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Class 10 English (Novel) Notes

DIARY OF A YOUNG GIRL



Key Notes and Important Questions with Answers

Novel (10 Marks)

Diary of a Young Girl

Summary :-

- * June 12, 1942__Anne Frank begins her diary.
- * The diary__Gifted to her on her birthday by her father__she named it 'Kitty'.
- * Hopes she will be able to share her feelings and experiences by writing it ____she feels "Paper has more patience than man.
- * First of all Anne gives a brief description of her childhood.
- * She was born in 1929, in Frankfurt. Germany____later moved to Holland.
- * In 1940 the Nazis occupied Holland____they had natural hatred against the Jews.
- * A lot of restrictions on Jews____not allowed Anne and her family to live a healthy life in spite of their feelings of uncertainty and fear.
- * Anne describes her school, which continues in the entry dated June 21.
- * She affirms that she talks a lot about the punishment she got____.
- * ____The teacher asked her to write an essay on the topic incorrigible chatter box.
- * July 5, Anne exclaims that she got good marks (July 3, 1992 to July 10, 1997).
- * Claims that her sister Margot is truly brainy one in the family.
- * Feels the infatuation towards boys, particularly Peter Wassel whom she has crush on.
- * Shares the thought of strange bond between her father and herself.
- * Anne is not that much close to her mother and sister.

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- * Anne's father tells her about her hiding plan of taking the family into hiding to escape the German torture.
(11 July to 9 Oct. 1942)
 - * Anne finds the hiding place boring and miserable but she understands the necessity of living in it.
 - * She describes living in the annex is like 'living in a strange boarding house.
 - * Another family of Van Daans Joins them. Things were never sweet between Mrs. Frank and Van Daans, they argue over petty things.
November 28, 1942 to June 13, 1943
 - * Anne realises that Mrs. Van Daan criticises her rather too much calls her a spoilt child.
 - * In the annexe Anne was informed about the Jews being tortured by Germans Anne depressed to hear that wanted all that to end soon worried about her friends.

October 16, 1942 – November 20, 1942

- * Anne tries to keep herself busy with studies.
- * Now she is getting along with her sister and mother better.
- * Anne lets Margot read her diary.
- * Anne growing she longs for trust, love and physical affection.
- * Another visitor joins them Mr. Albert Dussel a dentist married to a Christian woman.
- * Mr. Dussel tells them about the problems being faced by Jews outside.
- * Anne feels safe and lucky in the annexe.

November 28, 1942 – June 13, 1943

- * Life in Annexe__too disciplined__the residents use too much electricity__Exceed their ration.
- * Two celebrations in the Annexe__Mannukkah and St. Nicholas Day on the same day.
- * Mr. Dussel opens a dental clinic in the Annexe.
- * The situation outside is horrible and unnerving__Jews are separated from their families, by the Nazis.
- * Anne frightened by the sound of gun shot at night.
- * hears radio announcement that Jews must be deported from Netherlands by the beginning of July.
- * Anne reaches her fourteenth birthday.
- * Anne shows her frustration while dealing with adults.
- * She is still young and emotionally immature.
- * Hopes that the persecution of the Jews will end and they will be free again.

Character based Type

1. Write a brief Character sketch of Anne Frank.
 - A. Lonely adolescent girl
 - * Many friends but talk about trivial things.
 - * Can't open her heart even to her mother.
 - * Find 'Kitty' her diary, only confidante.
 - * Quite optimistic.
 - * Introspective and thoughtful.
 - * Shows rare understanding
 - * Constantly struggling between her innermost thoughts and the adult world she has to live in.

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2. How did Anne feel about her hiding in the secret Annexe ? How did she face it as a young girl ?
 - A. * Felt lonely and dejected several times.
 - * But never despaired.
 - * Regarded their hiding as dangerous adventure, romantic and interesting at the same time.
 - * Laugh at the humorous side of the dangerous moments.
 - * Hopeful that situation would improve soon.
 3. Write a character sketch of Margot Frank, Anne's elder sister.
 4. Write a character sketch of Otto Frank Anne's Father.
 5. Character sketch of Anne's mother, Edith Frank.
 6. Character sketch of Van Daan.
 7. Give a brief character sketch of Albert Dussel in your own words.
 8. How did Anne get her diary ? What did it tell us about her childhood?
 9. Why does Anne say, "Paper has more patience than people."
 10. How did the Germans force the Franks to lead a hellish life. What restrictions were put on the Jews?
 11. What did Anne's father tell them to do immediately. Where did the Frank family moved ? Describe the place of their hiding.
 12. How did the arrival of two families in the Annexe affect the Franks ? What change took place in the Annexe ?
 13. After shifting to Annexe, the focus of Anne's writing changed ? Elaborate ?

