“Excuse My French”
Questions about the Film

1. At the beginning of the film, Hany is in a private school. What are his teachers like? What are his friends like? What subject does Hany like best?

2. Why does he like church? Who takes him to church, and who doesn’t attend?

3. What does he do in his free time?

4. What happens to change his life? Why does he have to go to a new school?

5. When Hany’s mother registers him at the school, she is obviously different from the other women. How? Why does she tell her son not to tell the others not to mention his religion?

6. What is Hany’s new school like? How is it different from the old one?

7. What are the teachers like? Why do you think the English teacher doesn’t like him? Why does he like his science teacher, and how is his reason different from that of the other boys? Why is Hany hurt by the reaction of his computer science teacher when they recognize each other?

8. What is the problem when the substitute teacher asks them to pray?

9. When Hany becomes friends with Mo’men, why doesn’t he tell him that he is Christian?

10. Why does the science teacher invite him to the teachers’ lounge? What project does Hany undertake in an effort to impress the other students?

11. When he invites Mo’men and his two friends from the previous school to come over to help him build the plane, how is Mo’men different from the others? How does Hany change his house before his new friend arrives?

12. Hany looks up different Muslim views about Christians on the internet. What does he find out?

13. To get his classmates to like him, Hany makes a remote control plane and wins the religious chanting competition? Which impresses them more? Why?
14. What skills does Hany have which makes him accepted, even popular?

15. What does Hany overhear in the bathroom? What is his dilemma? What happens when he tries to warn the teacher? Why are the three older boys expelled?

16. Why do Hany and his mother feel guilty after seeing the play at church (about Peter)?

17. Why is Amin (Hany’s friend, the computer science teacher) attacked? What does Hany do after it happens?

18. Why does Hany get in a fight at school? What do his schoolmates learn about him when his mother shows up?

19. What is the school principal’s reaction to the fight – and to Hany’s mother? Even though he treats them well, why do they not feel good about it?

20. Why is Hany so upset when he buries the turtle?

21. What happens when he goes back to school, and the others know that he is a Christian? How do the others treat him?

22. Why does he leave soccer, and what sport does he take up instead? Why do you think he does this?

23. How does he (purposely) anger his classmates during Ramadan? Why do he and Ally get in a fight, and what happens during the fight?

24. What happened when the boys are called (for the second time) to the principal’s office? What was Hany glad to be punished?

25. How was he treated by the end of the movie? Who are his friends? (Be sure to notice who he was playing with during the closing credits.)