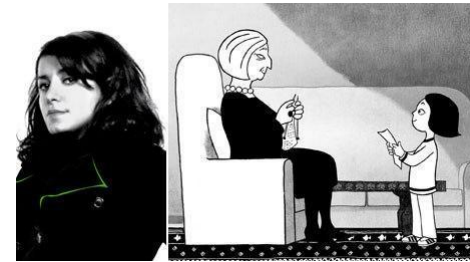


READING & NOTETAKING GUIDE

Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood



1

Context & Part 1

Assessment Focus	1. Individual Oral: oral presentation comparing a non-literary and a literary text that are tied by a shared global issue. 2. HL Essay: Students submit a 1200-1500-word essay based on one literary work studied in the course.
Movements and Genre	Genre: Graphic Novel/Memoir
Our Relationships with Comics <i>Answer in your notebooks (5 points)</i>	1. What does it mean that comics are not “time-bound” for the reader? 2. Why have comics been stigmatized over the years? 3. What is the relationship between pictures and words in modern comics and graphic novels? 4. To what extent can these visual texts enhance your intelligence? 5. What is my main takeaway about graphic novels?
Historical Context <i>Take notes on context in class.</i> <i>Take notes as you listen to your classmates in your notebooks. (10 points)</i>	<u>Revolutionary Iran and the new Islamic Republic (1978-1979)</u> <u>Religious Context: Shia Islam in Iran</u> <u>Women’s Rights and Gender Roles in Iran</u> <u>Iranian Education System and Youth Culture</u> <u>Iran-Iraq War (1980-1988)</u> <u>Political Prisoners and Repression</u> <u>Western Influence and Cultural Tensions</u>
Authorial Context (5 points)	<i>Take notes from lecture on Satrapi’s background.</i>

READING & NOTETAKING GUIDE

Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood

2

First Five Chapters 5 points

PERSEPOLIS

Answer the questions in complete sentences below for each chapter in your notebook.

The Veil

How does the veil symbolize societal change, and how does it impact Marji and her friends? Provide textual evidence

The Bicycle

How is Marji's relationship with books and her perception of reality portrayed in this chapter? What visual cues support this?

The Water Cell

How does the narrative structure, specifically the use of flashbacks, contribute to understanding Marji's family history?

Persepolis

Persepolis is told through the eyes of a child. How does seeing events through Marjane's perspective change the way the Western reader understands Iran's revolution compared to a history textbook?

The Letter

Examine Marji's actions and consequences in this chapter. What effect do they have on the reader, and how do visual elements support this understanding?

READING & NOTETAKING GUIDE

Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood

3

Chapters 1-5 Image Analysis: A graphic novel uses a blending of images and text not just to tell a story, but to create and convey meaning. This meaning might be a theme grounded in a central idea, or a message or lesson informed by social commentary or criticism. Sometimes blending text and image also aims to impact the reader emotionally or intellectually. Choose an image from chapters 1-5 of *Persepolis* that you find especially powerful and/or meaningful. Be specific about the meaning and/or impact of the image you choose. Complete the following in your notebooks. (10 points)

CHOSEN PANEL FOR ANALYSIS (1 per chapter) <i>Provide the page number and a brief description of the selected image.</i>	TEXTUAL REFERENCE <i>How is the image crafted and what does it communicate ALONE?</i> <i>What does the accompanying text communicate ALONE?</i>	AUTHORIAL CHOICES <i>How do the text and image work <u>together</u> to communicate a bigger message to the target audience?</i>	HOW AUTHORIAL CHOICE SHAPES MEANING <i>What authorial PURPOSE is achieved in this image for you, the target Western reader?</i>
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READING & NOTETAKING GUIDE

Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood

4

Part II

After completing the reading for the chapters in the table below, you will choose one of the prompts and write for 30 minutes in class in your notebook. You should have AT LEAST a full page of writing. (10 points)

