Learning with Anne Frank

Give yourself a voice and write!

Workbook 2
On 12 June 1929 Anne Frank is born in Frankfurt am Main, in Germany. The Frank family is Jewish.

In 1933 Adolf Hitler comes to power in Germany. He blames the Jews for the high unemployment rate and poverty. Hitler is a dictator. Otto and Edith do not feel safe anymore and decide to leave Germany. They move to Amsterdam.

Anne feels at home in the Netherlands. She quickly learns Dutch and has lots of friends. In summer, she often goes to the beach with her family.
What does ‘discrimination’ mean, according to you?

Discrimination

Hitler wants to expand Germany's territory and occupies other countries. In September 1939 Poland is attacked from both sides by the German and Russian armies. England and France declare war on Hitler. This is the start of the Second World War.

It is May 1940 and war breaks out. The German army occupies the Netherlands. Anne and her family are not safe here any longer. Fleeing has become very difficult.

Jews are also discriminated in the Netherlands. Anne and Margot are forced to attend a Jewish Secondary School in Amsterdam, segregated from their non-Jewish peers.

Margot receives a call-up notice. She has to go to a labour camp in Germany. If Margot does not go, the entire family will be arrested. Otto and Edith will not let her go. On 6 July the Frank family goes into hiding on Prinsengracht.

Put the following titles in the correct box

Living in War
A Hiding Place
Another family is looking for a safe place to live. Their names are Hermann and Auguste van Pels and their son Peter.

At first, Anne thinks of Peter as a ‘boring, lazy clot’ and ‘obnoxious’. Later, in 1944, she starts writing about him in a more positive way. She feels ‘happy when he looks at her’ and falls in love with him. Anne is fifteen years old then and Peter eighteen years.

Anne brings her diary, which she receives for her thirteenth birthday, to the hiding place.

How would you describe yourself?

Write down two characteristics here

Now ask somebody else which two characteristics he/she would choose to describe you!

NAME: Peter van Pels
Hermann and Auguste’s son
IS: calm, shy, silent
LOVES: carpentry and animals
OTHERS DESCRIBE HIM AS: reliable, willing to help and brave

NAME: Anne Frank
Otto and Edith’s daughter, Margot’s sister
IS: sensitive, cheerful, gloomy
LOVES: reading and writing
SOMETIMES FEELS: lonely & anxious
OTHERS DESCRIBE HER AS: full of fun but also has a serious side to her

‘Kitty, I sound like someone who’s in love and can talk about nothing but her dearest darling.’

3 March 1944
Imagine you’re really angry about something. How would you express it? What would you do?

This is Fritz Pfeffer. He is an acquaintance of the Frank and Van Pels families and he must go into hiding too. He shares a room with Anne. Anne does not like this because the room is already very small.

NAME: Fritz Pfeffer
IS: closed and assertive (stands up for himself) seeks refuge in his faith: he prays in the Secret Annex every evening
IS: dentist
IS: afraid of cats
MIEP DESCRIBES HIM AS: a sporty, handsome, friendly man
ANNE DESCRIBES HIM AS: selfish and arrogant

Both Anne and Fritz enjoy working at the small table in their room. Anne asks Fritz if she can work two afternoons a week at this table. He replies: ‘No!’ Anne gets mad and tries to get her way via her father. She manages, but it does not do any good for the atmosphere.

I’m seething with rage, yet I can’t show it. I’d like to scream, stamp my foot […]’
30 January 1943

A big argument about a small table

What would you do?
Imagine you’re really angry about something. How would you express it?
The Helpers

The Secret Annex inhabitants are helped by four of Otto’s employees. They bring food and sometimes books and magazines to the Secret Annex.

The People in Hiding

Fill in
The eight inhabitants hide for .......... days in the .......... They have to be .......... every day. To look outside is very ......................

What would you do?

The helpers risk their lives by helping the Secret Annex inhabitants. Have you ever helped someone? Describe the situation.

