

WEEK 1

I grew up in Southern California in a family in which both my maternal and paternal relatives are of Iranian origin. As such, Farsi was my first language growing up until I learned English in preschool. In addition to teaching me Farsi, my family also introduced me to various Iranian traditions and holidays such as “charshanbe soori” and Nowruz.

It wasn't until I grew older that I really started to take an interest in Iranian culture myself. In addition to my appreciation for “chelo kabob” and my father's insistence that I grow up “Esteghlali”, I started to take an interest in Persian music. Two artists that I am particularly fond of are Ali Azimi and Mohsen Namjoo. The fact that I could not completely understand all of the lyrics to their songs is what motivated me to become literate in Farsi. For a period of time, I tried to teach myself the Persian alphabet with Youtube videos before I came to the conclusion that I needed a more structured course. For these reasons, I decided to enroll in Persian 1A this semester. Although I do not expect to be able to read and write Farsi as fluently as I speak it by the end of this course, I hope this class will serve as the foundation for me to improve my Farsi literacy over the next few years.

WEEK 2

This week in class we focused on a lot of greetings and small-talk dialogues regarding topics such as pets, weather, and family. In fact, the vocabulary we learned about the weather was particularly timely due to the fires and abnormal weather it is causing across California. We were introduced to the term “aakharaa zamaani” to describe the apocalyptic weather we were experiencing. We also learned about terms such as “dood”, “tareek”, and “seeah” for less dramatic descriptions of weather.

For the upcoming week, I am hoping to learn some more verbs and the corresponding conjugations so that I can start formulating complete sentences in Farsi. We did so for the verb “daashtan” and I am hoping to expand on that. I find the verbs particularly interesting as they seem to be written differently than they are spoken. For instance, we write “daarad” even though we speak it like “daareh”.

WEEK 3

This week we learned about the short vowels and how they are not always written in words. For instance, the short vowel in “daashtan” does not always have to be written. This is different though if the short vowel is at the beginning of the word, in which case it is represented by the letter “alef”. An example of such a word would be “amaa” which translates to “but”.

We also learned about the family tree in Farsi. Apart from “maman” or “baba” we learned about how the name for “cousin” differs based on the gender of the cousin and if they are on your maternal or paternal side of the family. We also learned about the different words for aunt and uncle. On your maternal side, aunt is “khaleh” and uncle is “dayee” whereas on your paternal side aunt is “ameh” and uncle is “amoo”.

WEEK 4

This week we learned about basic vocabulary involving numbers and the months of the year. When I speak Farsi at home with my family, we usually refer to the months of the year based on the Christian calendar. As such, I was particularly excited to learn about the months of the persian calendar year. My birthday in the persian calendar year would be 23 Azar, 1377--completely different to its Gregorian counterpart.

We were also introduced to the verb “boodan” and its conjugations in the present tense. This did raise some confusion for me as I learned there is a difference between “ast” and “hast”. I’m not entirely sure what the difference between the usage of these verbs are but I am assuming it is similar to the difference between “ser” and “estar” in spanish.

WEEK 5

این اولین ژورنال من به زبان فارسی است. امیدوارم که به زودی با فامیلم بتوانم با زبان فارسی نامه بفرستم. به نظر من این تمرین خیلی خوب است. من میدانم که اگر هر روز پیام به کلاس فارسی سواد فارسی را یاد میگیرم.

This is my first journal entry in Farsi. I am hopeful that soon I will be able to send letters and texts to my relatives in Farsi. I know that if I come to Farsi class everyday I will become literate in Farsi.

WEEK

6 از زمان بچگیم، من همیشه به فوتبال علاقه داشتم. اولین مربی فوتبالم بابام بود. بعد از کار، هر دوی ما پیراهن استقلال مان را می پوشیدیم و می رفتیم تو حیاط که توپ بازی بکنیم. بابام قوانین و تاکتیک فوتبال را به من یاد داد. وقتی بزرگتر شدم، من بیشتر با تیم و با دوستانم فوتبال بازی می کردم. برای مدتی آرزویم بود که فوتبالیست بشوم. اما، الان که دانشجو هستم، این دیگر آرزویم نیست. ولی وقتی وقت آزاد دارم، هنوز عاشق فوتبال بازی کردن هستم و از فوتبال تماشا کردن لذت میبرم، به خصوص با بابام.

Ever since I was a child, I liked playing soccer. My dad was my first coach. Everyday after work, we would go to the backyard wearing our Esteghlal jerseys and play with the ball. My dad taught me the rules and tactics of soccer. When I got older, I started to play soccer more with a team and with my friends. For a while, it was my dream to become a professional soccer player. Now that I am older, this is no longer my dream. But when I have free time, I still like to play and watch soccer, especially with my dad.

WEEK 7

این هفته من می خواهم یکی از شعر های مورد علاقه ام را ترجمه کنم. شعر اصلی مال سعیه است. اما من با این شعر را در یک آهنگ علی عظیمی یاد گرفتم. اسم آهنگ "زندگی" است.

