*Persepolis Discussion Questions: The Shabbat, The Dowry: p. 135 - end*

1. On page 135, Marji’s mom says “We Iranians are Olympic champions when it comes to gossip.”
   1. What are they worried about?
   2. What **literary device** is this?
2. At the bottom of page 135, Marji’s mom says “even when you see something with your own eyes, you need confirmation from the BBC.”
   1. **Infer:** why would Marji’s dad rely so heavily on the BBC?
3. What happens to cause Tehran to become deserted?
   1. Look at the top frame on page 137: in context, what does “fatalism” mean?
   2. Why does Marji’s family stay?
4. Look at the bottom two frames on page 137: why do you think Satrapi includes these? What is she trying to show about Marji? About IRAN? Why else are they included?
5. Revisit pages 138-139: How does Satrapi build **suspense**?
6. Look at the final frame of the chapter: how does Satrapi communicate her message?
7. Marji says, “After the death of Neda Baba-Levy, my life took a new turn.”
   1. **Characterize** Marji at this point. Provide details from the text to support.
   2. Why do you think she changes this way?
8. Look at the second frame on page 145: How does Marji’s father react to the call? Her mother? How can you tell? What do you think explains the difference?
9. Look at the \* on page 146. Why do you think Satrapi includes this information? What is she trying to show?
10. **Infer:** What makes Marji question whether her parents are coming too? Do you think she’s right?
11. What advice does Marji’s grandmother give her? What **theme** of the novel might this reveal? (Write a theme statement.)
12. Look at the final image of *Persepolis*. Why do you think Satrapi chooses to end the novel this way?