



1900s Literature Part I – Syllabus

Course Description: An excerpt-based class, students are introduced to primary works of literature from the early and middle 1900s, including Helen Keller's *The Story of My Life* (1902); poems by Robert Frost (1874-1963) and Edgar A. Guest (1881-1959), *Pygmalion* (1912); poems and works by Langston Hughes (1902-1967); *Johnny Tremain* (1943), *The Diary of a Young Girl* (1947), and an overview of *The Chronicles of Narnia* series by C.S. Lewis (1950-1956). All texts are included as part of the class; no additional materials required.

Essay Basics or equivalent experience writing five-paragraph essays is strongly recommended.

Course Outline:

Week One: Welcome to the 1900s

- Historical overview from 1900-1950
- Helen Keller – *The Story of My Life*
- Narrative Writing

Week Two: Reading Between the Lines

- Poetry Foundations
- “The People's Poet” – Edgar A. Guest
- Poetry Analysis with Robert Frost

Week Three: Introduction to the Stage

- How to Read a Play
- George Bernard Shaw
- *Pygmalion*

Week Four: The Stories of His People

- Langston Hughes & The Harlem Renaissance
- Analyzing Writing Voice

Week Five: A Living, Breathing Story

- Meet Esther Forbes
- Overview of Historical Fiction
- *Johnny Tremain – A Story of Boston in Revolt*
- Comparison of Different Forms of Writing with a study of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's iconic poem “Paul Revere's Ride”

Week Six: *The Diary of a Young Girl*

- Why Anne Frank Matters
- Historical Backdrop
- Putting Ourselves in Anne's Shoes

Week Seven: Off to a Different World

- A History of Fantasy Fiction
- What is Fantasy?
- Welcome to Narnia
- Choose Your Own Adventure . . .

Week Eight: Continuing *The Chronicles of Narnia* & Final Response

- Complete Narnia Reading
- Choose Your Own Final Response . . .

Grading Information: All assignments will be graded using *The Growing Writer Rubric* and averaged to receive a final course grade.



1900s Literature Part I

Lesson Six: *The Diary of a Young Girl*

SAMPLE LESSON

The 1900s are an interesting literary period because the works are so varied. Even in this class, we have already looked at an autobiography, varied and new styles of poetry, a stage play, and a historical fiction novel! This week, we take a look at *another* different type of writing, a published diary.

Anne Frank's diary, written during World War II, has been a staple of high school literature courses for the past 50 plus years. From its first publication in 1947 in Dutch to the most recent edition published in 2003, the diary has given us a glimpse into the world of eight people living in hiding for two years due to being Jewish. It invites the readers into their experience while also educating the readers about the horrors of the war itself and, to some extent, the Holocaust.

Some may wonder why people in our modern times should bother reading a diary written by a teenager more than seventy-five years ago. After all, the contents of a teenager's diary are often viewed as frivolous, and old ones are usually viewed as no longer relevant to our modern experience. Although both of these points are sometimes true, a well-written diary offers the wondrous chance to step into the daily life (and shoes) of the diary's author. In the case of Anne Frank, we get an attentive teenager's perspective on a momentous period of history and how the events of that period affected society and daily life alongside her accounts of her maturing process. In reading Anne's works, we can (hopefully) learn from the past to avoid repeating such events in the present and the future and see that the process of growing up and learning to manage relationships has not changed as much as we might think it has in the past seventy-five plus years.

Reading the complete diary itself is highly recommended for everyone. (*Please see the last page of this lesson for more information regarding the various versions of the diary.) Anne did not only write her diary, though. She also wrote thirty-four short stories covering real-life events to fairy tales. She created *A Book of Beautiful Sentences*, which was a collection of inspiring sentences gleaned from the books she read while in hiding. Finally, Anne attempted to write a novel called *Cady's Life*; however, she quit after just a few chapters. Those who are interested are encouraged to read these publications, too, as they help to paint an even clearer picture of Anne Frank herself.

