

Writing Diaries



LEVEL B-4 • Written by Elfrieda H. Hiebert



**Some people write
about their feelings and
experiences in a diary.**

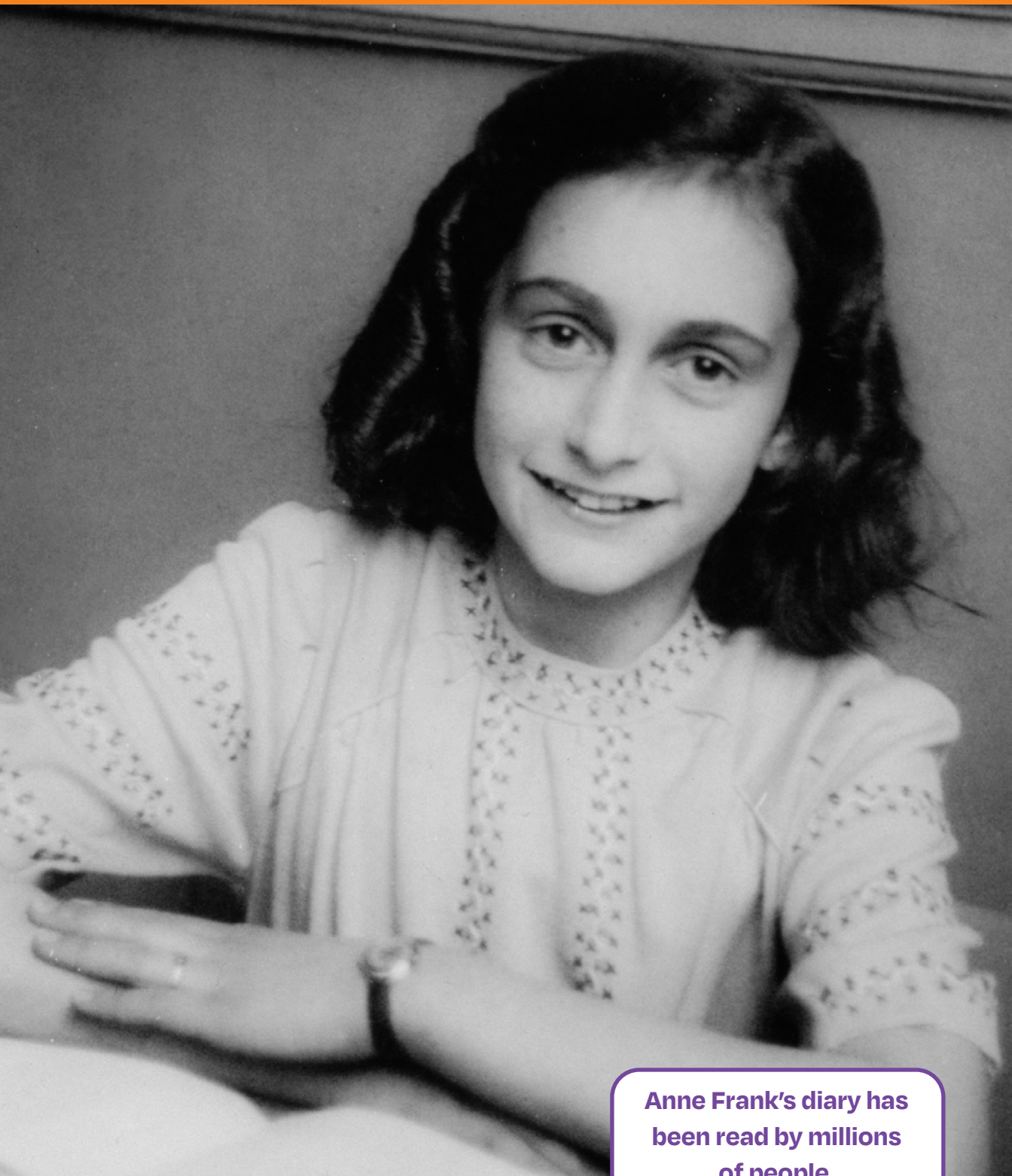
Writing for Yourself

Some people like to write in books that are called diaries. They might write about feelings that they want to keep private, or not share with anyone. Diary writers might write about a problem they have that is hard to talk about it. They might write things they can't even tell a friend.

Although some people use diaries to write about feelings and thoughts that they want to keep private, other people write about the world around them. For these people, writing in diaries can be a way to think about and understand things that happen and the people they meet.

Key Notes:

What is a diary?



**Anne Frank's diary has
been read by millions
of people.**

Anne Frank's Diary

Some people keep diaries that tell about their thoughts. Anne Frank kept this kind of diary while her family and four other people hid from the Nazis during World War II.

Anne wrote about the war, about growing up, and about living in a small space with many people. She thought of her diary as a friend that she could talk to about anything. Anne wrote, "When I write, I can shake off all my cares."

In 1944, two years after Anne and the others began hiding, the Nazis found them. Anne died in a Nazi camp in 1945.

Key Notes:

What did Anne Frank write about?



**This is a painting
showing the Great Fire
of London.**

Writing About the World

Some people keep diaries that tell about the world around them. In the 1660s, Samuel Pepys kept a diary about what was happening in the city of London. Pepys's diary tells about what people saw and did in London in the 1660s.

Pepys also wrote about the Great Fire of London, which burned much of the city in 1666. He wrote about the fire spreading through the city and about people trying to save their things. Because Samuel Pepys kept a diary, we know a lot about the Great Fire of London and what life was like in the 1660s.

Key Notes:

What did Pepys write about?



**Some blogs are
diary shared
with other online**

Writing a Blog

The Internet has made possible a special kind of diary called a blog. The word blog is made from the words web and log.

Blogs are different from the usual diaries because blogs aren't private. Anyone who goes on the Internet can read a blog. Some blogs are also different from other diaries because others can respond to them, too. People might wish to start a conversation with anyone who visits their blog. They hope that others will join their conversation, posting their ideas and opinions. In this way, people can learn about the opinions of others from around the world.

Key Notes:

What is a blog?

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Page 6: The Great Fire of London, depicted by an unknown painter (1675), as it would have appeared from a boat in the vicinity of Tower Wharf on the evening of Tuesday, 4 September 1666. Public domain

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