Character Sketches

OTTO Frank

Mr. Frank, who is Anne's father, was a kind, smart, most gentle and thoughtful father (tries to save the best food for the children and takes the smallest portion for himself), he almost always supported Anne, frequently took her side, different from other members of Annexe. He

was generous, kind, and level headed. Anne is closer to him than her mother or sister, tries to impress her father, live up to his expectations, and obey his wishes. Anne feels hurt on her father's conservative views regarding her friendship with Peter, she didn't like her father's conservative protectiveness for her, was a smart, resourceful, and caring father, as well as a talented businessman, man of strong character, returned to Holland, where he received Anne's diary and tried to find the survivors of Annexe.

Edith Frank

She is the mother of Anne and Margot Frank, Anne feels that her mother is cold, critical, and uncaring, that they have very little in common, and she does not know how to show love to her children. Most of the time she is the source of Anne's anger and frustration. Anne rarely comments on her mother's positive traits. In later part she is seen more as a wife and mother, peacemaker she is the voice of reason during adult fights in Annexe, Anne often finds her mother either too sentimental or too critical. Anne thinks her mother can't be a fit mother to her, she, the mother, lived under too much stress and suffered pain of the persecution and forced confinement in an Annexe.

Margot Frank

A quiet, obedient child, who always kept her clothes neat and clean Margot was the elder sister of Anne, she was considered more beautiful and the more intelligent of the two, and it seems Anne resented her for this sometimes, good at studies, and everyone's favourite, she often clashes with Anne because of her talkative and rebellious attitude, During the confinement in Annexe they grew very close, learned to be more patient with one another, and became close friends. Once discovered by Gestapo sent to concentration camp, there too took care of Anne, being gravely ill and lying in a deep coma for days, Margot died of Typhus.

Miep

Miep was a secretary at Otto Frank's office she was instrumental in helping them to hide in secret Annexe. She is described by Anne as a short, cheerful and intelligent young woman. Miep married Henkin in July 1941, brave and resolute girl who knew about her husband's work but never stopped him. Encouraged and supported the people living in hiding, brought them food and visited them in their hiding place, always brought news from the outside, became a good friend of Anne. Supportive and caring she with Elli, arranged little gifts and surprises on birthdays and festivals, gave her best to make the situation comfortable by bringing flowers and other things, never lost her cool. she rescued Anne's diary handed it over to Otto Frank.

Elli-

A Dutch woman, who worked in the office as a typist, closest to Anne, seems gentle, warm and shy person, often discussed her personal problems with Anne, helped Anne and the others practically and mentally throughout the period of hiding. She did all the chores and managed food and clothing for the residents of the Annexe and also arranged coupons and illegal goods, in order to prevent Anne and Margot from being bored she often gave them some office work, was greatly frightened when had to spend a night in Annexe.

The Diary of Anne Frank

Anne's Timeline

- * 12 June 1929 : Anne Frank is born in Frankfurt, Germany to parents Otto Frank and Edith Frank.
30 January 1933 : Adolf Hitler became chancellor of Germany. One month later, following an arson attack on the parliament building, Hitler introduces emergency laws that repress the political opponents.
- 20 March 1933 : The first concentration camp in Germany opens, at Dachau, near Munich.
- 24 March 1933 : The enabling Act is passed by the Reichstag giving Hitler power to rule by decree.
- Summer 1933 : The Frank family moved to Holland to escape the growing persecution in Germany.
- 1 September 1939 : Germany invades Poland in defiance of an Anglo French ultimatum. Two days later, Britain and France declare war on Germany, World War two begins.
- 10 May 1940 : Germany invades Netherlands, Belgium and France.
- 12 June 1942 : Anne receives a diary for her thirteenth birthday.
- 5 July 1942 : Margot Frank receives a call up notice from the Nazis to return to Germany to work in a labour camp. The next day, the Frank family go into hiding in the secret Annex above Otto's offices. They are joined by the Van Pels' family. One

