Honors LA 10

October 31st, 2013

**Should I stay or should I go?**

**A *Persepolis* writing enterprise**

**Introduction**: Before we say farewell to Marjane, Ebi, Taji, and all the other characters you so memorably recorded on your character webs, you will complete a final writing assignment: a piece of creative writing, in the form of a letter or a speech. Considering what you have learned about Iran (via the group presentations), what it was like to be living in the country during the time of the revolution (as told to us by Marjane Satrapi), and how many different influences and relationships can affect one person’s life (as you explored on your character webs), you must make a choice: would you stay, or would you go?

* **Option A: If you decide to stay in Iran:** your writing enterprise will take the form of a speech, in which you explain your reasons for staying and urge your audience to join you in fighting for the future of your country. You may address this speech to fellow revolutionaries, to the Shah, to the Guardians of the Revolution, or to any other appropriate audience.
* **Option B: If you decide to leave Iran:** your writing enterprise will take the form of a letter that you write to your friends and family, explaining why, despite your pride in and love for your country, you have decided that it is best to leave, likely forever.

**Requirements:**

* 2 pages minimum/2.5 maximum not including reference page, double-spaced, 12 pt font.
* MLA format - Google “Purdue writing lab MLA” for guidelines
* You must include in-text citations and a reference page to show that you are drawing inspiration from the book and our research at the beginning of the unit: at least **two** citations from PowerPoint presentations, and at least **two** citations from *Persepolis*.
* **Option A**: your final product must be in the style of a speech, including opening with a salutation and closing remarks. The body may be in several paragraphs. It should be rousing, impassioned, and convincing!
* **Option B**: your final product must be in the style of a letter, including a salutation and farewell. The body may be in several paragraphs. Your letter should be emotional, conflicted (or perhaps not – how sure are you about leaving?), and passionate.

**Timeline:**

* Thursday 10/31: Introduction, draft time
* Friday 11/1: Work time, library computer lab.
* Monday 11/4: First draft due. Peer editing, library laptops and desktops.
* Tuesday 11/5: Final product due at the beginning of class.

**Resources and inspirations:**

* *Persepolis*
* Notes on other groups’ Iran presentations
* The websites you used to prepare your own presentation
* The PowerPoints from the Iran presentations (available on the class website)
* Discussion board posts
* Your journal entries and annotations
* Your character web
* Our class discussions

(Over)

**MLA citation information –**

**this is also available on the Purdue OWL website (easily Google-able)**

**Basic In-Text Citation Rules**

* In MLA style, referring to the works of others in your text is done by using what is known as parenthetical citation. This method involves placing relevant source information in parentheses after a quote, paraphrase, or in the case of this writing enterprise, a piece of information that is inspiring your own writing.

**General Guidelines**

* The source information required in a parenthetical citation depends (1.) upon the source medium (e.g. Print, Web, DVD, oral) and (2.) upon the source’s entry on the Works Cited (reference) page.
* Any source information that you provide in-text must correspond to the source information on the Works Cited page.

**In-Text Citations: Author-Page Style**

**http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/02/**

* MLA format follows the author-page method of in-text citation. This means that the author's last name and the page number(s) from which the quotation or paraphrase is taken must appear in the text, and a complete reference should appear on your Works Cited page. The author's name may appear either in the sentence itself or in parentheses following the quotation or paraphrase, but the page number(s) should always appear in the parentheses, not in the text of your sentence. For example:  
   Romantic poetry is characterized by the "spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings" (Wordsworth 263).
* Citations in the example above tell readers that the information in the sentence can be located on page 263 of a work by an author named Wordsworth. If readers want more information about this source, they can turn to the Works Cited page, where, under the name of Wordsworth, they would find the following information:

Wordsworth, William. Lyrical Ballads. London: Oxford U.P., 1967. Print.

**Speeches, Lectures, or Other Oral Presentations (including Conference Presentations)**

https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/09/

* Provide the speaker’s name. Then, give the title of the speech (if any) in quotation marks. Follow with the name of the meeting and organization, the location of the occasion, and the date. Use the descriptor that appropriately expresses the type of presentation (e.g., Address, Lecture, Reading, Keynote Speech, Guest Lecture, Conference Presentation). Remember to use the abbreviation n.p. if the publisher is not known; use n.d. if the date is not known. Ex:

Stein, Bob. "Computers and Writing Conference Presentation." Purdue University. Union Club Hotel,West Lafayette, IN. 23 May 2003. Keynote Address.

**Citing presenters with multiple names:**

* Some would argue "tighter gun control in the United States erodes Second Amendment rights" (Smith, Yang, and Moore).