



GABLESTAGE

www.gablestage.org

Study Guide

The Diary of Anne Frank

by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett,
newly adapted by Wendy Kesselman

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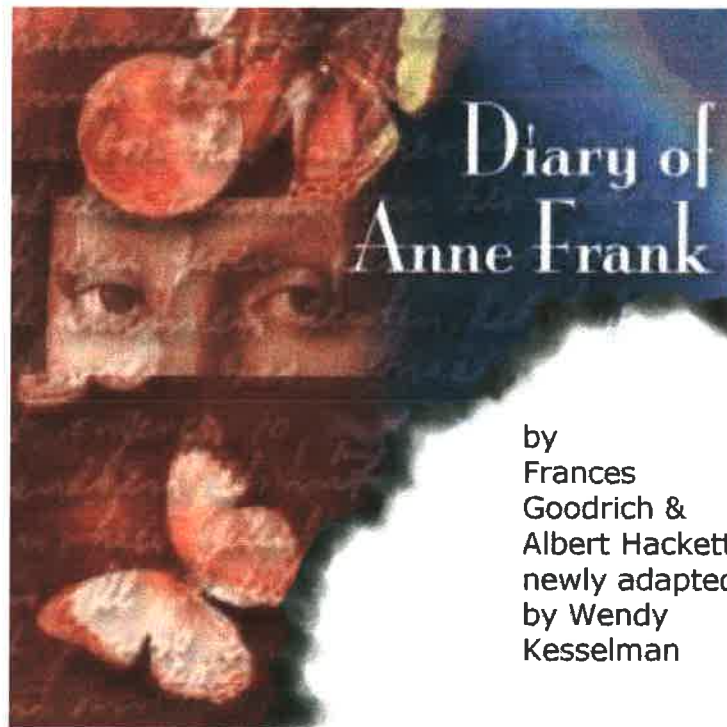
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GableStage
presents

The Diary of Anne Frank



"Will I ever be able to write something great, will I ever become a journalist or a writer? I hope so, oh, I hope so very much, because writing allows me to record everything, all my thoughts, ideals and fantasies." (April 5, 1944.)

Companion Study Guide

Part 1 – Welcome to GableStage

GableStage is an award-winning professional theatre that has developed a reputation for staging the most vibrant and challenging productions on the South Florida stage. Named as Best Theatre for Drama by the *Miami New Times*, GableStage and its artistic director Joseph Adler are excited to be bringing you the best live theatre anywhere.

GableStage is proud to continue our involvement in educational and outreach programs, reaching new audiences that may not have had the opportunity to experience the power and richness of live theatre. With our production of Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett's classic, *The Diary of Anne Frank* (newly updated by Wendy Kesselman), GableStage will continue our longstanding commitment to the students of South Florida. In addition to our regular schedule of performances, we will present the play to approximately 6,000 middle and high school students who will attend morning performances in our theatre.

The show you are seeing is the SAME show that is performed weekly for paying adult audiences. This production has been put together by experts in every field of theatre: the director, actors, designers, and stage crew are all experienced and accomplished professionals.

The performance you are seeing is one-of-a-kind – it is *live theatre*, performed only for you – no two performances are ever the same, and we are all working hard to make this a magical experience for everyone, which makes this the perfect time to talk about...

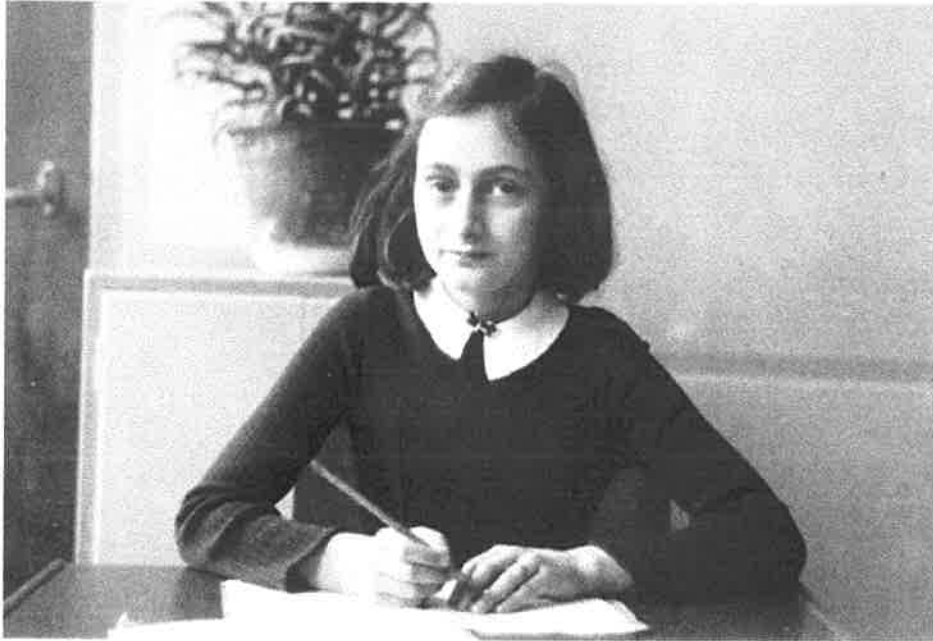
Going to the Theatre: Audience Etiquette