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- week later (Anne gave the Van Pels family the Pseudonym Van Daan in her diary.)
- 16 November 1942 : Dentist Fritz Pfeffer joins the Franks and the Van Pels in hiding in the secret Annex (Anne gave first Pfeffer the pseudonym Albert Dussel in her diary)
 - 4 August 1944 : The Annexe is raided by the security police following an anonymous tip off. All occupants and two helpers are arrested and sent to Westerbork transit camp.
 - 3 September 1944 : The occupants of the Annexe are transported to Auschwitz Birkenau on the last train to leave Westerbork.
 - End of October 1944. Anne and Margot both die of typhus only a few days apart. Berger Belsen camp is liberated by British troops on 15 April.
 - April 1945 : Hitler commits suicide as Soviet troops close in on his bunker in Berlin. Eight days later, Germany surrenders to end World war two in Europe.
- Otto Frank was the only occupant of the secret Annexe to survive. Miep Gies saved Anne's diary following the raid on the Annexe and returned it unread to Otto after the war.
- 25 June 1947 : Anne's diary is first published in Dutch. It has now been translated into 50 languages and is one of the world's most popular books.
 - * Anne and her sister Margot are transported from Auschwitz Birkenau to Bergen Belsen concentration camp.

Summary at a Glance :

Sunday 21 January, 1944 to Friday 25 January 1944.

- * Anne Frank writes about her growing stage as she is feeling changes in her body.
- * She questions herself why her mother has not been able to understand her.
- * She expresses her sorrows, joys, feelings and contempt. She is not happy over quarrels with her mother.
- * She has got an intense desire to talk to someone. She chooses Peter at the Annexe as a friend. She starts thinking about him.
- * Anne felt that she does not belong to Mummy, Daddy and Margot and that she was an outsider. She tried to force herself to be friendly with her mother but in vain. She thinks that Mrs. Van Daan has positive side.
- * From Peter she comes to know that Bosche, the cat would soon be having a family. He tells her about organs as well.
- * The inmates enjoy the funny arguments; talking and discussing about the people in hiding, business and politics.

Thursday 3 February, 1944 to Monday 28 Feb. 1944

- * Anne writes about invasion fever. She got an opportunity to meet Peter in attic. There is a mention of English landing Holland : the Germans will do all to defend the country.
- * All of them agree that the secret Annexe is safest place for them. They would request Miep and Hank to provide extra blankets and food items. If they had to leave they would prepare small bags to hide money.

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- * When Dussel went on fiddling with the knobs, Peter got upset. They celebrate Margot's birthday. Anne helped Peter in his French lessons. She felt that something nice can grow up between them. Her mother does not like her visit to his room.
 - * On 19th February she writes that she entered the private office and longed for Peter to come. But he did not come. Next morning she went to the attic for fresh air. Both sat together and looked at the sky, tree and the birds flying in the air. Anne is totally absorbed in Peter.

Wednesday March 1, 1944 to Tuesday 14, 1944

- * An incidence of burglary disturbs all the inmates. The projector and Kraler's new portfolio were stolen from the cupboards. It was the work of one of the warehouse workers.
- * Elli shared with Mummy and Mrs. Van Daan that sometimes she left very discouraged. Mummy advised her to think of those who are in trouble. When Anne tries to do in the same way she was advised to keep aside. Daddy too pushed her aside.
- * Inmates in the Annexe now states how much time the two spend in closeness Mrs. Van Daan teases Anne asking her if it is all right to trust Peter and Anne along together.
- * Anne felt that she could manage herself without any support from her parents. She had no faith in her father and mother she wants to be brave though she is unable to reveal her inward feeling.