For this lesson, though, we will focus on a mini-biography of Anne’s life punctuated with selected entries from her diary to illustrate key events or concepts. **Note that all selected diary entries are contained within the lesson; no additional reading is attached or required.**

Let’s take a moment to review the most important characters featured in Anne’s diary. (Note that *helper* is the title given to those who assisted in caring for those hiding in the annex.) Anne chose to use pseudonyms when writing the two versions of her diary. Her father, Otto Frank, kept some of those pseudonyms in his published version of the diary, but edited others.

Real Name and role	Name in Anne’s Versions A & B	Name in Otto’s Version C
Anne Frank, author	Anne Robin	Anne Frank
Margot Frank, Anne’s older sister	Margot Robin	Margot Frank
Edith Frank, Anne’s mother	Edith Robin	Edith Frank
Otto Frank, Anne’s father	Otto Robin	Otto Frank
Hermann van Pels, Otto’s business partner and friend	Han van Daan	Hermann van Daan
Auguste van Pels, Hermann’s wife	Petronella van Daan	Petronella van Daan
Peter van Pels, Herman and Auguste’s son	Peter van Daan / Alfred van Daan	Peter van Daan
Fritz Pfeffer, a dentist	Alfred Dussel	Alfred Dussel
Victor Kugler, helper	Mr. Kraler	Mr. Kraler
Johannes Kleiman, helper	Mr. Koophuis	Mr. Koophuis
Hermine (“Miep”) Sanstrouschitz Gies, helper	Miep van Santen	Miep van Santen
Jan Gies, helper	Henk van Santen	Henk van Santen
Elizabeth (Bep) Voskuijl van Wijk, helper	Elli Vossen	Elli Vossen

PRE-DIARY EVENTS –

Annelies Marie Frank was born on June 12, 1929 in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. She was joyfully welcomed by her father Otto Heinrich Frank (age 40), her mother Edith Hollander Frank (age 29), and her older sister Margot Betti Frank (age 3). Her father worked as a banker in his own father's bank while her mother was a homemaker. The Franks were a rather modern Jewish family that attended synagogue only on occasion, but they always celebrated the Jewish holidays.

My father, the most adorable father I've ever seen, didn't marry my mother until he was thirty-six and she was twenty-five. My sister Margot was born in Frankfurt am Main in Germany in 1926. I was born on June 12, 1929. (June 20, 1942)

The world into which Anne was born was not so welcoming. Germany had been suffering from an economic depression due to its defeat in World War I. This depression was made even worse in 1929 when Wall Street's stock market collapsed and caused a worldwide depression. During those years, Adolf Hitler published his infamous manifesto *Mein Kampf*, and the National Socialist Party (Nazis) began to win seats in German elections. By 1932, the Nazi party in Germany had gathered 37% of the votes, making it the largest political party in the country.

The following year, Adolf Hitler was elected as Chancellor of Germany in January, and he quickly proclaimed the start of the Third Reich. Not only were freedom of speech and freedom of assembly banned, but the Nationalist Socialist party became the only legal party to join. The Gestapo (Nazi secret police) was established as well. By April and May of 1933, Jewish shops were boycotted, books written by Jewish authors were burned, and Jews were prevented from working in important professions.

Not surprisingly, the Jews in Germany began to look for opportunities to seek refuge in neighboring countries. The Franks decided to leave Germany for the safety of the Netherlands. The family first headed to the home of Anne's maternal grandmother, Rosa Hollander, in Aachen, Germany, near the Dutch border. From there, Otto Frank headed to Amsterdam in the Netherlands while Edith and her two daughters remained with her mother. Otto Frank started a company called Opekta, and after several months of hard work, Edith was able to join him in a newly-rented apartment by November of 1933. She spent a month furnishing the place and then brought Margot to Amsterdam in December. In February of 1934, five-year-old Anne joined her family in Amsterdam. Shortly after her arrival, the Netherlands passed news laws to stop the flow of Jewish refugees.