Do you already know the names of the people in hiding?

Write them down below the pictures. You can look at the exhibition if you do not know their names.

“We’re cooped up here, cut off from the world, anxious and fearful […]”

17 April 1944

What emotions the people in hiding experienced, according to you.

Write down in the following boxes what emotions the people in hiding experienced, according to you.
Hitler and the Nazis blame the Jews for all the problems in Germany.

Anti-Semitism

Anti-Semitism is hatred towards Jewish people. The Nazis hate Jews. It is a type of discrimination.

Give another word for anti-Semitism:

Anne writes a lot about herself in her diary. She writes about her looks, her hobbies and her feelings. She has ‘a goal, an opinion, faith and love’ and above all wants to ‘be herself’.

Who do they say you are?

Anne, 11 April 1944

‘If only I can be myself, I’ll be satisfied.’

Anne, 11 April 1944

‘Being yourself’

Below, fill in as many words as possible that describe you!

- young
- enthusiastic
- daughter
- Dutch
- reader
- Jewish
- refugee
- girlfriend
- joker
- in love
- writer
- curious
- girl
- woman

‘One day this terrible war will be over. The time will come when we’ll be people again and not just Jews!’

11 April 1944
The people in hiding are first taken to Westerbork camp in the Netherlands.

Anne dies in February 1945 of typhoid fever, an infectious illness. Her mother and sister also die. Of all the people in hiding, Otto Frank is the only one who survives the war.

Next, Anne and Margot are taken to Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in Germany.

On 4 August 1944 the police raids the Secret Annex and arrests the inhabitants. Someone betrayed them, but up until today nobody knows who.

From there they are taken by train to Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp. Otto is separated here from Anne, Margot and Edith.

On 5 May 1945 the German army capitulates. The Netherlands is liberated. A few months later the Second World War has finally come to an end. When Otto Frank returns home to Amsterdam, Miep Gies gives him Anne’s diary. Otto publishes the diary two years later.

ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS ABOUT YOURSELF HERE:

What are you afraid of?
Try to write down two different things.

What would you like to do or become after you finish school?
Twaikus are about personal things that can touch someone. Imagine you want to let somebody on the other side of the world know where you are and what you are seeing.

Imagine: Where am I? Who do I see? What do I see? What do I feel now?
Write down your twaiku here. You can also use your mobile phone and send your twaiku to a friend.

Example:

You write a lot more in your everyday life than you think you do. Just think about text messages or emails. A twaiku is based on an ancient Japanese verse, called haiku. When you type a text message of three lines and 140 characters, you have composed a twaiku – a kind of ‘internet poetry’!

Did you manage?
Share your twaiku with the rest of the world!
Post your twaiku on the Anne Frank Facebook page. This group has more than 20,000 followers. First mention your name, the country you are from, the word ‘twaiku’ and then post your twaiku.
A poem about Anne Frank

Answer seven questions.

1. Write down two or three characteristics of Anne.
2. What is her relationship to others? Daughter? Sister? Write down one relationship.
3. Write down two or three things here that Anne enjoys doing, even though she is hiding.
4. Write down three feelings that Anne could have had during the hiding period, both positive and negative.
5. Write down what she is afraid of.
6. Write down two or three things Anne hoped for her life.
7. Write down where she lived.

Example
Margot
quiet, serious and
eager to learn
Otto and Edith’s daughter
loves reading and studying
quiet, understanding
afraid to be discovered
wants peace and a job as a
carer
Amsterdam
Frank
A poem about yourself!

Answer the following questions and discover your own biographic poem.

1. Write down your first name.
2. Write down three or four characteristics of yourself.
3. What is your relationship to others? Are you someone’s friend? Daughter or son? Brother or sister? Write down one relationship.
4. Write down two or three things you love.
5. Write down two things you are afraid of.
6. Write down two or three things you hope for your life or what you would like to become.
7. Write down where you live.
8. Write down your surname.
Colofon

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