

# Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl

## Discussion Guide #3

Encourage critical thinking and support your students' literacy development by asking questions during reading. Here are some questions you can ask your readers to engage them in a discussion.

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### DIARY ENTRIES: August 10, 1943 – January 6, 1944 (first entry)

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#### Comprehension:

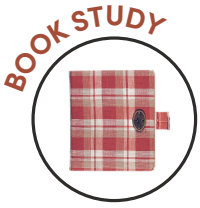
- What kinds of things does Anne do that her mother calls the “art of living”?
- What has now happened to Anne’s beloved Westertoren clock? What effect does this have on the people living in the Annex?
- What “wonderful” news does Anne report in her diary entry on September 10, 1943?
- On November 3, 1943, Anne writes about what Pim did to help her and Margot “take our minds off matters as well as to develop them.” What does he do for the girls?
- What happens to Anne’s beloved fountain pen? Why has her pen been so important to her?
- On Saturday, November 27, 1943, Anne writes about a dream she had. What happened, who was there, and how does it make Anne feel?
- After having re-read portions of her diary, Anne confesses, on January 2, 1944, that she’s a little shocked. What upsets her about what she’s written, and how does she explain it?
- In Anne’s very next diary entry on January 6, 1944, she returns to the subject of her mother. What does she say about her mother?

#### Analysis:

- Compare Anne’s opinion of Mr. Dussel, her roommate, with her opinion of Mr. Kleiman, one of their helpers. What does Anne say in her diary to support your conclusions?
- Overall, what is the mood among the residents of the Secret Annex during this period of time? How is Anne feeling during these months in hiding?
- On Monday evening, November 8, 1943, Anne describes how she sees herself and the others in hiding. Describe the figurative language that she uses and its effect.

#### Personal Connection:

- On December 24, 1943, Anne expresses feelings that she thinks make her seem ungrateful. She writes them in her diary rather than saying them out loud. What method do you prefer when expressing your personal, unpleasant thoughts? Would you rather write them down or talk about them with someone?



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### DIARY ENTRIES: January 6, 1944 (second entry) – February 23, 1944

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#### Comprehension:

- Anne has very vivid dreams. What three people does she write about showing up in her dreams, and what do these three people mean to Anne?
- How has Anne's attitude toward the Van Daans changed, as she describes in her diary entry on January 22, 1944?
- In her diary entry on January 28, 1944, what does Anne express that she finds so annoying about living in the Annex?
- In what ways does Anne say that many Dutch people are being unselfish and generous?
- By February 18, 1944, Anne thinks that her life in the Annex has "improved greatly." What's changed her outlook on life in the Annex?
- What does Anne believe that she and Peter bond over on February 23, 1944?
- What does Anne believe is the best "solace for every sorrow"?

#### Analysis:

- On February 12, 1944, Anne says that she is longing for something. On February 14, she says that a small part of her problem has been resolved. What was she likely longing for, and how was her problem resolved?
- What does Anne mean, as she writes on February 16, 1944, that Peter has an "inferiority complex"?
- What is the significance of Anne addressing Peter directly at the end of her diary entry on February 23, 1944?

#### Personal Connection:

- On January 12, 1944, Anne writes that she's "currently going through a dance and ballet craze." What's a craze you've gone through in which you've been all-consumed with a certain topic or activity? Explain.