane! I love it! It is very cool to learn about how names could be the same but just in a different language. My first name is Guidance, middle name Moses, last name Jesus but no one would know that unless they knew the Arabic language. Michael meaning Miguel is another neat example among many that represent the idea that something may sound or look different but the ultimate meaning is the same. Lots of ideas that could come from that, too! :) I love that you call students what they want to be called. Something to keep in mind is that some students may not feel comfortable correcting mispronunciations of their names and have become so used to it being mispronounced that they just accept it. There are also those who have accepted an entirely different name that they have come to learn as being more “normal” than their own name. It is important that we create opportunities (see resources and ideas from webinar) to highlight the importance of our names and that they are all beautiful learning opportunities, etc. which may help plant the seeds for any students who prefer people call them something other than their actual name or those who accept mispronunciations. This may lead to some students sharing new answers where you can then expand the opportunities to highlight the beauty of their names and all that your class can benefit from learning their name. :)

From Clara Garcia: How do your parents pronounce your name?

Thank you, Clara! Yes!

From Hilda Gutierrez: Thank you!!

Thank you, Hilda!

From Clara Garcia: Thank you!!

Thank you, Clara!

From XOCHILT ALMENDAREZ: Thank you — this was very powerful!

Thank you, Xochilt!

From Nora Ruan to All panelists: Thank you!
Thank you, Nora!
14:47:56 From Shira Sandell : Thank you!

Thank you, Shira!
14:47:56 From Ana Hernandez to All panelists : thank you

Thank you, Ana!
14:48:00 From Arianna Valdivia to All panelists : Thank you!

Thank you, Arianna!
14:48:06 From Charles Perez : Much more is still needed. Thank you :)

Thank you, Charles! Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions at all! :)
14:48:15 From Tania Garcia-Pena to All panelists : I had a situation with one student. He was a refugee, he had to change his name

Thank you, Tania. I am not sure why your student had to do so but I have heard this story from many people, as well. Sometimes it is for protection and sometimes it is due to the pressure to fit in to the new place they live. Your student’s story could be for a different reason but he is not alone. So many people, including many people’s ancestors in America, were forced or at least felt forced to change their names. Talking about the various examples of groups of people who have also had to change their names for a variety of reasons helps to build connections, knowledge, and empathy. Also, learning from our names and identities will prevent that loss from occurring as often as it sadly still does today.

14:48:31 From Liz Austin to All panelists : Thank you for a wonderful presentation!

Thank you, Liz!
14:48:37 From Clara Garcia : GRACIAS!!!!

Muchas gracias, Clara!
14:48:39 From Jan Gustafson Corea : Thank you all from CABE! Check out our Facebook page tomorrow for a Facebook Live session at 3:00 on social emotional needs during distance learning.

14:48:52 From MARIA WHEELER to All panelists : Powerful!

Thank you, Maria!
14:49:03 From Jan Gustafson Corea : Facebook Live on 5/7 at 3:00 for Social Emotional support for students

14:49:20 From Mari Valencia to All panelists : Thank you Huda I love your talks!!

Thank you, Mari! That warms my heart! I sincerely appreciate your presence!
14:49:30 From Clara Garcia : YES, thank you!

Thank you, Clara! I appreciate your participation!
14:49:41 From ANA HASKINS to All panelists : great

Thank you, Ana!

Thank you all for joining us and for your commitment to this worthy work! I look forward to hearing from you through my website or through social media! My handle on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram is @culturelinksllc and Huda Essa on LinkedIn and YouTube. Let’s connect, friends!