
CLASS –X ENGLISH
NCERT SOLUTIONS-First Flight
From the Diary of Anne Frank

Page No: 49 Activity

Answer1:

A		B
(i) Journal	-	(i) Journal
(ii) Diary	-	(ii) Diary
(iii) Log	-	(iii) Log
(iv) Memoir(s)	-	(iv) Memoir(s)

Ans2. (i): Diary

Ans2. (ii): Log

Ans2. (iii): Journal

Ans2. (iv): Memoir

Page No: 51 Comprehension Check

Answer1: First she had never written anything like this before and secondly she thought that nobody is going to read or would be interested in her diary.

Answer2: Anne wants to keep a diary as she didn't have friend.

Answer3: She could confide in her close friend but she didn't have one, the friends she had there were to have more fun and good times rather than the ones on whom she could confide. She also believes that a paper to have more patience than people, so she decided to write and confide in a diary.

Answer1: Anne provides a brief sketch of her life since no one would understand a word of her musings if she were to jump right in.

Answer2: Her statement, that no one could understand her intensity of love for her grandma tells that she loved her grandmother. Moreover, the touching gesture of lighting up one candle for grandmother during Anne's birthday is also a poignant reminder of the love for grandma.

Page No: 54 Oral Comprehension Check

Answer1: Mr. Keesing was annoyed with Anne because she talked very much in the class. He assigned her extra homework, asking her to write an essay on the subject, 'A Chatterbox'.

Answer2: She gave two arguments to justify her 'Chatterbox', one that chatting in student's traits

and other reason that nothing can be done about the inherited traits.

Answer3: Mr. Keesing was a strict teacher. However, he was not rigidly strict. He expected discipline and silence in his class while he was teaching, which is acceptable. He punished Anne by asking her to write an essay on 'A Chatterbox'. When Anne wrote a convincing essay on it, he received it with a good laugh. However, when Anne continued with her talking, he punished her again by asking her to write another essay; this time the topic was 'An Incurable Chatterbox'. Even after this when she kept talking, he asked her to write on the topic 'Quack Quack Quack, said Mistress Chatterbox'. He was trying to play a joke on her. However, she came up with a brilliant poem, and he read this poem in the class, acknowledging its content. Therefore, in regard of these events, Mr. Keesing cannot be entirely labelled as a strict teacher. He was fun-loving too.

Answer4: Anne was able to justify her talkative nature every time she was punished by Mr. Keesing. On three occasions, as punishment, he gave her topics to write essays on. However, on each occasion he was impressed by the manner in which she presented her arguments. Finally, Mr. Keesing accepted the fact that Anne would always be that way. Hence, she was allowed to talk in class.

Thinking about the Text

Answer1: No, Anne was not right when she said that the world would not be interested in the musings of a thirteen-year-old girl.

Answer2: Anne's diary was originally written in Dutch. Her diary is different from the others in many aspects. She had named her diary 'Kitty'. She thought of it as her only true friend whom she could confide in. She treated it as another person who was listening to her daily accounts. She wrote all her stories in it. She started by writing 'Dearest kitty' and ended the account by writing, 'Yours, Anne'. Her diary was a lot more personal than other diaries.

Answer3: Anne Frank claims that paper has more patience than people. She usually sits depressed and all alone. She claims of having no real friend. This lends the reader the perception that there isn't anybody to take care of Anne Frank. To clear the clouds of doubt, Anne Frank gives the sketch of her adorable father, compassionate mother, kind grandmother, and loving sister. She treated Kitty as an insider because she called it her best friend and was ready to confide in it.

Answer4: Anne felt that her father was the most adorable father she had ever seen. Anne remembered her grandmother even after her death. She wrote in her diary that no one knew how often she thought of her grandmother and still loved her. In the sixth form at the Montessori nursery school, her teacher was Mrs Kuperus, who was also the headmistress. At the end of the year, they were both in tears as they said a heartbreaking farewell. Mr Keesing was her Maths teacher. He was annoyed with her because she talked too much. However, Anne was able to justify her talkative nature every time she was punished by Mr. Keesing. On each occasion he was impressed by the manner in which she presented her arguments. All these incidents show how lovable and smart Anne was. Everybody was attached to her, and even Mr Keesing could not help but laugh at her essays and acknowledge her smart mind.

Answer5: In her first essay, titled 'A Chatterbox', Anne wanted to come up with convincing arguments to prove the necessity of talking. She began thinking about the subject. She wrote three

pages and was satisfied. She argued that talking was a student's trait and that she would do her best to keep it under control. She further wrote that she would never be able to cure herself of the habit since her mother talked as much as she did. There was not much that one could do about inherited traits. Mr Keesing too had a good laugh reading her arguments.

Answer6: Anne felt that a quarter of her class was dumb, and should be kept back and not promoted to the next class. However, she also felt that teachers were the most unpredictable creatures on earth. Mr Keesing could be termed as unpredictable. The way Anne always talked while the class was going on, any teacher would lose his temper. However, after several warnings, all Mr Keesing did was to assign her extra homework. She had to write an essay on 'A Chatterbox'. In this way, he tried to play a joke on her. Each time that he asked her to write such essays, she wrote very well. She kept countering his jokes. One could not have predicted that he would take all the jokes in the right spirit. Finally, when she wrote an entire essay in verse he accepted her talkative nature and actually allowed her to talk in class. He did not even assign her any more extra homework. That is why it can be said that Mr Keesing was unpredictable.

