

Name _____

The Secret Annex: Analyzing the Setting of 'The Diary of Anne Frank'

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. The concealed location of the secret annex intensifies the sense of isolation and confinement experienced by the residents. It contributes to the tension and atmosphere of constant fear and uncertainty. The characters must remain silent during the day to avoid detection, and the annex becomes a microcosm of their confined world.
2. Isolation in the annex leads to strained relationships and conflicts among the residents. The characters cope with challenges by finding solace in Anne's diary, engaging in quiet activities, and seeking comfort in each other's company. Anne's diary serves as a means of emotional release and connection with the outside world.
3. Resourcefulness is evident in Anne and the others as they adapt to their confined living conditions. They make efficient use of limited supplies, share responsibilities, and find ways to entertain themselves. Anne's creative writing and intellectual pursuits are manifestations of this resourcefulness.
4. The historical context of World War II and the Holocaust is critical to understanding the setting of the secret annex. The annex represents the extreme measures Jewish families took to escape Nazi persecution and the horror of deportation to concentration camps. The residents' hidden lives reflect the broader tragedy of the Holocaust and the suffering endured by countless individuals and families during this dark period in history.

