Persepolis Seminar Questions

Marji’s mother tells her to have mercy on the boy whose father killed over 1 million communists. How does the boy respond? Did Marji’s mom give her good advice? Why or Why not?

Is Uncle Anoosh a hero or a fool? Why? Are martyrs heroes or fools?

Why do you think Anoosh’s father remain loyal to the Shah? Is this a rational reason? Why or why not?

Why do you think communism appealed to people like Uncle Anoosh given the time of the Shah? What are the strenghths/ weaknesses of communism?

Why do you think a theocracy thrives in Iran? What does this offer the people? What does it fail to offer the people? Should religion be separated from government? Can religion be separated from government? Use the story to support your answer.

Is democracy the best form of government for all people? For the people of Iran?

What would democracy offer a country like Libya? What would be the shortcomings of democracy in Libya?

How are the people of Iran like sheep? Why do they behave this way? Do Americans act like sheep as well? Why/ Why not?

Will the Middle East always have conflict “as long as they have oil?”

What role (if any) should the US play in the Middle East? Has this role changed given the recent revolutions?