

Persepolis WebQuest Introduction and Task Sheet

Introduction

Soon we will begin reading the graphic novel *Persepolis*, the story of a teenage girl in Iran during the Islamic revolution in the mid 1970s. In order to completely appreciate her story, we need to learn more about Iran and its society, culture, and institutions during that time period, and we will be doing that with the help of a webquest. This may sound like a lot of research, but you will be responsible for only a small part of the entire research project.

The Task

As consultants for the film *Persepolis* (based on the book you are about to read), your group has been asked to ensure that the film accurately portrays political events, religion, society, and culture in Iran. After researching your chosen area, you will present your findings to the filmmakers (class members) and suggest specific events or items that should be included in the film. After we view the film in class, you will have a chance to modify your recommendations and/or be more specific about where, when, and how the film might include your information.

Task Objectives

- Students will research information about Iran during the Islamic revolution.
- Students will design PowerPoint® slides.
- Students will present their findings and recommendations to the rest of the class.

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Part I The WebQuest Process: Internet Research

In groups, you will be responsible for researching one of the following areas:

- The Shah of Iran—his role in government and reasons for his overthrow
- Islam—major beliefs of the religion and why some religious groups felt the revolution was necessary
- Society in Iran—institutions such as schools, religion, families, government
 - One group on pre-revolution norms
 - One group on post-revolution norms
- Culture in Iran—movies, music, art, fashion
 - One group on pre-revolution culture
 - One group on post-revolution culture

Part II The WebQuest Task: PowerPoint® Presentation

Each group will put together a number of slides (three per person in your group, unless otherwise negotiated) for a formal presentation in class. These slides should be the basis for the information you relay to the rest of the class, but they should not just be slides with written material on them. Use color, pictures, clip art, and text to create an attractive and meaningful presentation. Don't read your slides to us; rather, use notes to speak extemporaneously, or pre-record your narration. Time limit for the presentation is two minutes per person in your group unless otherwise negotiated, so plan your time wisely together and rehearse your timings and presentation together. Your work will be assessed by the Presentation Rubric below. You will be assigned a group grade for your participation in the project in addition to being assigned an individual grade for your reflections on the group work.

Part III The WebQuest Task: Film Reflections

After we have read the book and viewed the film of *Persepolis*, you will have a chance to reflect on your recommendations and to refer to specific parts of the movie where your information could be easily incorporated.