Watching a LIVE theatrical event is a special occasion. The actors are working to give you their **best performance**, and you can help them by giving them your **best behavior**.

Do:

- Dress appropriately for an afternoon at the theatre: no shorts, sandals, or open midriffs – always look your best!
- Show your appreciation with applause and laughter. Applauding at the end of each act is also very polite.
- Remain seated and avoid talking during the performance (the actors can see & hear YOU too!). And keep calm when the lights go out in the theatre – that's part of the show too!
- Turn OFF any beepers or cellular phones.
- Use the restroom before the show or during intermission.

Part 2 – Anne Frank – The Play



Before reading the diary or seeing the play, ask yourself -- what have you heard about Anne Frank? What do you think you know about her story? Talk about how some people can be so famous that we "know" or think we "know" about them without actually learning the facts or the historic times in which they lived.

CHARACTERS

Anne Frank: Anne Frank is the narrator and the writer of the diary. She is thirteen when she begins writing. Anne is very outspoken, and before moving into the Secret Annex, she was very popular at school with both the boys and the girls. She loves to read and to study, and she wants to be a writer when she grows up.

Margot Frank: Anne's sister, Margot is three years older than Anne, and seems quieter and more serious than Anne. She, too, keeps a diary. She and Anne grow closer throughout the course of their hiding, but it is with Peter that Anne shares her hopes and fears. Margot gets on better with their parents, and Anne feels pressure to be good and sweet like her.

Daddy (Otto Frank): Anne's father is the manager of a firm before they go into hiding. He is the one who arranges for their hiding place. He is modest, quiet, and generally low-key. She has a very close relationship with him and gives him the nickname 'Pim.' He teaches her English, French, and algebra, among other subjects, and she loves to learn.

Mummy (Edith Frank): Anne is not nearly as close with her mother as she is with her father. She finds her mother cold and often condescending. She has an idea

of what the perfect mother should be—and Mummy does not fit the image. It upsets her that Mummy always takes Margot's side, and seems to prefer her.

Peter Van Daan: Peter Van Daan is the fifteen-year-old son of the Van Daan family, the other family who is hiding in the Secret Annex with the Franks. Anne at first finds him boring and weak, but they begin to talk, and to open up to each other, and they form a strong bond. Anne falls in love with Peter, and he probably falls in love with her in return. He gives her her first kiss.

Petronella Van Daan: Mrs. Van Daan is one of the eight people hiding in the Secret Annex. She is Peter's mother. She is desperately jealous of the bond between Anne and her son, and she wishes that he would talk to her more. She criticizes Anne for being so outspoken.

Hans Van Daan : Mr. Van Daan is Peter's father. He is one of the adults who often criticizes Anne.

Albert Dussel: Mr. Dussel shares Anne's room. He enters the Secret Annex last. He was a dentist before going into hiding. At first, Anne likes him, but then he shows his true colors and is close-minded and stubborn and criticizes her. Sometimes she does things intentionally to annoy him.

Miep Gies: Married to Henk Gies, she helps hide the Franks, Van Daans, and Dussel in her warehouse. She is cheerful and often brings them gifts. At Christmas, she decorates a basket and fills it with presents.

Kraler: Kraler is one of the men that Anne's father works with at his firm.



Part 2 (cont.) – Scene from the Play

Characters:

Anne Frank
Mrs. Frank
Mr. Van Daan
Mrs. Van Daan

MR. VAN DAAN

(to Anne)

Suppose you try keeping still for just five minutes!

MRS. FRANK

Anne, come have your milk.

