

Knowledge Organiser: Anne Frank

Writer's Intent	Key Idea	Explanation	How it's seen in the text	
In her diary, Anne Frank is documenting what life was like for her family – and many other Jewish people – under the persecution from the Nazis. She gives a realistic, and largely unrestricted, insight into her thoughts and feelings during this difficult and unprecedented period of her life. She used her diary as a confidante which helped her keep track and make sense of her feelings and experiences.	Adolescence	The period following the onset of puberty during which a young person develops from a child into an adult.	This is seen through Anne's description of her relationships with other people in the Annex (particularly Peter and her Mother). Anne describes relationships and experiences (e.g. her first kiss and getting her period) which are universal, helping readers to relate to what she is writing about.	
	Persecution	Hostility and ill-treatment, especially because of race or political or religious beliefs; oppression.	All accounts of life in the annex from the diary are testimony to the ill-treatment that Jewish people faced at the hands of the Nazis as they were forced into hiding, There are also many accounts of this throughout the diary where those living in the annex discuss stories they've heard about things occurring in concentration camps, which give further harrowing testimony to the events taking place during World War Two.	
	Discrimination	The unjust or prejudicial treatment of different categories of people, especially on the grounds of race, age, sex, or disability.	Anne Frank gives many examples of the ways that Nazis treated Jewish people differently, such as certain ice cream shops not serving them because they were Jewish. This is mainly seen towards the start of the diary before Anne and her family are forced into hiding.	
	Fear	a feeling of anxiety concerning the outcome of something or the safety of someone.	Anne's fear at being discovered increases as the diary goes on and after events such as the break-in make it clear that their situation is precarious. News of what is happening to Jewish people in concentration camps also increases this fear.	
	Isolation	Being alone or apart from others. This creates a sense of loneliness and sadness.	Anne Frank expresses feelings of isolation throughout the diary, but this is very clearly seen when her family first move into the annex. Anne feels confused and upset by the move and is focussed on how much she misses her friends and the freedom she had.	
Part way through writing her diary, Anne Frank decided that she would like to be an author, and perhaps one day publish the text and show the world what she had experienced. As part of this, she went back and edited certain sections.	Writer's Methods			
	Method	Definition	Example	Purpose
	Rhetorical questions	A question asked in order to create a dramatic effect or to make a point rather than to get an answer.	'So why don't they try to make amends by asking them what's what?'	It shows how confused and unsure Anne is about her situation. It is also used to show her frustration over certain people's actions.
	Modal verbs	Verbs that indicate the likelihood, permission or obligation of an action.	'I won't give up until I've reached my goal!'	They can show her lack of surety over what is happening and the future; or – as in this instance – show her determination and stoicism in the face of adversity.
	Onomatopoeia	A word that sounds like what it is describing.	'More rattling at the bookcase, twice.'	Highlights that she often can't see what's happening in the world around her and is dependent on what she can hear.
	Personification	The attribution of human feelings, emotions, or sensations to an inanimate object or concept.	'I hope I will be able to confide everything to you , as I have never been able to confide in anyone'	Personifying the diary shows how Anne uses it as a confidante and therefore the truthfulness of feeling as she sees it.
	Gallows Humour	Humour used in a desperate or hopeless situation.	'how can we, whose every possession, from my underpants to Father's shaving brush, is so old and worn , ever hope to regain the position we had before the war?'	This is used as a coping mechanism to deal with the traumatic situation Anne finds herself in. By making light of the situation it allows Anne to distance herself from the extent of the trauma.
Her dream to have her diary published was realised posthumously, when the diary was returned to her father and he decided to have it published.				



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Key Word Glossary			
Word	Definition	Example	Word in Action
Comic Relief	The inclusion of a humorous character, scene, or witty dialogue in an otherwise serious work, often to relieve tension.	Comic relief helps to break the tension of the scene.	
Confide	To trust someone with a secret or private matter.	Anne Frank confides in her diary.	
Direct Address	Language used to speak directly to someone (often involving the pronoun 'you').	The use of direct address makes it seem like Anne is confessing things directly to the reader.	
Dramatic Irony	Where the reader/ audience knows more than the characters. They are aware that certain things are wrong.	There is dramatic irony because the reader knows she doesn't survive the Holocaust.	
Emotive Language	The deliberate choice of words to influence emotion in the reader/ audience.	The use of emotive language helps the reader	
Empathy	The ability to understand and share the feelings of another.	empathise with the situation.	
Genocide	An intentional action to destroy an ethnic, national, racial, or religious group.	The Nazis committed genocide against the Jews.	
Imperative Verb	A verb that tells someone to do something. This means the sentence becomes an order or a command.	The imperative verbs show that there is no choice, they have to go into hiding.	
Irony	State of affairs or an event that seems deliberately contrary to what one expects and is often wryly amusing as a result.	It is ironic that Anne falls in love with Peter given how much she disliked him at first.	
Optimism	Hopefulness and confidence about the future.	Anne remains optimistic throughout her time in hiding.	
Perspective	A particular attitude towards something; a point of view.	Anne's perspective of her relationship with Peter is different from her Father's'.	
Poignant	Creating a strong sense of sadness or regret.	Anne Frank's hope and belief is particularly poignant as we know that she dies.	
Pronouns	A word that replaces a noun (name) in a sentence.	Anne refers to her diary using the pronoun 'you'.	
Refugee	A person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution, or natural disaster.	The persecution of the Nazis led to many Jewish people becoming refugees .	
Sarcasm	The use of remarks that clearly mean the opposite of what they say, made in order to hurt.	Anne's use of sarcasm reveals her frustration with certain members of the annex.	
Sentence Fragment	A clause that falls short of true sentencehood because it is missing one of three critical components: a subject, a verb, and a complete thought.	The sentence fragments show the confusion about what is happening.	
Stoicism	The endurance of pain or hardship without the display of feelings and without complaint.	Anne's use of humour in difficult circumstances shows how stoic she is.	
Tension	The feeling that is produced in a situation when people are anxious or do not trust each other, and when there is a possibility of sudden violence or conflict.	There are moments of tension in the diary where the reader is fearful for the safety of all those in the annex.	
The Holocaust	A genocide during World War II in which Nazi Germany murdered six million European Jews.	Anne Frank wrote her diary during the Holocaust .	
Tone	The attitudes toward the subject and toward the audience implied in a literary work.	She uses a particularly scathing tone showing her dislike of Mrs Van Daan.	



