

Monday

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## Anne Frank's Diary

The following extracts are taken from the diary of Anne Frank between 1942 and 1944, when she lived in hiding in Amsterdam with her family.

The Franks were discovered, arrested and transported to Auschwitz on August 4th 1944.

In this extract, Anne describes The Secret Annex:

July 9th 1942:

"Here's a description of the building... A wooden staircase leads from the downstairs hallway to the third floor. At the top of the stairs is a landing, with doors on either side. The door on the left takes you up to the spice storage area, attic and loft in the front part of the house. A typically Dutch, very steep, ankle-twisting flight of stairs also runs from the front part of the house to another door opening onto the street. The door to the right of the landing leads to the Secret Annex at the back of the house. No one would ever suspect there were so many rooms behind that plain grey door. There's just one small step in front of the door, and then you're inside. Straight ahead of you is a steep flight of stairs. To the left is a narrow hallway opening onto a room that serves as the Frank family's living room and bedroom. Next door is a smaller room, the bedroom and study of the two young ladies of the family. To the right of the stairs is a windowless washroom with a sink. The door in the corner leads to the toilet and another one to Margot's and my room... Now I've introduced you to the whole of our lovely Annex!"

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## SEPTEMBER

Tuesday

First of all, let me get something straight: This is a JOURNAL, not a diary. I know what it says on the cover, but when Mom went out to buy this thing I SPECIFICALLY told her to get one that didn't say "diary" on it.

Great. All I need is for some jerk to catch me carrying this book around and get the wrong idea.



The other thing I want to clear up right away is that this was MOM'S idea, not mine.

The only reason I agreed to do this at all is because I figure later on when I'm rich and famous, I'll have better things to do than answer people's stupid questions all day long. So this book is gonna come in handy.





Wednesday

**Read the short story, then answer the questions in full sentences.**

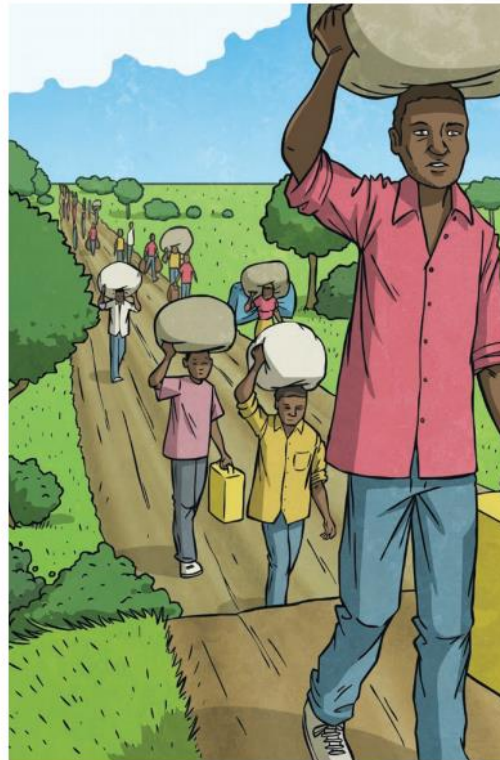
I am not alone, but I am alone. A thousand shuffling people are walking beside me but I don't know any of them by name. The silence deafens me but I hear the sound of fear loud and clear. My world has fallen apart around me and I am afraid for my life and my future.

This week started like any other for me; I went to school on Monday morning as usual, but that was where the similarity ended. By mid-morning, from the **flimsy**<sup>1</sup> shelter of the classroom, we could hear the boom of bombs **relentlessly**<sup>2</sup> dropping on the southern side of our village and we could feel the earthquake tremble of their **impact**<sup>3</sup> through the soles of our feet. Bricks rained from above and **shards**<sup>4</sup> of glass pierced the air without a care.

As the **bombardment**<sup>5</sup> stopped, our teacher ordered us to remain in the safety of the school grounds – but how did she know where safety was? I thought our village was safe, our neighbourhood was safe, our country was safe.

The unsettling quiet afterwards did nothing to calm or reassure us. Our fathers had been working in the fields around the village, our mothers had been shopping in the village market, our brothers and sisters had been sleeping in their cots as we left for school. Where were they now? How were they now?

I had to know what had happened to my family, so I left the familiar setting of my school and stepped into an unknown landscape of destruction. Not one house on the south side remained standing. Not one tree upright. Not one familiar face to be seen. Dust and rubble covered everything in sight like a death shroud.



## Glossary

1. Easily broken; not strong.
2. Continuing without becoming weaker or less severe.
3. The force with which one object hits another.
4. A sharp broken piece of glass or metal.
5. To attack somebody forcefully without a break.

## Questions

1a. What could the opening sentence, 'I am not alone, but I am alone.' mean?

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1b. Using the information from the opening paragraph. How does the author feel?  
Circle one word.

disappointed	tired	excited	terrified
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Use evidence from the text to support your opinion.

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**Making Inferences**

2. How does the description of how the bombs dropped make you feel about the attack?

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3. How did the teacher know the children would be safe in school?

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4. Should the author go and find their family? Give reasons for your opinion.

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5. What do you think the author in the story will find when they get to their part of the village? Answer as fully as you can, using information from the whole text to help you.

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