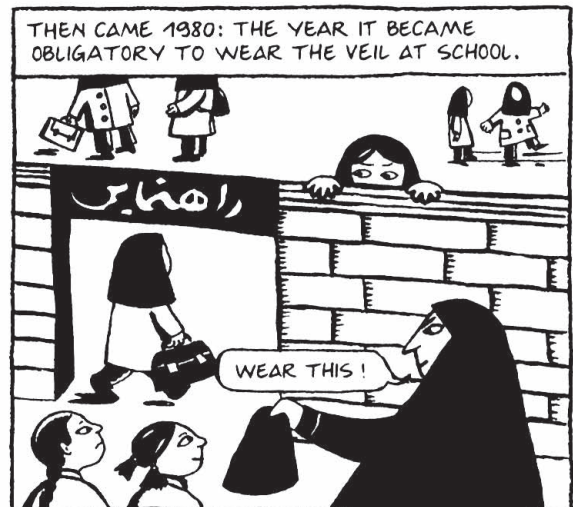
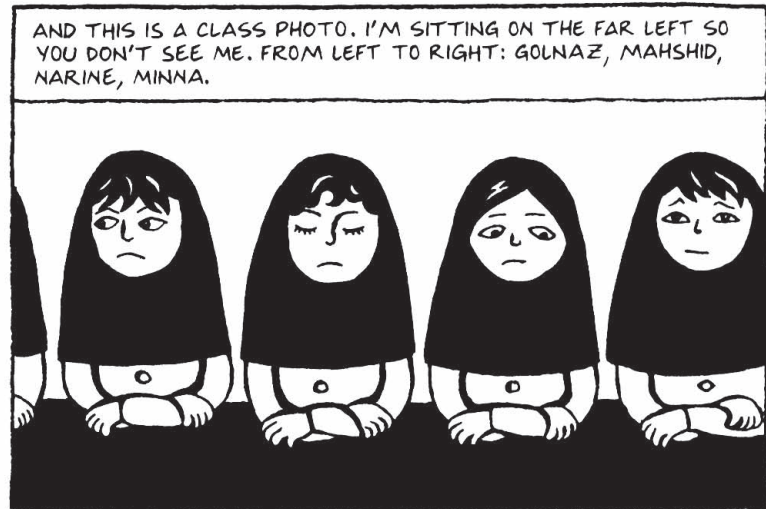


For many people, a **graphic novel** is a new form. Others may be accustomed to reading stories that combine pictures and words, but people in both groups can benefit from learning about this form. A person who wants to create something—a videogame, a car, a poem—is likely to examine what others have done. They do this, not to copy, but to understand the limits and extend the possibilities of the form they have chosen to use. **Interacting with the text** by taking note of the form can expand your understanding of both the form and the content.

As you read the first part of “The Veil,” from the memoir *Persepolis*, write questions and make observations about the story and the graphic novel structure on and around the excerpt.

from **The Veil** in *Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi



This panel is bigger than the others.





✿ Discuss your observations and questions with a partner. Then answer these questions.

- Look at the rounded word balloons and the rectangular blocks of words. Who is speaking in the rectangles? What impact do these sentences have on the reader?

- What does the background (black or white) for each panel suggest to you about the author's opinion of the events?

How do your observations expand your understanding of the form and content?