

Reading

Thematic Overview

'Diary of Anne Frank' – Anne Frank

The Diary of Anne Frank tells the poignant story of a young Jewish girl forced into hiding during World War II when the Nazis occupied the Netherlands. Her diary explores themes of struggle and the horrors of the Holocaust in the 20th century.

English

The Diary of Anne Frank can be used to explore themes of identity, persecution, and resilience, encouraging students to analyse Anne's voice and perspective as a way to discuss the power of personal narrative. Through examining her writing style and the emotional depth of her experiences, students can develop skills in empathy, critical thinking, and reflective writing, while also considering the historical context of the Holocaust.

Music

The Diary of Anne Frank to explore the role of music in the Holocaust, analysing how Anne and others found solace in music during times of hardship. Students can study the music that Anne listened to, such as classical and popular tunes of the time, and discuss its emotional impact, linking it to the themes of hope and resistance in the book.

Geography

The diary links to the concept of development, particularly in personal, social, and political terms.

Despite the hardships of hiding, Anne's emotional and intellectual growth is evident, illustrating that development is not only about physical change but also about learning and personal reflection.

Anne's story also reflects how Nazi occupation halted social progress in the Netherlands, with the persecution of Jews marking a significant decline in human rights. Her experiences highlight the importance of equality and inclusion for a thriving society..

Science

The book can be used to explore topics such as human biology, by examining how stress and isolation affect the body's immune system and overall health, as reflected in Anne's experiences. Additionally, the book offers opportunities to discuss the principles of genetics and inheritance, through the examination of Anne's family history and her reflections on her identity.

ICT

Pupils can explore the importance of digital preservation by comparing the transition from Anne's handwritten diary to modern-day digital archiving methods. Students can learn about the ethics of privacy and data security by discussing how Anne's personal information was shared and protected.

History

Set during World War II, Anne Frank's diary reveals how the war affected everyday lives, showing the fear, loss, and uncertainty experienced under Nazi rule. Through her personal story, we read about the persecution of Jewish people. The diary serves as a vital account of the Holocaust, offering Anne's personal perspective on the suffering of Jews. Her descriptions of life in hiding bring the realities of the Holocaust into sharp focus, reminding us of the millions of lives tragically lost. Anne's words capture the hopes, dreams, and struggles of those whose lives were cut short by this dark period in history.

