**Portray the character of Gogol Ganguli? Analyze how Gogol’s name is tied to his identity in the novel The Namesake?**

Gogol Ganguli is the central character of the novel, “Namesake” by Jhumpa Lahiri. Throughout his life, right from his birth till maturity Gogol is seen struggling to come to terme with his name. It is his journey from childhood into young adulthood that the narrator tracks most closely. Gogol’s transformation is marked in at least three ways. First, his name. Gogol is Gogol, of course, because his father and mother needed a name for him before leaving the hospital. The name “Gogol” was an important one to Ashoke, who adored Nikolai Gogol’s work. Ashoke also has traumatic connection to the train-wreck during which he was reading Gogol. When Gogol asks his father, when he is college, whether the name Gogol reminds Ashoke of nearly dying, Ashoke counters that “Gogol” is for him a name of hope, of joy—of life. Gogol the child is the happy outcome of a terrible event in Ashoke’s younger days.

Gogol’s decision to become Nikhil occurs before he knows his father’s story in detail. But the change to Nikhil also represents maturation, an attempt to find a new self in college. This leads to the second of Gogol’s transformations: into a student of architecture. Ashima’s father was a painter, and so visual art runs in the family. Gogol is also inspired by the design of the Taj Mahal when the family visits India together, when he is in high school. At Yale, Nikhil is able to pursue his love of architecture most directly, and this leads him to graduate study in New York, and a job at a firm there.

(This is the introduction part. You have to narrate the entire situations Gogol face in his life as portrayed in the novel. His school life, affinity with the girls, problematic situation arises due to his name, marriage life, etc)