MR. VAN DAAN

Talk, talk, talk! Chatter, chatter, chatter! It's a wonder we haven't been discovered and shot! Why do you have to show off all the time? Why can't you be quiet like your sister Margot? Be a good girl.

ANNE

Not me!

(dancing past him with the milk)

I'm going to be remarkable. I'm going to Paris.

MR. VAN DAAN

Really.

ANNE

I'm going to be a famous writer or singer or dancer one day!
(Twirling, she spills the milk on Mrs. Van Daan's fur coat.)

MRS. VAN DAAN

Oh! Oh my God! My coat! My beautiful fur coat!

ANNE

I'm sorry.

MRS. VAN DAAN

Do you know what my father paid for this coat!

ANNE

I'm very very sorry.

MRS. VAN DAAN

I could kill you for this!



MRS. FRANK

Anne, you can't behave like that!

ANNE

It was an accident. Anyone can have an accident.

MRS. FRANK

I'm not just talking about the coat. I know we're all living under great stress, but you don't hear Margot getting into any arguments with the Van Daans, do you?

ANNE

Margot's perfect. She never gets into an argument with anyone.

MRS. FRANK

She's courteous. She keeps her distance and they respect her for it. Try to be more like Margot.

ANNE

And have them walk all over me, too? No thanks!

MRS. FRANK

I'm not afraid they're going to walk all over you, Anne. I'm afraid you'll walk all over them.

ANNE

Margot, Margot! That's all I hear!

MRS. FRANK

Oh, Anne, don't be so dramatic!

ANNE

Everything she does is right, and everything I do is wrong. If I talk, I'm a show-off. If I answer, I'm rude. I'm selfish if I eat too much. I'm stupid, I'm cowardly, I'm a complete disappointment! I'll never live up to your expectations. I'll never be Margot!

(Sobbing, she runs into her parents room.)

Discussion Questions:

1. What does this scene show you about the relationship between Anne and her adult companions?
2. If you were Mrs. Van Daan, how would you expect Mrs. Frank to punish Anne?
3. Why do you think Anne prefers to play childlike games while living in these harsh circumstances?

Part 3 – HISTORY – WORLD WAR II and the HOLOCAUST

WORLD WAR II

The German surprise invasion of Poland in September 1939 began World War II and greatly expanded the Third Reich. Countries in Eastern and Western Europe were rapidly invaded. By 1940 Denmark, Norway, Belgium, Luxembourg, and France were controlled by the Nazis, who established ghettos, transit camps, and forced-labor camps, in addition to the concentration camps. The Nazis rounded up and deported massive numbers of prisoners, putting them into hundreds of new camps filled with political opponents, resistance fighters, Jews, Gypsies, homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, and other victims of the Nazi policies.

The German invasion and conquest of the Netherlands began on May 10, 1940, and ended on May 14, after the destruction of Rotterdam. Throughout most of Nazi-occupied Europe the Nazis now expanded their program to make Europe *judenrein*, or "Jew-free," an idea that had been introduced in the 1930's. However, during the war years anti-Semitic legislation and physical violence against Jews intensified. In the Netherlands, they were registered, isolated, and removed from public life; their businesses were Aryanized within eighteen months.

The year 1941 marked a turning point in the course of the war. The German Army invaded the Soviet Union, thereby increasing by 3 million the number of Jews under their domination. Mobile killing squads called *Einsatzgruppen* followed the German army throughout the conquered territories, where they rounded up people, forced them to undress in front of mass graves, and shot them in masses.

In the summer and fall of 1941, the Nazi hierarchy decided to move to the next stage of their policy regarding Jews. This led to the period of systematic mass murder in death camps, beginning in late 1941, which the Nazis referred to in their code words "The Final Solution of the Jewish Question." The six killing sites, close to rail lines in various areas of Poland, were at Belzec, Sobibor, Treblinka, Chelmo, Majdanek, and Auschwitz-Birkenau.



The purpose of the death camps was mainly to kill Jews, but there were many other victims as well. Majdanek and Auschwitz-Birkenau were special cases, having both labor facilities and killing centers. Other camps such as Bergen-Belsen became places of death for thousands of victims through starvation and disease. In addition to these camps, the Nazis continued to expand the slave-labor-camp system to thousands throughout the Third Reich. Here prisoners were literally worked until they were no longer useful to the Nazis, then put to death.

There were, however, people throughout the Third Reich who found the courage to help others. Like the Franks' helpers, many risked their lives to hide Jews and others from the Nazis. Organized resistance to the Nazis was punishable by death, but despite this, there were armed revolts by Jews in the death camps of Treblinka, Sobibor, and Auschwitz. The uprising in the Warsaw Ghetto held off German soldiers from April to May 1943.

