The Diary of Anne Frank Study Questions

Be able to identify each character in the play and describe his/her personalities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character Name</th>
<th>Relationship to Anne</th>
<th>Brief description of personality</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anne Frank</td>
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<td>Otto Frank</td>
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<td>Edith Frank</td>
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<td>Margot Frank</td>
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<td>Peter Van Daan</td>
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<td>Mrs. Van Daan</td>
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<td>Mr. Van Daan</td>
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<td>Mr. Dussel</td>
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<td>Miep Gies</td>
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<td>Mr. Kraler</td>
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Act I Scene I
1. Which literary device does the author use in Act I Scene I?
2. Describe the staging of the play.

Act I Scene II:
1. How were the Jews restricted in Amsterdam?
2. Why is Mr. Frank a logical choice as leader for the group in the secret annex?
3. What are a few of the "rules" that the Van Daan and Frank families must follow while hiding in the annex?
4. Compare and contrast Anne’s relationship with her mother to that with her father.
5. Describe Anne and Peter’s relationship at this point in the story.
6. Why does Anne find it difficult to destroy the Star of David?
7. Anne looks at going into hiding as an adventure at first. When does she realize what it really meant?
8. “There are no walls, there are no bolts, no locks that anyone can put on your mind.”
   The speaker=_________________________      The person spoken to=____________________
   What do you think this quote means?

Act I Scene III:
1. In the early scenes of the play, how does Anne manage to get on others’ nerves?
2. Compare Anne and Margot. Do their differences ever cause problems?
3. Explain: Mrs. Quack Quack
4. What are some of the causes of disagreement between Mr. and Mrs. Van Daan?
5. Why is the spilling of milk a climactic crisis in Act I, scene 3? Explain.
6. How do Mrs. and Mr. Van Daan both manage to cause Peter shame?
7. Do you think everyone in the annex should have had a part in the decision to take in Mr. Dussel? Explain your answer.
   Why is Dussel’s surprise at seeing the Franks in Amsterdam good news for those living in the annex?
8. Discuss the irony of Mr. Dussel’s comments about getting along well with children.

Act I Scene IV:
1. As Act I, scene 4 opens, what is Mr. Van Daan doing? What do you think of this action?
2. What does Anne’s nightmare in scene 4 tell the audience about her?
3. How does Anne describe the problem between her and her mother?
4. How does Anne make Hanukkah special for the group?
5. Explain the irony of Mr. Van Daan’s complaint about Mouschi’s eating up all of the food.
6. Explain an event during the Hanukkah celebration that causes fear among the group
7. Mrs. Van Daan thinks a thief may never tell that they are in hiding. Mr. Dussel disagrees with her, saying a thief might make a bargain with the Green Police in exchange for information about people in hiding. Which is the more logical conclusion? Why?
8. What does Anne’s gift giving reveal about her? (Don’t just write “she’s nice”. DIG DEEP!)
Act II Scene I
1. Based on the cake incident of, has Mr. Van Daan changed at this point?
2. What does the fur coat incident reveal about Mr. Van Daan’s character?
3. Mr. Kraler brings news of a new problem. Explain what this problem is.
4. What do the responses of Mr. Frank, Mr. Dussel, and Mr. Van Daan to this new problem reveal about the type of person each man is?
5. Why does Peter admire Anne?
6. What do you think of their relationship at this point?
   At this point in the story, are there any characters you really like or dislike? Explain.

Act II Scene II
1. How do Anne’s visits with Peter cause conflict for Mrs. Frank?
2. Identify: “Well, here I go . . . to run the gauntlet.”
   Speaker: _________________________ To whom spoken: _________________________
   Meaning:
3. How have Anne’s plans for the future changed?
4. Why do you think Anne said she “think[s] more seriously about life”?

Act II Scene III
1. What is the only event that causes Mrs. Frank to really become angry? What is the result?
2. Identify: “We don’t need the Nazis to destroy us. We’re destroying ourselves.”
   Speaker: _________________________ To whom spoken: _________________________
   Meaning:
3. Why does Mr. Frank not want Miep to see the group arguing?
4. What is “D Day” and why is it important?
5. After news of the invasion, why does Mr. Van Daan’s stealing no longer seem to matter?
6. What new threat has now appeared (at the end of the scene 3)?

Act II Scene IV
1. Anne tells Peter that she has a way of “escaping” the annex. Explain.
2. How does Anne attempt to explain the war to Peter? How does he react?
3. Explain: “For the past two years we have lived in fear. Now we can live in hope.”
   Speaker: _________________________ To whom spoken: _________________________
   Meaning:
4. Explain the irony of “I want to go on living even after my death.”

Act II Scene V
1. What year is it now? Which literary element is employed?
2. What does Mr. Frank mean in the last scene when he says, “She puts me to shame”?
3. How does the play offer evidence of Anne’s statement that “people are really good are heart”?

The play as a whole:
1. What is the climax of the play? Why do you think this?
2. What is the main conflict of the play? Explain why you think this.
3. What are some sub-conflicts in the play? Explain why you think this?
4. How does the use of flashback contribute to the effect of the play? Explain why you think this.
5. How does the staging contribute to the effect of the play? Explain why you think this.
6. Give an example of each of the three types of irony found in the play
7. What is/are the theme(s) of the play? Explain why you think this.