I lived in Frankfurt until I was four. Because we're Jewish, my father immigrated to Holland in 1933, when he became managing director of the Dutch Opekta Company, which manufactures products used in making jam. My mother, Edith Hollander Frank, went with him to Holland in September, while Margot and I were sent to Aachen to stay with our grandmother. Margot went to Holland in December, and I followed in February, when I was plunked down on the table as a birthday present for Margot. I started right away at the Montessori nursery school. (June 20, 1942)

From 1934 until 1939, conditions in Germany just got worse. Hitler declared himself Fuhrer in 1934 and started to re-arm the Germany military. By 1936, Germany had signed separate alliances with Italy and Japan. Religious persecution of both Protestant pastors and Roman Catholic priests began as well. Jews continued to flee Germany whenever possible, and in 1937, the Hermann van Pels family (consisting of Hermann, his wife Auguste, and their 11-year-old son, Peter) immigrated to Amsterdam. Hermann van Pels and Otto Frank became partners in a new business venture called Petacon, which focused on producing spice mixtures for meat preparation.

In March of 1938, Germany annexed Austria and occupied parts of Czechoslovakia. In November of that same year, Kristallnacht (Night of Broken Glass) occurred on the ninth in Germany. Jewish shops and house windows were smashed. In one night, about 100 Jews were killed, and 30,000 Jewish males were deported to concentration camps. All Jewish businesses were confiscated. The following year, Germany invaded Poland on September 1, 1939. This marked the official beginning of World War II.

However, for the Franks, life in the Netherlands went on mostly as normal during the years of 1934 to 1939. Margot received a pair of roller skates for her birthday in 1934. The family spent summers visiting the beach, hosting visitors, and enjoying ice cream. Anne and Margot attended school, played with their friends, joined clubs, visited zoos, went to movie theaters, and hosted birthday parties. Anne even visited relatives in Switzerland with her paternal grandmother, Alice Frank, in the summer of 1935. Yet, they fretted about what was happening to family and friends back in Germany.

Our lives were not without anxiety, since our relatives in Germany were suffering under Hitler's anti-Jewish laws. After the programs in 1938 my two uncles (my mother's brothers) fled Germany, finding safe refuge in North America. (June 20, 1942)

On May 10, 1940, life in the Netherlands began to change when Hitler invaded. By June of that same year, Hitler and the Nazis had reached Paris, France. Norway and Denmark were also invaded. Auschwitz and the Warsaw Ghetto in Poland were established. The Nazis immediately began issuing restrictions for the

Jewish citizens, who were all required to register immediately or face death if caught.

After May 1940 the good times were few and far between: first there was the war, then the capitulation and then the arrival of the Germans, which is when the trouble started for the Jews. Our freedom was severely restricted by a series of anti-Jewish decrees: Jews were required to wear a yellow star; Jews were required to turn in their bicycles; Jews were forbidden to use streetcars; Jews were forbidden to ride in cars, even their own; Jews were required to do their shopping between 3 and 5 p.m.; Jews were required to frequent only Jewish-owned barbershops and beauty parlors; Jews were forbidden to be out on the streets between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m.; Jews were forbidden to go to the theaters, movies or any other forms of entertainment; Jews were forbidden to use swimming pools, tennis courts, hockey fields, or any other athletic fields; Jews were forbidden to take part in any athletic activity in public; Jews were forbidden to sit in their gardens or those of their friends after 8 p.m.; Jews were forbidden to visit Christians in their homes; Jews were required to attend Jewish schools. You couldn't do this and you couldn't do that, but life went on. (June 20, 1942)