Persepolis - Homework Reading #2 - Choice Board		
The Party: Imagine you are attending the party described in the chapter. Write a letter to a friend who was not there, describing the atmosphere, the people, and your personal feelings about what was happening.	The Heroes: From the perspective of a minor character in "The Heroes," write a journal entry reflecting on the events and your understanding of heroism. Include visual and textual elements from the chapter that stood out to you.	Moscow: You are a reporter interviewing Marji's uncle who went to Moscow. Create a script for the interview, focusing on his experiences, emotions, and insights into the political climate.
The Sheep: Write a symbolic poem or short prose piece using the imagery of the sheep. Relate this imagery to the themes and events in the chapter, reflecting on the broader societal context.	The Trip: Imagine you're Marji, experiencing the trip described in this chapter. Write a postcard to a friend back home, summarizing your experiences, feelings, and observations. Include key visual or textual elements that shaped your understanding.	Across Chapters: Choose a recurring symbol or theme from these chapters (e.g., courage, disillusionment, family). Write a short reflective essay or narrative exploring how this element weaves through the chapters, using specific examples to support your insights.

READING & NOTETAKING GUIDE

Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood

5

Part III

Choose one of the following chapters from this week's reading: "The F-14s", "The Jewels", "The Key", or "The Wine". Answer the questions for your chosen chapter in your notebook. Be sure to label your notebook page with the title of the chapter you chose. (10 points)

1. **Characterization:** How has Marjane's characterization evolved from the earlier chapters to these specific chapters? What events or dialogue highlights this evolution? Provide evidence from both the text and images.
2. **Narrative Structure & Conflict:** What connections can you make between these conflicts and previous chapters? How does Satrapi's narrative structure weave these conflicts together?
3. **Narrative Voice & Tone:** Analyze the narrative voice in these chapters. How does it reflect Marjane's growing awareness or changing perspective? Compare the tone and voice with earlier chapters.
4. **Visual Storytelling:** Discuss how Satrapi uses visual elements to emphasize themes or characterization in these chapters. Compare/contrast this with the visual techniques used in previous chapters.
5. **Reflect:** Why did you choose this chapter for your focus? Explain.

READING & NOTETAKING GUIDE

Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood

6

Symbols Reflection: Take notes in your notebook on your observations/reflections/insights on key symbols we have encountered thus far in your reading. (10 points)

Symbol from Reading	What does it symbolize? My Reflection & Insights
Veil	
Bicycle	
Key	
Swan	
Cadillac	
Sheep	
Books	
Mirror	
Letter	
One more you have chosen: <i>(type it in here)</i>	

READING & NOTETAKING GUIDE

Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood

7

Part IV: Seminar Preparations

Prepare answers to the following questions in your notebook for a seminar once we have finished the book. (20 pts)

VISUAL STORYTELLING & IDENTITY How does Satrapi's use of visuals, particularly in her depictions of characters and settings, reflect the complexities of identity within Iranian culture? Discuss specific examples of visual choices that reveal both personal and collective identities.	PERSONAL & SOCIETAL REBELLION Themes relating to rebellion are prevalent throughout <i>Persepolis</i> . How do Satrapi's visual representations and textual narratives interact to convey different facets of rebellion, both personal (Marji's) and societal (Iranian Revolution)? How does this artistic combination enhance the reader's understanding?	DUALITY OF CULTURE <i>Persepolis</i> often depicts the tension between Western and Iranian cultures. How do Satrapi's choices in language and images serve to illustrate this cultural duality? Discuss specific instances where this tension is visually and textually highlighted and what meaning it conveys.	VOICE & PERSPECTIVE Analyze how Satrapi's narrative voice and visual style provide a unique political, social, and personal perspective. How do her authorial choices influence our perception and empathy towards the characters and events in the memoir?
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Be prepared to ENGAGE in a 30-minute seminar. LISTEN to your peers, build on their ideas, and refer to the text. ADD notes to your Learner Portfolio Lit Tracker as needed. SHARE the time and try to learn from your peers while also instructing them. ASK your teacher questions if there are points that need clarification.

Notebook Assessment: 85 points

READING & NOTETAKING GUIDE

Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood

8

Part V: GROUP GLOBAL ISSUE PLANNER FOR PRESENTATION

IO Preparation Outline - TO BE SUBMITTED *SEPARATELY*