

Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl

(Published in 1952)

Approved for use in 8th grade English

Summary of the Work:

Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl is the diary of a girl who receives a diary on her 13th birthday. She begins the diary while she is in hiding and it continues until hours before Anne, her family, and other members of their "Secret Annex" are arrested by the Gestapo. The diary is her documentation of her time in hiding. It reveals all of the challenges and trials that she goes through during her time in seclusion. Anne's optimism during her time in hiding is inspiring.

Rationale:

The Diary of a Young Girl is an historical document, which was written by a young Jewish girl who is in hiding during World War II. Students are able to appreciate all of the challenges that Anne faces during her time in hiding. Even though she longs to be outside, she takes her time in the "secret annex" as an opportunity to grow and get to know herself better. The main themes in this book allow students to understand that their own experiences help them to understand themselves and others, which is what Anne learned through the process of her diary.

Professional Reviews and/or Critical Essays:

- Mary Lane, "On Anne Frank." *English Journal*. Volume XLV, Number 5. May, 1956.
- Meyer, Levin, *New York Times*, June 15, 1952.
- Ludwig, Lewisohn. *Saturday Review*, Vol. 35, July 19, 1952.

* Print resources are available from the library media center and libraries in the district. Contact any library media specialist to view the scholarly sources.

* Scholarly reviews are also available online through Books in Print and Gale. Contact the library media specialist to obtain username and password information to access the subscription database of full-text reviews.

Noted Distinction:

- The Best, Notable and Recommended Books for 2003
- Books of the Century: Leaders and Thinkers Weigh on the Classics that Have Shaped Contemporary Religious Thought
- Hungry Mind Review's Millennium Books: Twenty Writers Choose Books for the Twenty-First Century

Readability:

- Lexile Score: 1080L
- Readability Level:

Learning Resources Guidelines:

- The novel meets the Learning Resources Guidelines.

Standard Alignment: [\(link\)](#)

Approval:

Submitted to Committee:

Approved for Adoption:

Notes on the Text:

(The best way to evaluate and understand a novel is to personally read the book in its entirety.)

Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl is an historical document, which has been written by a young Jewish girl who is in hiding during World War II. It is an informational text, which helps students gain understanding about a young person their age and how to deal with the difficulties that she faces.

Connection to the Curriculum:

The setting of *Anne Frank* is during World War II, which is also taught in 8th grade American History. It allows students to get an up-close look at a young girl about their age and how she deals with the challenges and adversities of being in hiding during adolescence.

Additional Connections:

(AP, Honors, Essential/Applied, Dramas, Films, etc.)