Thursday March 16, 1944 to March 31, 1944

- * It was a relief at the Secret Annexe as Mr. Krater has been from digging by the court. Anne and Peter talk about their parents. Peter thinks that he was talkative and isolated. Anne says that they are like two sides of the same coin.
- * Anne received a letter from Margot that she was neither jealous of Anne nor Peter. Margot declared that she thought of Peter as a young brother. In her diary of 23th March, Anne writes about the outside world.
- * Elli and Koophius are at home. The crashed plane near the Annexe on the top of a school. Anne States that she does not want to give up Peter. She writes about Bolkestein, An MP who spoke to Dutch Broadcast from London that after the war they ought to make a collection of diaries and letter about the war.
- * She describes the air-raids, 350 British Planes dropped bombs on Ijmuiden and houses shook like grass in the wind. There was acute shortage of food. A million jews live in fear and uncertainty.

Saturday 1st April, 1944 to 28 April 1944

- * There was a keen desire for a kiss from Peter. During their stay of 21 months. they had taken one type of dish, it was with potatoes. At present they were having beans only. Anne wants to be a journalist. She lists her hobbies in the diary writing, family trees, history, Greek and Roman mythology film stars, books, reading, poets, painters and music.
- * Ms. Van Daan, Peter, Daddy and Dussel came downstairs and saw the burglars enlarging the hole. They heard the large footsteps downwards there they met Miep and Henk.

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- * Anne heard on the BBC about the eighteenth birthday of her royal highness, Princess Elizabeth of York. She dreamt about Peter Wessel.

Tuesday 2 may, 1944 to Wednesday 31 may 1944

- * Anne wrote informing her father about her love affair with Peter. Anne mentioned about the biographies of parents. Her Daddy was born in Frankfurt. After grandpa's death all the money was lost in the world war and nothing was left.
- * There was a little discussion between Mr. and Mrs. Van Daan about the war. All the books, notes, diagrams and her family trees were soaked due to the water from the broken vase. Anne wept bitterly.

Friday 2 June, 1944 to Friday, 30 June 1944

- * Anne tells her diary this D-Day, the invasion has begun. All people living within thirty five kilometers radius has been warned to remain ready heavily bombarded.
- * There was a great commotion in Annexe. They talked about the war but they are unable to know anything. Margot says that they may go to school in September or October. They celebrated Anne's fifteenth birthday on 13 June 1944.
- * Anne writes about the prisoners in the jail and people in the hospitals. A terrible fight is still going on. All German Women are evacuated to other places.

Thursday 6 July , 1944 to Tuesday 1 August 1944

- * Anne wrote in about Peter. She wrote, "You must work and to good, not to be lazy and gamble, if you wish to earn happiness. Laziness may appear attractive but work gives satisfaction."
- * Her last diary of 1st august 1944 reveals about her two sides. First side of her life shows her as a cheerful and amusing girl. Only a few know her other side which is both deeper and finer. She always showed her first side to appear and never allowed the second side to appear.
- * Her deeper Anne was weak. She tried to find a way of becoming what she would like to be and what she 'Could be, if..... there were not any otherpeople living in the world'. In this way, Anne ends her last diary.
- * On 4th August, 1944 all the inmates were arrested and sent to the concentration camp. All except Otto Frank died in the camp. He spent his life by sharing the message of his daughter's diary with rest of the world.

Answer the following Questions :

- i) Describe the character of Peter as said by Anne. What remedy does she suggest as a change?

Hints :-

- * She wanted him to understand to judge between good and bad.
 - * She didn't want him to lazy
 - * She feels that Peter needed love and affection.
 - * She wants him to become a strong person in life.
- ii) Describe the incidence of burglary.

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- * Anne and Peter sat closely together, when Mr. Van Daan heard a bang sound.
 - * They saw the burglars enlarging the hole in the door of the warehouse.
 - * Van Daan shouted police, the burglars ran away.
 - * After two days the night watchman's wife also saw the hole in the door
 - * Henk was told by the green grocer about the theft.
 - iii) Give the brief description of Anne's Dream.
 - iv) Why was there food scarcity at Secret Annexe?
 - v) What conversation took place between Anne and her Daddy on the issue of her affair with Peter?
 - vi) Anne is a great lover of nature. How does she find solace in the company of nature?
 - vii) What are the two sides of Anne's personality?
 - viii) How does Anne change her assessment of Mrs. Van Daan?
 - ix) How did Anne's wish that she should be remembered even after her death materialized?
 - x) "It is difficult at times like these ideals, dreams and cherished hopes rise within us, only to be crushed by grim reality. It's a wonder I haven't abandoned all my ideals, they seem too absurd and impractical. Yet I cling to them because I still believe, in spite of everything, that people are truly good at heart." Explain.

