

### **Persepolis**

The Islamic Revolution was the first religious revolution in human history and the first war televised. Persepolis shed light on the tumultuous history behind Middle Eastern politics and it gave a personal dimension to stereotypical Western views of Middle Eastern culture and religion.

**Assignment: Write a 5-paragraph essay about the most important themes in the movie. Use textual evidence to support your ideas (See page 2 if you need help introducing quotes and page 3 for quotes). Use the answers of your webquest and vocabulary to enrich your ideas.**

#### Possible Outline

1. Introduction
  - a. Hook
    - i. e.g. Cultural anecdote, personal or family war memoir, a brief explanation of the history of the Iranian Revolution, etc.
    - ii. If it is possible, make a connections of your hook with the movie.
  - b. Movie Introduction (What is Persepolis about?)
    - i. Answer the question above.
  - c. Thesis statement
    - i. Mention the main topics of the three body paragraphs
2. First paragraph (How would you describe Marjane's interaction with Western culture?)
  - a. Topic sentence
  - b. Context
  - c. Quote
  - d. Explanation
3. Second paragraph (Whom do you think is described as the bigger enemy in the novel -- the Shah or the Islamic regime that takes control after the Shah?)
  - i. Topic sentence
  - ii. Context
  - iii. Quote
  - iv. Explanation
4. Third paragraph (Why does Satrapi think that the Islamic regime was able to gain control of Iran after the 1979 Revolution?)
  - i. Topic sentence
  - ii. Context
  - iii. Quote
  - iv. Explanation
5. Conclusion
  - a. Rewrite your thesis statement
    - i. Start this paragraph with the words "in conclusion"
  - b. Answer the following questions
    - i. What similarities and differences can you identify between the politics of the Middle East and those in our country?
    - ii. In what ways is the family in the book similar to yours? How is it different?
    - iii. How is the role of religion in this book similar to that in your own community? How is it different?

## Writing Resource: Incorporating Quotes in Your Writing

**Question:**

When a teacher says to include quotes in your writing, what does a quote mean?

**Answer:**

A quote is anything copied word-for-word from a book, article, poem, film, speech, etc. You must put copied words in quotation marks. English teachers call that a quote.

**Related info:**

Your quotes must also be followed an in-text citation. The in-text citation tells the reader where you found your quote.

1. **Topic sentence:** Begin with a sentence that presents the main, general point of your paragraph.
2. **Give context of the quote:** Give your reader a bit of context. Offer a little information about the source (play, story, film). Inform the reader what has just happened in this part of the story/article/ film. Who is speaking?
3. **Introduce and cite the quote:** Don't just drop the quote. Instead, smoothly introduce quotes by using one of these sentence starters. (X refers to the character or writer you are discussing. Note how the in-text citation follows the quote.) Here are just some of the ways you can introduce a quote/ citation.

X states, " \_\_\_\_\_ " ( \_\_\_\_\_ ).  
According to X, " \_\_\_\_\_ " ( \_\_\_\_\_ ).  
X herself writes, " \_\_\_\_\_ " ( \_\_\_\_\_ ).  
In his/her story, X maintains that " \_\_\_\_\_ " ( \_\_\_\_\_ ).  
In X's view, " \_\_\_\_\_ " ( \_\_\_\_\_ ).

4. **Explain /paraphrase the quote:** After writing the quote and citation, put the quote in your own words. Here are some of the ways you can begin to paraphrase a quote.

Basically, X is saying \_\_\_\_\_.  
In other words, X believes \_\_\_\_\_.  
In making this comment, X argues that \_\_\_\_\_.  
X is insisting that \_\_\_\_\_.  
X's point is that \_\_\_\_\_.  
The essence of X's argument is that \_\_\_\_\_.

5. **Analyze the quote:** After explaining the quote, analyze the quote. How is this quote significant? How does it support the point you're a trying to make in this paragraph? What does this evidence matter?

## **Quotes: Persepolis**

*For a revolution to succeed, the entire population must support it (Satrapi 17).*

*The reason for my shame and for the Revolution is the same: the difference between social classes (Satrapi 33).*

*...it is not for you and me to do justice. I'd even say we have to learn to forgive (Satrapi 46).*

*Russians aren't like us...it's hearts they don't have. They don't know how to love (Satrapi 59).*

*Anyway, as long as there is oil in the Middle East we will never have peace (Satrapi 43).*

*I didn't know what justice was. Now that the Revolution was finally over once and for all, I abandoned the dialectic materialism of my comic strips. The only place I felt safe was in the arms of my friend (Satrapi 53).*






*They insulted me. They said that women like me should be pushed up against a wall and fucked. And then thrown in the garbage. ...And that if I didn't want that to happen, I should wear the veil...(Satrapi 74).*

*"The Arabs never liked the Persians. Everyone knows that. They attacked us 1400 years ago. They forced their religion on us." "Ok, enough of that. The real Islamic invasion has come from our own government" (Satrapi 81).*

*I think that the reason we were so rebellious was that our generation had known secular schools (Satrapi 98).*

*Dictator! You are the Guardian of the Revolution of this House! (Satrapi 113).*

### Key Characters

Name	Details	I can use this character in my essay to explain...
<p data-bbox="277 359 516 401">Marjane Satrapi</p>  A black and white illustration of a young girl with dark hair, looking slightly to the side with a neutral expression.		
<p data-bbox="310 625 483 667">Taji Satrapi</p>  A black and white illustration of a man with glasses, wearing a collared shirt, with his right arm raised in a fist.		
<p data-bbox="318 905 483 947">Ebi Satrapi</p>  A black and white illustration of a man with a mustache, wearing a suit and tie, looking downwards.		
<p data-bbox="269 1213 524 1255">Grandma Satrapi</p>  A black and white illustration of an elderly woman with short hair, wearing a necklace, shown in profile looking to the right.		
<p data-bbox="293 1493 505 1535">Uncle Anoosh</p>  A black and white illustration of a man in a suit and tie sitting at a table, looking towards a young girl who is also seated at the table.		