In December of 1940, Otto Frank and Hermann van Pels moved their two businesses to 263 Prinsengracht in Amsterdam. To protect their businesses, Otto Frank and Hermann van Pels had their businesses officially registered in 1941 under a new name, Gies and Company. That name came from Otto's secretary, Miep Gies, and her husband Jan Gies. Otto's bookkeeper, Johannes Kleiman, was registered as the owner while Victor Kugler became the official director. Bep Voskuijl, an office worker, also assisted in this transition. Soon, Jewish children were no longer allowed to attend schools with non-Jewish children. Thus, Margot and Anne had to leave the Montessori school and attend the Jewish Lyceum (a place for lectures, i.e. school) in the fall of 1941. In addition, random mass round-ups of Jews began to become common in the Netherlands. In December of 1941, the United States of America officially entered the war, and Johannes Kleiman mentioned to Otto Frank the idea of using the annex located at the back of their business building as a hiding spot for the two families. Otto and Edith Frank along with Hermann and Auguste van Pels agreed on this plan and began making preparations for a move into hiding in late July 1942. This was wise because in January of 1942, the Nazis declared their Final Solution and began deporting Jews from the Netherlands to Germany.

It seems, however, that the children were not informed of these plans until they were near completion. Rather, the parents allowed life to continue as normally as possible for them.

A few days ago, as we were taking a stroll around our neighborhood square, Father began talking about going into hiding. He said it would be very hard for us to live cut off from the rest of the world. I asked him why he was bringing this up now.

“Well, Anne”, he replied, “you know that for more than a year we’ve been bringing our clothes, food, and furniture to other people. We don’t want our belongings to be seized by the Germans. Nor do we want to fall into their clutches ourselves. So we’ll leave of our own accord and not wait to be hauled away.”

“But when, Father?” He sounded so serious that I felt scared.

“Don’t you worry. We’ll take care of everything. Just enjoy your carefree life while you can.”

*That was it. Oh, may these somber words not come true for as long as possible.
(July 5, 1942)*

In fact, just a few weeks before in June of 1942, Anne had hosted a birthday party at her house complete with an in-home movie to celebrate turning 13 years old. Among other presents, she received a journal. She immediately began writing in the journal.

DIARY EVENTS –

On July 5, 1942, life for the Franks changed overnight. Margot received a summons for deportation. Despite not being quite finished with preparations of the annex, the Franks decided to go into hiding the very next day.

Margot and I started packing our most important belongings into a schoolbag. The first thing I stuck in was this diary, and then curlers, handkerchiefs, schoolbooks, a comb, and some old letters. Preoccupied by the thought of going into hiding, I stuck the craziest things in the bag, but I’m not sorry. Memories mean more to me than dresses.

I was so exhausted, and even though I knew it’s to be my last night in my own bed, I fell asleep right away and didn’t wake up until Mother called me at five-thirty the next morning... The four of us were wrapped in so many layers of clothes it looked as if we were going off to spend the night in a refrigerator, and all that just so we could take more

clothes with us. No Jew in our situation would dare leave the house with a suitcase full of clothes. I was wearing two undershirts, three pairs of underpants, a dress, and over that a skirt, a jacket, a raincoat, two pairs of stockings, heavy shoes, a cap, a scarf, and lots more.

Margot stuffed her schoolbag with schoolbooks, went to get her bicycle, and with Miep leading the way, rode off into the great unknown.

At seven-thirty we too closed the door behind us; Moortje, my cat, was the only living creature I said goodbye to. (July 5, 1942)

Anne states in her diary that the van Pels family arrived on July 13, 1942. Fritz Pfeffer (Miep's dentist) joined them on November 16, 1942. At that time, Margot was moved into her parents' room while Anne had to share with the newcomer. Yet, she was glad they could all help save one more person.

Anne continued to write in her journal and had it all but filled by December of that year. Luckily for both her and us, Bep Voskuijl supplied her with more notebooks so that she could keep writing. That journal and those notebooks, which Anne filled with her words from June of 1942 until March of 1944, are called *Version A* of her diary.

