“Hijab in Europe” Questions

1. Explain what happens in the video? What does the principal say to the new student, Fatima? Does Fatima want to remove her hijab? Why not? What is the principal’s explanation for asking her to remove her scarf?

2. What does Fatima see once she enters the classroom? Do you think this situation is fair? Why or why not?

3. How is this situation an example of discrimination or Islamophobia? Explain your answer.
4. Can you relate to Fatima? Why or why not? Have you ever been made to change yourself in order to go to school or to fit in? How did that make you feel?

5. Are there people who are not Muslim who might experience what Fatima experienced in this situation? Think of current examples or examples in history (e.g., Chinese Exclusion Act, Japanese-American experiences, treatment of African Americans via segregation). Explain your answer.