

## **My Name (Sample)**

My name is Hebrew for wealthy. It is the number seven. It's the color red. My name is made of short choppy syllables that sound really harsh when you say it fast.

People who don't know me very well call me Jessica. My close friends call me Jess. My sister calls me Jessie. I don't like it when anyone calls me Jessie because it makes me sound like a little kid, but I guess I can make an exception for my sister. When I was a kid, my dad sometimes called me J.T. My students call me Mrs. Pilgreen.

I wasn't named after anyone in my family. My mother picked the name because she thought it was pretty. My parents didn't give me a middle name. Neither of my parents has a middle name either. I was jealous when all of the Catholic kids in my class went through Confirmation and got a second middle name. I mean, two middle names? That's just greedy. My mother said that when I got older and got married, my maiden name would be my middle name. My parents had a name picked out in case they had a boy, too. Christopher Adam. Then I would have had a middle name. But then my initials would have spelled "cat" and I can just imagine people making fun of me by meowing.

I share my name with lots of people. In school, there was always another person in the room with the name Jessica. Once, I had a job where I worked with two other Jessicas. We had to decide who would be called Jessica, Jessie and Jess, so that the schedule wouldn't be so confusing.

My name doesn't have a song. Not really. When the song "Jesse's Girl" comes on, my friends will say that they're playing my song, but my name isn't Jesse and that song is about a boy named Jesse. I don't want his girl.

Sometimes, when I say my name on the phone, people think I'm saying "Jeff." Do I sound like a Jeff? No, my name is Jess. J-e-s-s. S as in stick.

To me, my name is boring. It's average. It's simple and common. I wish my name was something unusual and interesting, like Veronica. Yes. Something like Veronica will do.