1. How does the novel reflect the saying, "The more things change, the more they stay the same?" Discuss at least two examples.

2. Read the introduction (if you have not already done so). How does Persepolis challenge the myth of Iran as only a country of "fundamentalism, fanaticism, and terrorism"?

1. True or False: Marjane Satrapi now lives in France.

2. True or False: According to Satrapi, Iranian women today are more covered up and show even less hair than they did when the chador (the veil) was first introduced.

3. True or False: If given the chance, Satrapi would hit the director of her school even harder than she originally did when she was a girl.

4. Name two other classes that Satrapi took outside of her normal schooling when she was a girl.

5. True or False: Satrapi believes that culture belongs to everyone: for example, that the American author Edgar Allan Poe belongs as much to her as he does to U.S. citizens.

6. True or False: Teenagers could not be executed in Iran when Satrapi lived there as a girl.

7. What was one reason life was hard for Satrapi living in Vienna, Austria?

8. True or False: Satrapi partied less in Iran, where it was forbidden, than when she lived elsewhere.

9. True or False: Satrapi’s parents still live in Iran.

10. True or False: Iran has less freedom of the press today than it did when Satrapi lived there as a girl.

11. True or False: Satrapi is still an Iranian citizen.

12. True of False: When Satrapi visited the United States, a copy of her book *Persepolis* and a letter from her editor impressed the airport-security guards and made it easier for her to enter the country.
Persepolis: Things to Know

Memoir: an account of a personal experience, i.e. "based on a memory."

Persepolis: the Greek name for Parsa, one of the capitals of ancient Persia (Persepolis=Persian City)

Shah: formerly used title for the hereditary monarch of Iran (similar to "king")

Martyr: somebody who suffers persecution and death for refusing to give up a belief, often religious or political

Secular: non-religious

Communism: a political and economic belief system that aims to replace private property and a profit-based economy with public ownership and communal control of at least the major means of production (e.g. mines, mills, and factories) and the natural resources of a society.

Karl Marx: a revolutionary, sociologist, historian, and economist; he published (with Friedrich Engels) The Communist Manifesto (1848), the most celebrated pamphlet in the history of the social movement.

Leon Trotsky: a leader in Russia’s October Revolution in 1917; following the rise of power of Stalin in the Soviet Union, Trotsky was exiled and then later assassinated by a Stalinist agent.

Fidel Castro: a political leader of Cuba who transformed his country into the first communist state in the Western hemisphere.

Che Guevara: a communist revolutionary in the Cuban Revolution and later a guerilla in South America. He was executed by the Bolivian army and is regarded by many as a martyrred hero.