The annex itself consisted of five small rooms and an attic located above the private office at the back of the building.

The door to the right of the landing leads to the "Secret Annex" at the back of the house. No one would ever suspect there were so many rooms behind that plain gray door. There's just one small step in front of the door, and then you're inside. Straight ahead of you is a steep flight of stairs. To the left is a narrow hallway opening onto a room that serves as the Frank family's living room and bedroom. Next door is a smaller room, the bedroom and study of the two young ladies of the family. To the right of the stairs is a windowless washroom with a sink. The door in the corner leads to the toilet, and another one to Margot's and my room. If you go up the stairs and open the door at the top, you're surprised to see such a large, light, and spacious room in an old canal-side house like this. It contains a stove and a sink. This will be the kitchen and bedroom of Mr. and Mrs. van Daan, as well as the general living room, dining room, and study for us all. A tiny side room is to be Peter van Daan's bedroom. Then, ... there's an attic and a loft. (July 9, 1942)

The Annex is an ideal place to hide in. It may be damp and lopsided, but there's probably not a more comfortable hiding place in all of Amsterdam. No, in all of Holland.

Up until now our bedroom, with its blank walls, was very bare. Thanks to Father – who brought my entire postcard and movie-star collection here beforehand – and to a brush and a pot of glue, I was able to plaster the walls with pictures. It looks much more cheerful.

Last night the four of us went down to the private office and listened to England on the radio. I was so scared someone might hear it that I literally begged Father to take me back upstairs... Whatever we do, we're very afraid the neighbours might hear us... We started off immediately sewing curtains... These works of art were tacked to the windows, where they'll stay until we come out of the building. (July 11, 1942)

She (and Peter eventually) preferred to spend their time up in the attic because they could at least look out the skylights and see the sky and the tops of trees during the day or the moon and stars at night.

What could be nicer than sitting before an open window, enjoying nature, listening to the birds sing, feeling the sun on your cheeks, and holding a darling boy in your arms? (April 19, 1944)

To avoid detection by warehouse workers who did not know of their existence, those hiding in the annex had to be as quiet as possible during the day. This was difficult for all but especially for Anne.

We're as still as baby mice. Who would have guessed three months ago that quicksilver Anne would have to sit so quietly for hours on end, and what's more that she could? (October 1, 1942)

However, the residents of the annex did not spend their days doing nothing. The three teenagers kept up their studies with tutoring from their parents and via correspondence courses supplied by Bep Voskuijl. Anne recorded her own list of subjects:

Shorthand in French, English, German, and Dutch, geometry, algebra, history, geography, art history, mythology, biology, Bible history, Dutch literature, likes to read biographies, dull or exciting, and history books (sometimes novels and light reading). (May 16, 1944)

The entire household had a very specific routine of what must be done from morning until night each day. This included bathroom schedules, nap times, study hours, cooking, and cleaning. The residents also assisted in completing office work (and sometimes simple manual labor) for the business as well. Such an existence was tedious, but on Saturdays, Miep often brought books from the library for everyone to enjoy.

We long for Saturdays because that means books...Ordinary people don't know how much books can mean to someone who's cooped up. Our only diversions are reading, studying, and listening to the wireless (radio). (July 11, 1943)

Holidays and birthdays were celebrated with small presents and special foods throughout the time they were in hiding.

For Christmas, we're getting extra cooking oil, candy, and molasses. For Hanukkah, Mr. Dussel gave Mrs. van Daan and Mother a beautiful cake, which he'd asked Miep to bake. On top of all the work she has to do! Margot and I received a brooch made out of a penny, all bright and shiny. I can't really describe it, but it's lovely. (December 22, 1943)

Regular food rations were limited in scope and quantity, of course, because they could only afford ration coupons for 4 people on the black market.

