

**Credits:**

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See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Diary-of-Anne-Frank-June-20-1942>

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/Diary-of-Anne-Frank-June-20-1942>

**Questions 2 Ponder**

**What Makes a Diary a Special Friend?**

When Anne Frank receives a diary for her birthday, she calls it "Kitty." It becomes a special friend to her - someone to whom she can pour-out her heart. She thinks it will be a safe place.

One of the early entries in Anne's diary is for the 20th of June, 1942. At this time, the country in which she is living - The Netherlands (also called Holland) - has been under Nazi occupation for about two years.

Anne doesn't have a best friend, so she tries to make-up for that by starting a diary she names "Kitty." How would a diary ever take the place of a best friend?

Do you think diaries are safe places in which to confide secrets or ideas you don't want anyone else to hear or know? Why, or why not?

Have you ever had a time in your life when writing down your reactions, to bad events, helped to make you feel better about your situation? Describe how writing about it, in your journal, helped you to deal with the problems.

**Why Do Governments Impose Restrictions on People?**

After Holland fell, in the spring of 1940, Dutch people had to deal with German occupiers who imposed severe restrictions on them. Dutch Jews were particularly hard hit.

From her diary, we know Anne Frank realized that life for Jewish people would be difficult in The Netherlands - under the German occupation - but do you think this thirteen-year-old girl could have anticipated all the restrictions which she describes in her diary?

How do you think she responded to such onerousness? Are those some of the issues which she wanted to get off her chest (as she describes it) while writing her diary?

If those types of restrictions were suddenly made a part of your life, how would you respond?

What do you think happens, to a person, when he/she is expected to give-in to the dictates of a government - whether one's own or of an occupying force?