

Persepolis Vocabulary

| Word | Definition | Context |
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| Asylum | The protection granted by a nation to someone who has left their native country as a political refugee. | Pg. 123 – “I made him a fake passport and he sought political asylum in Sweden.” |
| Belligerent | Hostile or aggressive; a nation or person engaged in war or conflict | Pg. 115 – “So we plunged deeper into war. The walls were suddenly covered with belligerent slogans.” |
| Cadaver | A corpse or dead body | Pg. 31 – “Then there was another cadaver, an old man carried out on a stretcher.” |
| Carnage | The killing of a large number of people | Pg. 101 – “It’s nuts! They hypnotize them and just toss them into battle. Absolute carnage.” |
| Console | To comfort someone in a time of grief or disappointment | Pg. 86 – “Rest in peace, Dad.” “At recess, I tried to console her: Your father acted like a genuine hero...” |
| Decadence | Moral or cultural decline through excessive indulgence in pleasure or luxury | Pg. 4 – “All bilingual schools must be closed down. They are symbols of capitalism, of decadence.” |
| Degenerate | An immoral or corrupt person; the decline of mind, body or spirit | Pg. 18 – “My parents demonstrated every day. Things started to degenerate. The army shot at them.” |
| Dialectic | The art of investigating or discussing the truth of opinions | Pg. 53 – “Now that the revolution was finally over once and for all, I abandoned the dialectic materialism of my comic strips.” |
| Euphoria | A feeling or state of intense excitement or happiness | Pg. 138 – “We were in the midst of shopping euphoria, when suddenly...” |

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| Expelled | Deprive someone of membership of or involvement in school or other organization | Pg. 143 – “What happened?” “Marji hit the principal.” “She’s finished!” “Satrapi, you’re expelled!” |
| Fanatics | A person filled with excessive and single-minded zeal, especially for an extreme religious or political cause | Pg. 15 – “The Shah said that a group of religious fanatics perpetrated the massacre.” |
| Frivolities | Lack of seriousness; lightheartedness | Pg. 28 – “All the country’s money went into ridiculous celebrations...and other frivolities.” |
| Imperialists | Someone who supports or enacts policy of extending a country’s power and influence through diplomacy or military force | Pg. 73 – “Better to have no students at all than to educate future imperialists.” |
| Obligatory | Required by legal, moral or other rule; compulsory | Pg. 3 – “It became obligatory to wear the veil at school.” |
| Proletariat | Working-class people, especially those who do manual labor, regarded collectively in a capitalist society | Pg. 62 – “The religious leaders don’t know how to govern...The proletariat shall rule!” |
| Rebellious | Showing a desire to resist authority, control or convention | Pg. 98 – “I think the reason we were so rebellious was that our generation had known secular schools.” |
| Regime | A government, especially an authoritarian one | Pg. 75 – “You showed your opposition to the regime by letting a few strands of hair show.” |
| Sentiment | A view or attitude toward a situation or event; an opinion, feeling or emotion | Pg. 43 – “Politics and sentiment don’t mix.” |
| Shador (also known as Chador, Chadah, etc.) | An outer garment or cloak worn by Iranian women and female teenagers in public spaces | After the revolution, women in Iran were required to wear a shador. |

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| Shah | A title given to emperors or kings in Iran | Protestors would gather in the streets and shout "Down with the Shah!" |
| Shunned | Persistently avoided, ignored or rejected | Pg. 58 – "You know what it is like to be an unmarried mother in this country. You will be shunned. Life will be hell." |
| Subversive | Intending to overthrow, destroy or undermine an established or existing system of government or beliefs | Pg. 47 – Siamak Jari was arrested for writing subversive articles in the Keyhan. |
| Systematically | Classification; arranged in an ordered system; using a method to organize | Pg. 117 – "Those who opposed the regime were systematically arrested and executed together." |
| Veritable | Truth; a true statement or sory | Pg. 122 – "The Germans sell chemical weapons to Iran and Iraq. The wounded are then sent to Germany to be treated. Veritable human guinea pigs." |
| Vintner | A person who makes and/or sells wine | Pg. 106 – "My uncle was the vintner. He had built a genuine wine making lab in his basement." |