A "food cycle" is a period in which we have only one particular dish or type of vegetable to eat. For a long time we ate nothing but endive. Endive with sand -, endive without sand, endive with mashed potatoes, endive-and-mashed potato casserole. Then it was spinach, followed by kohlrabi, salsify, cucumbers, tomatoes, sauerkraut, etc., etc.

It's not much fun when you have to eat sauerkraut every day for lunch and dinner, but when you're hungry enough, you do a lot of things. (April 3, 1944)

Yet, living in the annex afforded virtually no privacy, and Anne particularly struggled in this environment.

Whenever someone comes in from the outside, with the wind in their clothes and the cold on their cheeks, I feel like burying my head under the blankets to keep from thinking, "When will we be allowed to breathe fresh air again?" I can't do that – on the contrary, I have to hold my head up high and put a bold face on things, but the thoughts keep coming anyway. Not just once, but over and over. Believe me, if you've been shut up

for a year and a half, it can get too much for you sometimes. But feelings can't be ignored, no matter how unjust or ungrateful they seem. I long to ride a bike, dance, whistle, look at the world, feel young, and know that I'm free, and yet I can't let it show. Just imagine what would happen if all eight of us were to feel sorry for ourselves or walk around with the discontent clearly visible on our faces. Where would that get us? (December 24, 1943)

Being in such close quarters, the Franks, the van Pels, and Mr. Pfeffer were often in conflict with each other at various times.

Relationships here in the Annex are getting worse all the time. We don't dare open our mouths at mealtime (except to slip in a bite of food), because no matter what we say someone is bound to resent it or take it the wrong way. (September 16, 1943)

On March 29, 1944, the entire group was listening to a radio broadcast in which the Dutch citizens were asked to carefully preserve any written records they had of their wartime experiences for use in a future “national archive.” Anne (and the other residents) all agreed that Anne’s diary should be part of that collection. Thus, Anne, now aged 15 and more mature, sat down to begin editing her diary contents. From March of 1944 until August of that same year, Anne worked tirelessly on editing the already written portions of her diary while also keeping up with newer entries. This edited version of her diary has been labeled as *Version B*. Much of it was written on more than 200 loose pieces of paper.

When I write I can shake off all my cares. My sorrow disappears, my spirits are revived! But, and that's a big question, will I ever be able to write something great, will I ever become a journalist or writer? I hope so, oh, I hope so very much, because writing allows me to record everything, all my thoughts, ideals, and fantasies. (April 5, 1944)

Although Anne and the others often despaired during their time in hiding, Anne wrote these words after two years in hiding.

So, if you're wondering whether it's harder for the adults here than for the children, the answer is no, it's certainly not. Older people have an opinion about everything and are sure of themselves and their actions. It's twice as hard for us young people to hold on to our opinions at a time when ideals are being shattered and destroyed, when the worst side of human nature predominates, when everyone has come to doubt truth, justice and God.

It's a wonder I haven't abandoned all my ideals, they seem so absurd and impractical. Yet I cling to them because I still believe, in spite of everything, that people are truly good at heart.

It's utterly impossible for me to build my life on a foundation of chaos, suffering, and death. I see the world being slowly transformed into a wilderness. I hear the approaching thunder that, one day, will destroy us too. I feel the suffering of millions. And yet, when I look up at the sky, I somehow feel that everything will change for the better, that this cruelty too will end, that peace and tranquility will return once more. In the meantime, I must hold on to my ideals. Perhaps the day will come when I'll be able to realize them. (July 15, 1944)

POST-DIARY EVENTS –

August 4, 1944 began like any other day, but it ended quite differently. Around 10:30 a.m., an SS officer and three plainclothes Dutch policemen arrived at the front door of 263 Prinsengracht. Without hesitation, they immediately arrested all eight residents of the annex along with Victor Kugler and Johannes Kleiman. While searching for valuables and cash, the officers scattered Anne's diary, notebooks, and papers across the floor. After the officers left with the 10 prisoners, Miep and Bep rushed to the annex to see if they could save anything belonging to the family. Together, they gathered up all of Anne's writings, and Miep locked them in her desk drawer, unread.

