

Name: _____

Biographies: *Anne Frank*

The main character of this story, Anne Frank, was born in Frankfurt, Germany on June 12, 1929. Her real name is Annelies Marie Frank. She is known worldwide because she wrote a personal diary during World War II.



She belonged to a family of German Jews who had to flee to Amsterdam because of the Nazi persecution. At that time, Adolf Hitler hated the Jews. If you were Jewish, you could be persecuted and even killed.

During Anne's first years of life, labor shortages, poverty, and the Nazi occupation made life difficult for her family. They moved to Amsterdam to find a better life. Anne's father, Otto Frank, got a job there with a company that sold a fruit extract called pectin. For a little while, life improved for the family.



Over the next couple of years, the rights and comforts of the Jews disappeared. Simple things like going to the movies, shopping at a store, or riding on a bus were banned for Jews.

Anne had to go to a Jews-only school because Jews were no longer allowed to attend school with the rest of the students. Her father lost his job and her family struggled.

When the Nazis invaded the Netherlands, Anne and her family hid in an old building on the banks of one of the canals that run through the city. During the Nazi occupation from July 9, 1942 to August 4, 1944, eight people lived under the same roof.

The few Jews who dared to go outside had to have the star of David sewn on their clothing so they could be identified easily. They were all at a considerable risk, some were captured and locked up.

The area in the building where Anne's family hid was very narrow and had limited space. They could not make any noise, or they would be discovered. The only help they received from outside came through a couple of employees at the building. They brought them water, food, and newspapers with news about the war.



It was a distressing situation for everyone. Anne was only 13 years old when she decided to write a diary to get rid of the stress of her life. She expressed her feelings and ideas secretly. Writing also help the time pass more quickly while she waited for them to be released.

In August 1944, before Anne could finish her diary, her family was arrested by German police. She was deported to

Auschwitz and later to the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp. Anne and her sister contracted a contagious disease and died there in 1945.

Her father was the only survivor from the family. When he returned to the building where they had hidden, he discovered his daughter's diary. Otto decided that the world should read his daughter's thoughts. "The Diary of Anne Frank" was published in June of 1947. They only published 3000 copies at first, but it soon reached great fame and was translated into dozens of languages.

The number of copies published has soared, reaching almost 30 million copies sold worldwide. It was also made into a movie which has been shown in

theaters across the world. The denunciation of the Nazi barbarism has finally been heard, and an understanding of the negative effects caused by racism, intolerance, and discrimination is reaching society.

In 1960, the hiding place of the Frank family became the Anne Frank House Museum and was opened to the public. With millions of visitors every year, the museum tour takes about 90 minutes, and allows you to relive the experiences narrated in the book of the young Anne in a very emotional way.

Some interesting facts about the famous diary:

- Anne wrote her diary in the form of letters, addressing it as Dear Kitty.
- In the 90s, it was discovered that the diary was not published in its entirety, and that a part of the diary was never revealed.
- In some countries of the world, The Diary of Anne Frank is banned, no one can read it publicly.

If you have not read the book, I recommend that you do. It is a way to learn about actual historical events that happened in the 20th century and to understand that all people are equal regardless of skin color, religion, nationality, age, or beliefs.

The Frank Family



Name: _____



ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

1. **Who was Anne Frank?**
 - a. A famous painter of the twentieth century.
 - b. A Jewish girl who wrote stories about Hitler.
 - c. A German journalist who was following the war very closely.
 - d. A Jewish girl who wrote a diary about her life.
2. **Members of the Frank family ...**
 - a. They took refuge in a building that was a factory on a canal in France.
 - b. They were Jews persecuted by the Nazi regime.
 - c. They went out and shopped in stores near their house, and made a normal life, just like you and me.
 - d. They survived a nuclear attack in Amsterdam.
3. **What does it mean to wear a Star of David sewn into your clothes?**
 - a. That they're in favor of the Nazi regime.
 - b. That they're Jews.
 - c. That they're Anne Frank's family.
 - d. They go to the fashion of the time.
4. **It can be inferred that the situation in the Frank family from 1942 to 1944 is overwhelming and stressful. Indicate where this can be observed.**
 - a. When they hid in a building.
 - b. When Otto Frank worked in a pectin production factory.
 - c. When Anne Frank's museum opens to the public.
 - d. When Anne must go to an exclusive Jewish school.
5. **Anne Frank wrote her diary...**
 - a. Because she was a successful writer.
 - b. To protect herself from the attack of the Germans.
 - c. Because it was a way of channeling her anguish.
 - d. In just 3 months.



6. Anne Frank's diary assumes ...

- a. That Anne's fear of being hidden is reflected in her diary and her anguish is released.
- b. That time passes slowly when you write something.
- c. That she could write made-up stories about goblins and fairies.
- d. That her story would be a source of extra money.

7 After reading the story, who was Kitty?

- a. Anne Frank's mother.
- b. Anne Frank's pet.
- c. The person Anne's addressing in her diary.
- d. Anne Frank's sister.

8 When the Nazi occupation began in Amsterdam, Jews were banned from____

- a. going shopping.
- b. riding the buses.
- c. attending school with non-Jewish students.
- d. all the above.

9 In the 1990's it was discovered that the diary was not published in its entirety and that a part of the diary was never revealed.

- a. True
- b. False

10 The text explains the anguish Anne Frank went through and the terror she must have felt during her years hidden in that building.

With a line join the following words so that they form synonyms.

- a. Anguish - Outrage
- b. Anger - Unrest
- c. Fear - Frank
- d. Sincere - Panic