Based on your reading of the diary of a Young Girl, Discuss its major themes.

1. Conflict between the adolescents and grown ups
- a. Clashes between the young and grown ups

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- b. Adolescents like Anne Margot and Peter disliked the interference of their life.
 - c. Mild and harsh rebukes made them harsher.
 - d. Grown ups appear to be over protective, criticize and find faults in adolescents, rift widens.
2. Horror of War.
- a. Powerful Nazis inflicted horrors on Jews
 - b. Eight Jews condemned to live in secret
 - c. Starvation, deprivation, insecurity, uncertainty made them miserable.
 - d. Freedom was severely curtailed.
 - e. Tension ridden life.
 - f. Fate was concentration camp and gas chambers.
3. Faith in Love and goodness
- a. Meip helped the Jews in the Annexe
 - b. Elli also helped in her own way
 - c. Tried to provide necessary things keep them cheerful
 - d. Surrounded by family and friends
 - e. Together they developed courage to fight the enemy
 - f. Unshakeable faith in love gives hope of survival.
4. Discrimination on the basis of race and gender.
- a. Nazis versus Jews, atrocities inflicted by Gestapo
 - b. Jews condemned as second class citizen.
 - c. No rights
 - d. Killed and murdered without any fault.

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- e. Women treated inferior to men
 - f. They were economically dependent on men.
 - g. Did all the household chores.
 - h. Longing in women to be at par with men.
5. World view of a child (as to how Anne perceived the world in those circumstances)
- a. She write what she saw
 - b. Analysis wide range of behaviour and attitude
 - c. Highlights the generosity and gratitude for father and other helpers
 - d. Describes the pettiness and cruelty of callous Germans on fellow citizens.
- “ The diary of a young girl” is a record of the horrors humans exerted upon other humans. Discuss in detail.
- “ How does Anne Frank change from a shy little girl in the beginning of her diary to a mature girl after the stay for two years in the secret Annexe? Support your answer with examples from the diary.

Short Answer Questions

- Q.1. Describe the character traits of Mr. Otto Frank?
- Q.2. Write a brief pensketch of Mrs. Edith Frank?
- Q.3. Anne does not have a best friend. What role is played by the diary in her life?
- Q.4. What restrictions were imposed on the Jew's freedom? How did the laws affect the Frank family?

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- Q.5. Describe the momentous event when the Frank family left, their house on Merwedeplein.
- Q.6. How did Anne describe her father's work place and the unique SecretAnnexe?
- Q.7. How does Anne feel living in the SecretAnnexe?
- Q.8. How did Anne describe her father's work place and the unique SecretAnnexe ?
- Q.9. Describe the day of Anne's Birthday.
- Q.10. Who were the Helpers in the secret Annexe? What was Anne's opinion about them ?

Long Answer Questions

- Q.1. Why did Anne get another black mark against her name? How does she justify her behaviour — (April 1943).
- Q.2. How does the author describe Mr. Vossen's illness — (June 1943).
- Q.3. What are the disadvantages of having a cat in the Annex?
- Q.4. Describe the incident of the burglary on July 16, 1943.
- Q.5. Why was Anne consuming vallerian pills ? What were the other reasons of her being unhappy — (Sept. 1943)
- Q.6. Describe Anne's dream — (Nov. 1943)
- Q.7. Explain why the adults in the Secret Annex are afraid of the Germans?
- Q.8. Which of Annes admirable qualities does Peter wish he had? Why had it become important for Anne to develop a friendship with Peter ?
- Q.9. Why was there food scarcity in Secret Anne? What were the views of the finegrown ups? — (March 1944)
- Q.10. Analyze the focus of the adults over the radio broad casts.
- Q.11. What description is given about Anne's family? What does Anne desire? (May 1944)
- Q.12. Describe the character of Peter as said by Anne. What remedy does she suggest as a change?