On August 8, 1944, the eight Jews were sent to Westerbork to await deportation. The women and men were housed in separate barracks and put to work, but they were allowed to see each other in the evenings. Fellow prisoners who survived report that Anne seemed happy during this time because she was no longer cooped up in the annex and had plenty of new people to talk to. Sadly, on September 2 (or 3 – accounts vary), the Franks, the van Pels, and Mr. Pfeffer were placed into freight cars and taken to Auschwitz-Birkenau. Men and women were separated from each other with no hope of seeing each other. Women spent days hauling stone while men dug ditches. Both groups were fed very little and were required to stand in formation for hours at a time.

On September 18, Johannes Kleiman was released from custody due to his poor health. He remained in Amsterdam until his death in 1959. Back in Auschwitz, Hermann van Pels injured his thumb in October or November and was unable to work. As a result, he was sent to the gas chamber. Fritz Pfeffer was transferred to Neuengamme near Hamburg. There, he fell ill and died on December 20, 1944 due to hard labor and little food. That same month, Margot and Anne were transferred to Bergen-Belsen near

Hannover. Their parents remained behind in Auschwitz.

On January 6, 1945, Edith Frank died from hunger and exhaustion in Auschwitz. Peter van Pels was transferred to Mauthausen on January 16, 1945 while his mother, Auguste, was transferred to Bergen-Belsen around the same time. On January 27, 1945, Auschwitz was liberated by Russian troops, and Otto Frank was a free man. He was too sick to do anything but recuperate.

In Bergen-Belsen, Margot and Anne got sick with typhus due to a flea infestation. Auguste van Pels was able to see them for a brief time before she was eventually transferred to a different camp where she died likely sometime in April 1945. Meanwhile, back in Bergen-Belsen, Margot died sometime in late February or early March, and Anne died a few days later. Margot was 18 years old, and Anne was 15 years old. Bergen-Belsen was liberated just weeks later between April 12 and April 15, 1945.

Late in the month of March in 1945, Victor Kluger escaped from his captors and immediately went into hiding. Peter van Pels became ill as a result of his participation in the “death march” to Mauthausen. He died on May 5, 1945, which was the day that the Netherlands were liberated.

Otto Frank spent until the end of March recovering from illness. He then set out to travel to Amsterdam. This took four months as he had to detour around fighting still happening in some places. During his journey, he learned about his wife’s death. Otto arrived home on June 3, 1945 and was welcomed by Jan and Miep Gies. On July 18 of that year, he received word of the deaths of Margot and Anne. It was upon hearing this news that Miep decided to give Otto Anne’s diary. She presented it telling him that it was Anne’s legacy to him.

Otto began editing the book taking parts of *Version A* and parts of *Version B* to create a new, shorter edition (due to space and content restraints) called *Version C*. In 1947, Anne’s diary was published in Dutch under the title *The Secret Annex*. It was translated into English that year, too. In 1952, *Anne Frank – The Diary of a Young Girl* was published in the United States. Otto Frank spent the remainder of his life dedicated to the distribution of Anne’s diary around the world.

Readers of Anne’s diary felt strongly that the building at 263 Prinsengracht should be preserved, but it was in poor condition and no longer owned by Otto Frank. Money was collected and an organization called Anne Frank Stichting was formed. The Anne Frank house opened on May 3, 1960 to the public as a museum. Otto Frank stated in an interview regarding this decision that, “During the war they took everything and I want to leave it like that.”

Twenty years later, Otto Frank died in Switzerland at age 91 on August 16. A year later, Victor Kluger died in Canada. Upon Otto's death, the Anne Frank Foundation in Amsterdam inherited all of her journals, notebooks, and papers. Curiosity about the authenticity of the diaries had arisen, so an investigation ensued. In the meantime, a collection of Anne Frank's other writings was published in 1983 under the title *Tales from the Secret Annex; Fables, Short Stories, Essays, and an Unfinished Novel.* Bep Voskuijl van Wijk died in the same year.

