

Tuesday 16th June

What to do today

IMPORTANT Parent or Carer - Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and any weblinks or use of internet.

Learning Objective: to compare an aspect of WW2 with modern life

1. To learn about Anne Frank

- Today we'll be learning about a girl named Anne Frank - you might have heard of her. Her life was changed dramatically as a result of the events of WW2. Watch this short video to learn a little about her struggles during WW2 and take a moment to reflect on what this might have felt like for her. How would she be feeling? What might she have been thinking? Or hoping?

<https://www.annefrank.org/en/anne-frank/who-was-anne-frank/>

- Having watched the video, read A Typical day in the Secret Annex (you might need an adult to help with this) and take a look around the building. Thank you to annefrank.org for the information

<https://www.annefrank.org/en/anne-frank/secret-annex/>

2. Comparing periods of isolation

- Finally, use the Venn Diagram and prompt questions to compare Anne's time hiding in the Secret Annex to your time in Lockdown. Whilst the reasons for staying in are very different, you might find that the effects on your life and perhaps some thoughts, worries, loss of freedoms are similar.

A Typical Day in the Secret Annex

Anne Frank spent 761 days in the Secret Annex. Although each day was different from the last, there was a certain rhythm to life in the Secret Annex. Based on Anne's diary, we can reconstruct what typical weekdays and Sundays in the Secret Annex would have been like.

In the morning

At 6:45 am, the alarm of Mr and Mrs Van Pels went off. Anne got up and removed the blackout screens from the windows. The people in hiding took turns using the bathroom. At 8:30 am, a risky half hour started. The men in the warehouse started their working day, while the office helpers had not yet arrived. Any noise from the people in hiding was dangerous, as the warehouse was located below the hiding place and the warehouse staff were unaware of the people in hiding.

At 9:00 am, the helpers started working in the office above the warehouse. The people in hiding walked around in socks and still had to be quiet, but sounds from above now caused less suspicion. The rest of the morning was devoted to reading, studying, and preparing for their lunch break.



Reconstruction of the front storeroom, 1999.

The lunchbreak

At 12:30 pm, the warehouse workers went home for lunch, and the helpers and people in hiding had the place to themselves for a while. At 12:45 pm came up to the Secret Annex to have lunch.

Miep Gies usually stayed in the office to keep an eye on things. For the people in hiding, it was nice to see other people and to hear the latest news from the city. At 1 pm, the radio was switched on for the BBC news. At 1:15 pm, they had lunch and at 1:45 pm, the helpers went back to work.



From England, Queen Wilhelmina made every effort to support the occupied Netherlands. Here, she addresses the Dutch citizens via Radio Oranje

In the afternoon

After the people in hiding had cleared everything away, most of them took an afternoon nap. Anne used that time for studying or writing. Around four o'clock, they had coffee and then started on the preparations for dinner.

At 5:30 pm, the warehouse workers went home. Helper Bep Voskuijl usually came by to see if the people in hiding needed anything. After she had gone home at a quarter to six, the people in hiding were no longer restricted to the Secret Annex and they spread out through the building.

In the evening

Hermann van Pels looked at the day's post, Peter van Pels fetched the bread that had been left for them in the office, Otto Frank wrote business letters on the typewriter, Margot and Anne did administrative chores and Auguste van Pels and Edith Frank cooked dinner.

After dinner, they read, talked, or listened to the radio. Around 9 pm, they started preparing for the night. Pieces of furniture had to be moved. Every day when the sun

went down, the windows had to be blacked out. After that, the Secret Annex went quiet. The next morning, the alarm went off at 6:45 am again, except on Sundays.



Reconstruction of the bathroom in the Secret Annex, 1999.

A Sunday in the Secret Annex

A Sunday in the Secret Annex had a completely different rhythm to it and was characterised by 'scrubbing, sweeping and washing'. Breakfast did not start until 11:30 am on Sundays. After three quarters of an hour, everyone went to work: scrubbing the carpets, doing the laundry, making the beds.

After a short break, during which they listened to the news, the cleaning and tidying up continued until about two o'clock. After another round of radio news, a music program and coffee, it was time for an extended siesta. At 2 pm, they would go back to bed for a few hours. Anne did not understand 'why the adults around here always need to sleep?'



The desk in the room of Anne Frank and Fritz Pfeffer in the Secret Annex. Reconstruction, 1999.