This week I would like to translate one of my favorite poems. The original poem is from Sayeh. But, I learned this poem from a song by Ali Azimi. The song is called "Zendegi"

In an eternity	به پای او دمی
A lifetime of pain is merely a moment	ست این درنگ درد و رنج
Like a river flowing and hitting the rocks	که در نشیب دره سر به سنگ می زند
So flow	رونده باش
There are no miracles from the dead	امید هیچ معجزی ز مرده نیست
So live	زنده باش

Link to song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BW8Q3MRk8H U>

WEEK 8

رشته من در دانشگاه برکلی تغذیه است. علاقه ی من با تغذیه شروع شد در طول یک تابستان که خیلی فوتبال تمرین می کردم تا قبول بشوم در تیم دبیرستان. اون تابستان من درباره غذاهای مختلف یاد گرفتم. الان آرزویم این است که یک روز دکتر تغذیه بشوم که بتوانم با ورزشکاران کار کنم. امیدوارم که اگر خوب درس بخوانم، یک روز دکتر بشوم

My major at UC Berkeley is Nutrition. My interest in nutrition began during a summer in which I spent a lot of time practicing soccer to make the school team. That summer I learned about different types of foods. Now, my dream is to one day be a doctor in nutrition so that I can work with athletes. I am hopeful that if I study well, I will become a doctor one day.

WEEK 9

این هفته من می خواهم یکی از شعر های مورد علاقه ام را ترجمه کنم. اسم شعر اصلی "مرا به نام کوچکم صدا بزن" است. اما من این شعر را در یک آهنگ از علی عظیمی یاد گرفتم. اسم آهنگ "تم کوچیک" است.

This week I would like to translate one of my favorite poems. The name of the original poem is "Maraa Be Naame Koochakam Sedaa Bezan". However, I learned this poem from a song by Ali Azimi. The name of the song is "Naame Koochak".

Trees called a leaf	درخت را به نام برگ
Spring called a flower	بهار را به نام گلی
Stars called light	ستاره را به نام نور
Mountains called a rock	کوه را به نام سنگ
My broken heart called loved	دل شکفته مرا به نام عشق
Love called pain	عشق را به نام درد
Call me by my first name	مرا به نام کوچکم صدا بزن

Link to song: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QTRfpiGUOJ_Y

WEEK 10

این هفته من می خواهم درباره یکی از خاطرات مورد علاقه ی کودکیم بنویسم. وقتی سیزده سالم بود، من و مامانم سفر کردیم به شهر پالم اسپرینگ. معمولاً ما با بابا و برادرم سفر میکردیم. از این لحاظ، سفر خیلی به یاد ماندنی بود. روز اول ما رفتیم خرید لباس. من چندین پیراهن خریدم و مامانم یک جفت کفش خرید. وقتی کارمان تمام شد، رفتیم به هتل. آنجا ما فیلم تماشا کردیم تو اتاقمان قبل از این که به استخر برویم. در آب خیلی حال کردیم و خستگی در کردیم. روز دوم و سوم از همین برنامه ها بود و روز چهارم برگشتیم به خانه. درست است که ما خیلی کار خاصی نکردیم. اما این خیلی خاطره ی خوبی است برای من چون با مامانم وقت صرف کردم و هر دوی ما حال کردیم. خوش گذشت!

This week I want to write about one of my favorite childhood memories. When I was thirteen, my mom and I took a trip to Palm Springs. Normally we travel with my dad and brother. In this sense, this trip was very memorable. On the first day, we went shopping for clothes. I bought a couple of shirts and my mom bought a pair of shoes. When we finished shopping, we went to the hotel. There, we watched a movie in our room before we went to the pool. In the pool, we had a lot of fun and we relaxed a lot. On the second and third days, we did the same things before returning home on the fourth day. It's true in saying we did not do anything particularly special. But, this is a really good memory for me because I got to spend time with my mom and we both had fun. It was a great time!

WEEK 11

این هفته من می خواهم یکی از شعر های مورد علاقه ام را ترجمه کنم. این شعر جز داستان "آرش کمانگیر" است. اما من با این شعر در یک آهنگ گروه "دروک انسمبل" آشنا شدم. وقتی بچه بودم، این آهنگ مورد علاقه من بود.

This week I would like to translate one of my favorite poems. This poem is part of the story of "Arash Kamangir". I became familiar with this poem through a song by "Darvak Ensemble". When I was a child, this was my favorite song.

