

Anne Frank



Anne Frank was born in Frankfurt, Germany on 12th June, 1929. Her parents were named Otto and Edith and her elder sister was named Margot. Anne was passionate and vivacious. Growing up, she had many friends and her early life in Germany was like that of any other child: going for family trips out to the seaside and riding her bike.

In 1933, Adolf Hitler became the leader of Germany and life for Anne was never the same again. As leader of the Nazi political party, Hitler despised Jews. He unfairly blamed them for many of Germany's problems. Jewish people were forced to wear a yellow star and were not allowed to own or run businesses. As a result, many Jews left Germany in search of a safer place to live. Anne and her family were Jewish, so they moved to Amsterdam in the Netherlands when she was just four years old.



For a while, life seemed to be safe and normal again. With the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939, Anne's father feared the Nazis would invade the Netherlands. In 1940, that is exactly what happened.



Despite this, Anne happily celebrated her thirteenth birthday and received a red journal that was to become a record of her experiences as a Jew in the Second World War. Anne loved to write and, naming her journal 'Kitty', she began to do so every day. She wrote about her wish for the war to end and other hopes for the future.

Otto Frank began to plan a safe hiding place for his family. He had a secret annexe behind his office where his family could hide away from the Nazis, safe and unseen. After packing what they could, the family moved quickly to the small annexe. They hid away for two years with the help of friends. Anne wrote in 'Kitty' every day.



In total, eight people hid away in the annexe. They had to be very quiet, walking barefoot and hanging heavy curtains at the windows. Anne described the families she lived with and often wrote about how tired she was of living in the cramped space. Just as news about the nearing end of the war reached the Franks, they were betrayed and the Nazis found their hiding place.

In 1944, the families were arrested, split up and sent to concentration camps. Anne was sent with Margot. In 1945, just a month before the end of the war, they died from a disease called typhus. Anne was just fifteen years old.

The only family member to survive was Otto Frank. When he returned to Amsterdam, he found Anne's journal. He decided to publish it, sharing Anne's personal thoughts and sufferings with the world. It has been read all over the world and is translated into sixty-five languages.



Anne Frank Timeline

1929	12th June: Anne is born in Germany.
1933	Adolf Hitler comes to power as leader of Germany. Anne Frank moves to Amsterdam.
1940	May: Germany invades the Netherlands.
1942	Jews must wear a yellow star. 14th June: Anne begins her journal. July: Anne's family go into hiding.
1944	4th August: The Franks are discovered and arrested. 3rd September: The Franks are taken to a concentration camp.
1945	March: Anne dies from Typhus.
1947	Anne's father Otto publishes her journal.

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Questions

1. When and where was Anne Frank born?

2. Anne is described as 'vivacious'. Tick the word with the closest meaning.

☐ Lively, happy

☐ Mischievous

☐ Angry

☐ Quiet

3. Who was Adolf Hitler?

4. Explain why Otto Frank was worried about his family when Adolf Hitler became the leader of Germany.

5. Where did Otto Frank take his family to live safely?

6. Jews were made to wear a yellow star. Why do you think the Nazis made this rule?

7. Otto Frank planned a secret annexe for his family to hide from the Nazis. Give two ways the occupants helped to stay hidden.

8. What gift did Anne Frank receive on her thirteenth birthday?

Questions

9. Anne named her journal 'Kitty'. What does this tell you about how she felt about the journal?

10. After the war, Otto Frank decided to publish Anne's journal. What is the reason given in the text for doing this?

Answers

1. When and where was Anne Frank born?
Anne Frank was born on June 12th, 1929 in Frankfurt, Germany.
2. Anne is described as 'vivacious'. Tick the word with the closest meaning.
Lively, happy.
3. Who was Adolf Hitler?
Adolf Hitler was the leader of the Nazi Political Party in Germany.
4. Explain why Otto Frank was worried about his family when Adolf Hitler became the leader of Germany.
Because the Frank's were Jewish, Otto Frank was worried about the safety of his family. This was because Adolf Hitler despised Jews, unfairly blaming them for Germany's problems. Hitler began to make life difficult for Jews and Otto Frank felt his family would be in danger.
5. Where did Otto Frank take his family to live safely?
Otto Frank took his family to live in Amsterdam, in the Netherlands.
6. Jews were made to wear a yellow star. Why do you think the Nazi's made this rule?
Jewish people were made to wear a yellow star so that the Nazi's could easily identify them.
7. Otto Frank planned a secret annexe for his family to hide from the Nazis. Give two ways the occupants helped to stay hidden.
To stay hidden, the people in the secret annexe had to walk barefoot so they didn't make a noise, and hang heavy curtains at the windows so no one could see them.
8. What gift did Anne Frank receive on her thirteenth birthday?
Anne received a red journal for her thirteenth birthday.
9. Anne named her journal 'Kitty'. What does this tell you about how she felt about the journal?
By giving her journal a name, it was like she was talking to a friend. She could write down her thoughts and secrets. Because she was trapped in the annexe she might have felt lonely, so the journal was a way she could be free.
10. After the war, Otto Frank decided to publish Anne's journal. What is the reason given in the text for doing this?
By publishing Anne's journal, Otto Frank could share her personal thoughts and sufferings with the world.