

Worksheet 4
The Official Story

- 1) A close up (*primer plano*) of Alicia's roll book opens this scene. Why do you think the director uses this filmic device here? You may need to do some research to answer this question.
- 2) How does Alicia define history?
- 3) Is her teaching consistent with this definition? Why or why not?
- 4) Do some research on Mariano Moreno. Why do you think the director chose this historical figure to include in this scene?

Watch clips: "A Family Gathering" Parts 1 & 2

- 1) How do the church scene and the street scene contribute to the meaning of the family gathering?
- 2) What is the status of Roberto's father and brother in the neighborhood?
- 3) How does the conversation about the weather relate to their status?
- 4) Are Roberto's values similar to or different from those of his father and brother? Explain.
- 5) How is class alluded to in this scene?
- 6) Why do you think the Spanish Civil War is mentioned in this scene?
- 7) Taking into account what you have read about the Spanish Civil War, how might we retroactively read the presence of the German Shepherd in this scene?
- 8) What language is used to reduce family tension? What language is used to escalate?