<p>Yes, yes, Life is beautiful Life is a long lasting fire If you light it, The light it, The dance of its flames, Can be seen across every horizon Otherwise its off and,</p>	<p>آری آری زندگی زیباست زندگی آتشگهی دیرنده پابرجاست گر بیفروزیش رقص شعله اش در هر کران پیداست ورنه خاموش است و</p>
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The darkness is our fault	خاموشی گناه ماست
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Siavosh Kasraii / سیاوش کسرای

Link to song: <https://soundcloud.com/hakimbob/track-13?ref=clipboard&p=i&c=0>

WEEK 12

این هفته من می خواهم یکی از شعر های مورد علاقه ام را ترجمه کنم. اسم این شعر "نه دیگه این واسه ما دل نمیشه" است. این شعر جز یک آهنگ در نمایشنامه ی "شهر قصه" است. وقتی بچه بودم چند بار فیلم "شهر قصه" تماشا کردم.

This week I would like to translate one of my favorite poems. This poem called “Nah deegheh een vaseh ma del nemeesheh”. This poem is from the play “Shahr-e Qeseh”. When I was a child, I watched the play “Shahr-e Qeseh” multiple times.

shahr-e qeseh (Translation)	شهر قصه
<p>Not anymore, this cannot be a heart for us No matter how much advice I give it, “Hey man! A wise person does not fall in love” It says, “Either a person's name cannot be a heart Or if it happens, then the person is no longer wise” “Why of all these hearts, none are so crazy like you? Not one roams the streets from dawn to dusk” It says, “Is a heart of steel? So that in this day and age it keeps its eyes shut Doesn't see anything, and if it sees something it will not even flinch its eyebrows?” I say, “Come on dear, The heart of steel is at least after its own pleasure His tears will not form a puddle of mud under his feet” It says, “Each coin can be a heart But not every heart can be a soul” Not anymore Not anymore Not anymore, this cannot be a heart for us</p>	<p>نه دیگه این واسه ما دل نمی شه! هر چی من بهش نصیحت می کنم: که بابا ! آدم عاقل آخه عاشق نمی شه! می گه یا اسم آدم دل نمی شه.. یا اگر شد دیگه عاقل نمیشه! چرا از این همه دل ، یه کدوم مثل تو دیوونه ی زنجیری نیست؟ یه کدوم صبح تا غروب توو کوچه ول نمیشه میگه یک دل مگه از فولاده که تواین دوره زمونه چششو هم بذاره؟! هیچ چیزی نبینه، یا اگر چیزی دید خم به ابروش نیاره؟” میگم آخه باباجون.. اون دل فولادی دست کم دنبال کیف خودشه دیگه از اشک چشش زیر پاش گل نمی شه میگه هر سکه میشه قلب باشه اما هر چی قلب شد دل نمی شه ! نه دیگه نه دیگه نه دیگه این واسه ما دل نمی شه ...</p>

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Link to song: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zajeWE2tv_8

WEEK 13

نام یکی از دوستان صمیمی من مارک است. من و او در کلاس چهارم آشنا شدیم، در زنگ ناهار. وقتی ما بچه بودیم، به فوتبال و به بازی های ویدئویی علاقه داشتیم. هنوز که هست به فوتبال و به بازی های ویدئویی علاقه داریم. اما الان که بزرگ تر هستیم، ما بیشتر روی درسman تمرکز می کنیم. متأسفانه دانشگاه او در میسوری است و دانشگاه من در کالیفرنیا است. از این لحاظ ما هم دیگه را کم می بینیم. ولی هر وقت او بر می گرده به کالیفرنیا برای تعطیلات، ما خیلی باهم وقت سفر می کنیم چون که دلمان تنگ میشه.

The name of my best friend is Mark. We met each other in fourth grade during lunch hour. When we were kids, we both liked to play soccer and video games. We still like to play soccer and video games. But now that we are older, we focus more on our schoolwork. Unfortunately, his college is in Missouri and my college is in California. In this sense, we do not see each other much. But, whenever he comes back to California for vacations, we spend a lot of time together because we miss each other.

WEEK 14

تعطیلات روز شکرگزاری من بد نبود. روز اول تعطیلات من رفتم به بیمارستان و دستم را جراحی کردم چون یکی از اعصابم از جایش افتاده بود بیرون. بعد از عمل دستم متأسفانه درد داشت و من چندین روز در تخت موندم. وقتی حالم بدتر شد فیلم جشن گرفت برای روز شکرگزاری. الا به جای بوقلمون با فسنجان و لوبیا پلو خوردیم. خیلی خوشمزه بود! در روز دیگر تعطیلات من در خانه ماندم و استراحت کردم. در تخت ماندم و فیلم و فوتبال تماشا کردم. آخر سر هم یک کم درس خواندم برای هفته فینال.

My Thanksgiving break was not bad. On the first day I went to the hospital and had surgery on my arm since a nerve had fallen out of place. After surgery, I was unfortunately in pain and stayed in bed for a few days. When I was feeling better, my family got together to celebrate Thanksgiving. But instead of eating turkey, we had fesenjoon and loobia polo. It was really tasty! During the rest of the days of break, I stayed at home and watched movies and soccer. Towards then I also spent a little bit of time studying for finals week.