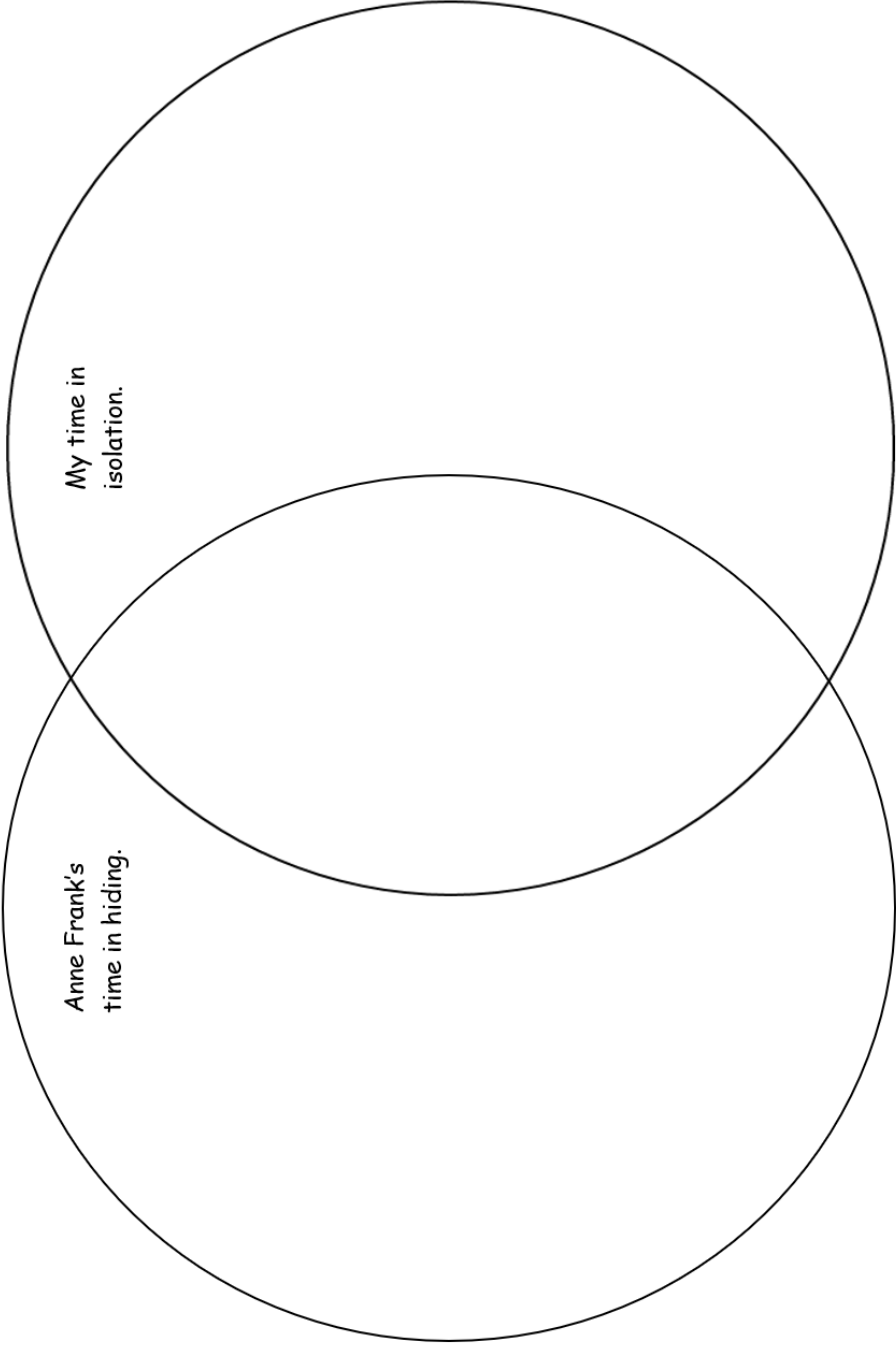
The most miserable day of the week

Anne considered Sunday the most miserable day of the week. 'I wander from one room to the next, down the stairs and back up again and feel like a songbird that has had its wings torn off and flies against the bars of its cage in total darkness. "Outside, fresh air and laughter," a voice inside me screams; I don't even try to answer anymore, I lie down on a divan and sleep in order to shorten the time, the silence, the terrible fear too, because there is no question of killing them.'

Before dinner, they listened to a concert on the radio. After dinner and the dishes, Anne was 'overjoyed', because another incredibly boring Sunday in the Secret Annex was over.