Four years later, in 1987, Miep Gies published a book called *Anne Frank Remembered*. In 1989, the results of the investigation were completed and a new book with complete copies of all three versions and the results of the investigation was published as *Anne Frank – The Diary of a Young Girl – Critical Edition*. 1995 saw the publication of another version of the diary. *Anne Frank – The Diary of a Young Girl – Definitive Edition* was published. This edition took the original *Version C* and increased its volume about 30% by adding parts of *Version A* and *Version B*.

Then, in 1998, five missing pages of the diary were discovered. This led to yet another edition in 2003: *Anne Frank – The Diary of a Young Girl – Revised Critical Edition* to both add the missing content and correct some minor inaccuracies. In 2010, Miep Gies, the last of those who had personally been involved in the hiding of Anne Frank and the others, died aged 100.

Assignment 6A: Put yourself in Anne's shoes. Answer the following questions using complete sentences. Be specific and demonstrate thoughtfulness in your answers. Try to imagine what it would be like if you were truly facing the situations that Anne and her family faced.

1. If your family had to go into hiding and you were only given a backpack and a few hours to fill it, what items would you choose to bring with you and why would you choose those items?
2. If your family had to go into hiding, what location might they choose and why would they choose that location?
3. If your family had to go into hiding, what things and activities would you miss and why would you miss them?
4. If your family had to go into hiding, how would your daily routine change?
5. If your family had to go into hiding, how would you react when you were finally free again?

Assignment 6B: Write a short narrative of at least three paragraphs about a time when you were forced to remain indoors for an extended period of time. Explain both the reason for remaining indoors (e.g. a storm, illness, etc.) as well as how you reacted to the situation emotionally and physically.

FINAL NOTES –

***A note for students and their parents about the various editions and how they came to be is important here because the editions have some rather important differences.** When choosing which version to read, it is important to know that any edition published **after the original of Version C from 1947** likely contains diary entries of a rather personal and detailed nature regarding extremely sensitive subjects. Thus, readers (and their parents) would do well to use caution when selecting the edition suitable for their own studies.

If searching for a used or library copy, we recommend the following ISBN: 9780553296983. This version excludes questionable diary entries and is the most appropriate for complete reading. We also highly recommend *Anne Frank: Her life in words and pictures* by Menno Metselaar and Ruud van der Rol which includes countless diary excerpts in addition to photographs, providing an excellent introduction to Anne's life and experience.

Version	Dates Written	Author/Editor	Content
Version A (1942 - 1944)	June 1942 to March 1944	Anne Frank (author – age 13)	Version A
Version B (1944)	March 1944 to August 1944	Anne Frank (editor and author – age 15)	Version A rewritten plus additional entries
Version C (1947 in Netherlands; 1952 in USA)	N/A	Otto Frank (editor)	Select parts of Versions A & B
Critical Edition (1989)	N/A	David Barnouw and Gerrold Van Der Stroom (editors)	Complete Versions A, B, and C and results of investigation into diary's authenticity
Definitive Edition (1995)	N/A	Otto Frank and Mirjam Pressler (editors)	Complete Version C with some of Versions A and B added making it 30% longer than original Version C.
Revised Critical Edition (2003)	N/A	David Barnouw and Gerrold Van Der Stroom (editors)	Complete Versions A, B, and C including 5 missing pages and corrections for accuracy

Sources –

Frank, Anne. *Anne Frank – The Diary of a Young Girl – The Definitive Edition*. Edited by Otto Frank and Mirjam Pressler, Alfred A. Knopf, 2010.

Metselaar, Menno, and Ruud van der Rol. *Anne Frank: Her life in words and pictures*. Roaring Book Press, 2004.