

ARGO EXTRA CREDIT ASSIGNMENT

Aligned with the SpringBoard text, students will be reading the graphic novel *Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi. The novel portrays the life of the author in post-Islamic revolution Iran. While *Persepolis* focuses on the Iranian view of the events leading up to and following the 1979 overthrow of the shah and the U.S. Embassy, the 2012 Best Picture *Argo* views the events from the perspective of Americans working to help six U.S. citizens in hiding at the home of the Canadian Ambassador to Iran. For extra credit, students may view the film on their own time outside of school, and complete a writing assignment on the following topic. *Argo* is rated R, mainly for language and violence, and parent discretion is urged. Parents can read more about the film at Common Sense Media <https://www.commonsensemedia.org/movie-reviews/argo>. The film can be rented from outlets like Vudu and Amazon for as low as 3.99 or purchased for up to 12.99.

Choose one of the following topics:

1. Read Joshua Berman's WIRED article dated 2007 and entitled "How the CIA Used a Fake Sci-Fi Flick to Rescue Americans from Tehran." Access here: https://www.wired.com/2007/04/feat_cia/. Write a written response in which you note how the information presented in Berman's piece is presented in *Argo*. Be specific; quote from the details Berman presents and cite scenes in the film that create an image of these details. Conclude with a judgment on the accuracy of the adaptation from magazine to film. Minimum 2 paragraphs.
2. The film *Argo* portrays the events of the 1979 Iranian Revolution from an American perspective. Compare and contrast the events of the film with the portrayal of the events of the revolution in the novel *Persepolis*. How does the Iranian view differ from the American view? How does the shift in point of view impact your opinion of the events? Minimum 2 paragraphs.