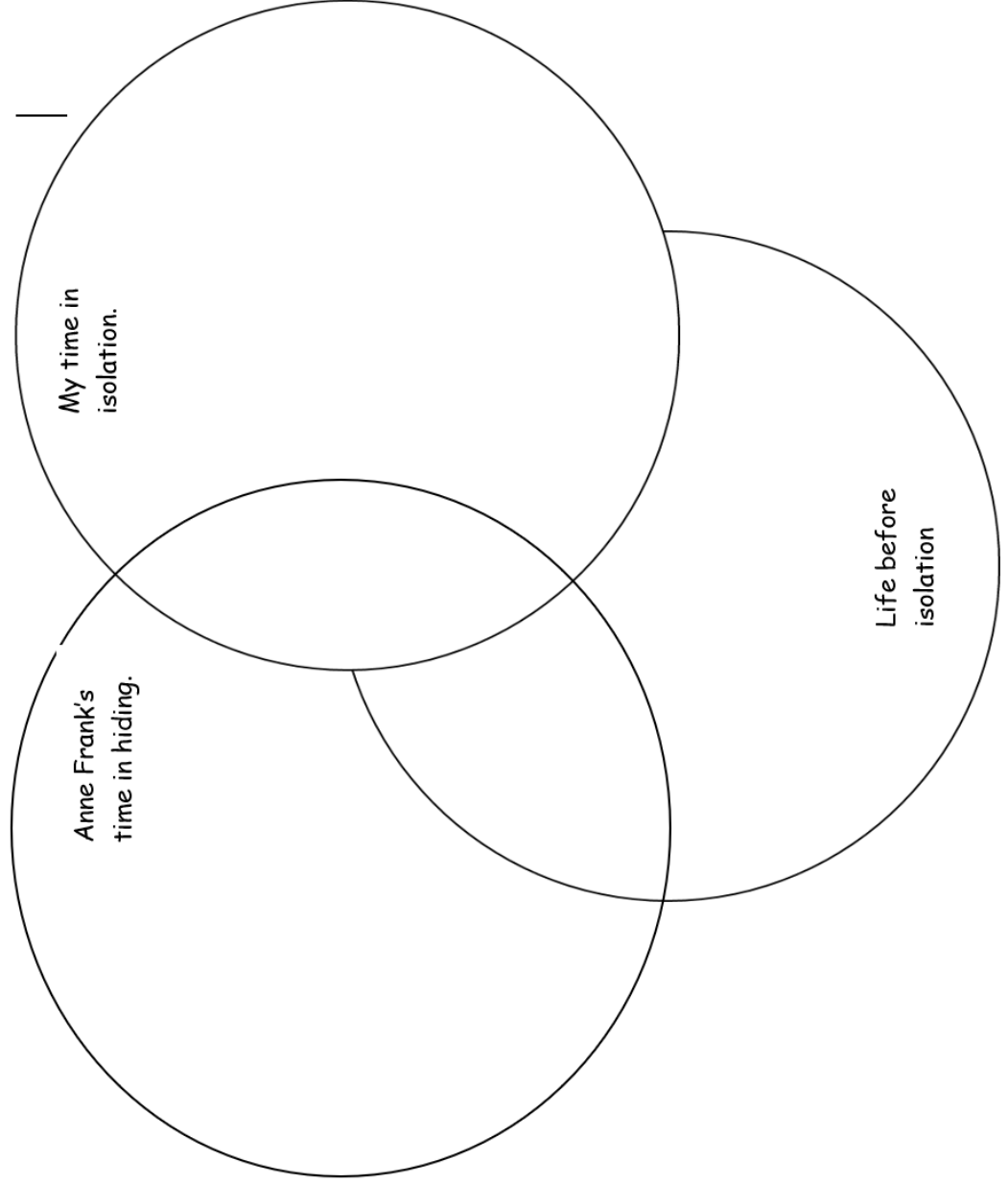
Prompt Questions:
What are the reasons for isolation?
What has changed in daily life?
What is being missed?
What is being enjoyed?
What worries are being felt?
What company is in isolation?
What contact is there with other people?

Comparing periods of isolation



Comparing periods of isolation - challenge sheet

Please draw the remaining circle lines in - I can't seem to make them all visible!



Prompt Questions:

What are the reasons for isolation?

What has changed in daily life?

What is being missed?

What is being enjoyed?

What worries are being felt?

What company is in isolation?

What contact is there with other people?