Answer7: (i) These lines show that Anne had no true friend whom she could confide in. She even put the blame on herself that the fault might be hers.

(ii) This line shows that Anne really considered her diary as a friend whom she could trust and narrate all her stories to. She did not want just a diary in which she could write down the facts like others did. She considered it as her friend and named her Kitty.

(iii) This statement shows that Anne was a fun-loving person. She was witty and knew how to present things in a funny way. She narrated this incident with a lot of fun. The use of 'plunked down' shows her sense of humour.

(iv) This statement shows that she had an opinion on everything. She thought that a quarter of her class was full of dummies, signifying that she herself was intelligent enough to make it to the next class. She thought of teachers as the most unpredictable creatures on earth because nobody could say which students they would fail and which students would be passed on to the next class.

(v) This statement shows that Anne knew a lot about writing. She was given the task of writing an essay as a punishment. She took it on with full vigour. She did not want to write it like others who merely left big spaces between the words to make the essay look voluminous. She knew that the trick was to come up with a convincing argument to prove the necessity of talking. She was different in her approach from everybody else.

Page No: 55 Thinking about Language

Answer1:

A	B
1. Heartbreaking	- producing great sadness
2. Homesick	- missing home and family very much
3. Blockhead	- an informal word which means a very stupid person
4. Law-abiding	- obeying and respecting the law
5. Overdo	- do something to an excessive degree

6. Daydream	- think about pleasant things, forgetting about the present
7. Breakdown	- an occasion when vehicles/machines stop working
8. Output	- something produced by a person, machine or organisation

Answer2. (II): (i) plunge in – go straight to the topic

Since no one would understand a word of my stories to Kitty if I were to plunge right in, I'd better provide a brief sketch of my life, much as I dislike doing so.

(ii) kept back – not promoted

The reason, of course, is the forthcoming meeting in which the teachers decide who'll move up to the next form and who'll be kept back.

(iii) move up – go to the next grade

The reason, of course, is the forthcoming meeting in which the teachers decide who'll move up to the next form and who'll be kept back.

(iv) ramble on – speak or write without focus

Anyone could ramble on and leave big spaces between the words, but the trick was to come up with convincing arguments to prove the necessity of talking.

(v) get along with – have a good relationship with

I get along pretty well with all my teachers.

(vi) calm down – make (them) remain quite

Even G.'s pleading advances and my angry outbursts can't calm them down.

(vii) stay in – stay indoors

I thought of this saying on one of those days when I was feeling a little depressed and was sitting at home with my chin in my hands, bored and listless, wondering whether to stay in or go out.

(viii) make up for – compensate

This birthday celebration in 1942 was intended to make up for the other.

(ix) hand in – give an assignment (homework) to a person in authority (the teacher)

I handed it in, and Mr Keesing had nothing to complain about for two whole lessons.

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Answer3. (i): (i) Our entire class is *quaking in its boots*. Shaking with fear and nervousness

(ii) Until then, we keep telling each other *not to lose heart*. Not to lose hope

(iii) Mr. Keeping was annoyed with me *for ages* because I talked so much. Since a long time

(iv) Mr. Keeping was trying to play a joke on me with this ridiculous subject, but I'd make sure *the joke was on him*. He was outwitted by her

Answer3. (ii): (i) caught my eye

A small red car passing by caught my eye.

(ii) he'd had enough

Tom had a hard time raising enough money build the orphanage he'd promised to build.

(iv) laugh ourselves silly

One girl said something funny, and we laughed ourselves silly.

(v) can't bring myself to

I can't bring myself to eat anything but chocolates.

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Answer4: 1. break somebody's heart – to upset somebody deeply

It has unfortunately become very easy these days to break somebody's heart.

2. close/dear to heart – something or someone who is near and close to you

The drawing given to me by my little daughter is very close to my heart.

3. from the (bottom of your) heart – genuinely meaning or feeling something

He loved his son from the bottom of his heart.

4. have a heart – to evoke the feeling to help someone in distress

The poor beggar asked the rich man to have a heart and give him something to eat.

5. have a heart of stone – to not feel anything or any sentiment

The cruel landlady has a heart of stone as she beats up her children.

6. your heart goes out to somebody – to sympathies with someone else and understand his feelings and distress

My heart goes out to the little girl who lost both her parents in a car accident.

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Answer5: (i) I've – I have

(ii) Doesn't – does not

(iii) Won't – would not

(iv) I'm – I am

(v) Don't – do not

(vi) Can't – cannot

(vii) it's – it is

(viii) That's – that is

(ix) I'd – I would

(x) Didn't – did not

(xi) Who'll – who will

(xii) You're – You are

(xiii) We'll – We will

(xiv) There's – there is

(xv) He'd – he had

(xvi) Who's – who is

(xvii) Haven't – have not

2

(i) I'd – I had or I would

(ii) He'd – He had or he would