THE HOLOCAUST IN THE NETHERLANDS

Star of David



In the Netherlands the first mass arrests of Jews began in February 1941. The Nazis began *Rassen*, or roundups: Jewish men and boys were grabbed from their homes, beaten, and deported. In June 1941 the Dutch people of Amsterdam protested in a two-day strike which Nazi troops quickly put down.

In the first months that the Frank family lived in the Secret Annex, the death camps in Poland were operating at full capacity. Anne sensed the danger for Jews, although she was not aware of the full magnitude of mass murder occurring hundreds of miles to the east. As she remarked in her diary on November 19, 1942:

In the evening when it's dark, I often see long lines of good, innocent people accompanied by crying children, walking on and on, ordered about by a handful of men who bully and beat them until they nearly drop. No one is spared. The sick, the elderly, children, babies, and pregnant women - all are marched to their death.

Listening to the news of the war on the radio was extremely important to the inhabitants of the Annex. Only Germany's defeat would end the mass killing of Jews and other innocent victims. During 1943 and 1944, reports of Germany's military reversals provided the Annex residents with hope for the future. News of events such as the halting of German troops in the Soviet Union in February 1943, as well as the Allied invasion of Sicily and Italy beginning the following July, prompted Anne to write optimistically about the approaching end of the war. Nevertheless, she was saddened to realize that the declining military situation for Germany did not mitigate the war against the Jews. She especially despaired over the massive arrests and deportation of Hungarian Jews in May and June 1944. Although D Day operations elated Anne and the others in the Annex, the war still dragged on, leaving them wondering when it would ever end.

A family arriving at Auschwitz



On July 15, 1944, Anne expressed her sense of foreboding:

It's utterly impossible for me to build my life on a foundation of chaos, suffering and death. I see the world being slowly transformed into a wilderness, I hear the approaching thunder that, one day, will destroy us too. I feel the suffering of millions. And yet, when I look up at the sky, I somehow feel that everything will change for the better, that this cruelty too shall end, that peace and tranquility will return once more. In the meantime, I must hold on to my ideals. Perhaps the day will come when I'll be able to realize them!

THE END OF THE WAR

The arrests of the residents of the Secret Annex on August 4, 1944, and their subsequent deportation from Westerbork to Auschwitz took place during the months that the Germans were facing defeat. Soviet troops had already entered the Majdanek death camp in Lublin and publicized the horrors they found.

As the Allies reached the occupied countries, the Nazis began to cover up the evidence of genocide and forced prisoners to march on foot toward central Germany to prevent their liberation. Many inmates died or were killed if they could not walk. During the final days, in the spring of 1945, conditions at the remaining camps were so inhumane that many more died. Concentration camps such as Bergen-Belsen became a death trap for thousands, including Anne and Margot Frank. On November 24, 1944, SS leader Heinrich Himmler ordered the destruction of Auschwitz's crematoria and the removal of as many prisoners as possible as the Russians approached the camp.

The loss of Jewish lives in the Netherlands alone illustrates the magnitude of mass murder that occurred during the Holocaust. By July 1944 the country was virtually *judenrein*. In 1940 approximately 140,000 Jews had lived in the Netherlands during the Nazi occupation; 106,000 Jews there, three out of every four, perished.

By May 1945 Nazi Germany collapsed and the war was over in Europe. The SS guards fled the concentration, forced-labor, and death camps. The camps were liberated and the world saw the evidence of the Holocaust.

THE AFTERMATH

After the war the world tried to grapple with what had happened and to work to prevent its recurrence. As Otto Frank prepared Anne's diary for publication, the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg sought to prosecute some of the Nazi leaders and to document their crimes as a warning for the future. Judges from the Allied Powers, including Great Britain, France, the United States, and the Soviet Union, heard evidence against twenty-two Nazi criminals for "crimes against peace" and "war crimes," which violated the laws and customs of warfare, and "crimes against humanity." Fourteen high-ranking Nazis were sentenced to death; others were sent

to prison. Most of those prosecuted admitted that they were guilty of the crimes of which they were accused. Their defense? That they were simply following orders of a higher established power. The Nazis' leader, Adolf Hitler, was not present at the Nuremberg Trials. He and several of his aides had committed suicide in the final days of the war.

Subsequent trials have continued to this day. In the United States, where many war criminals escaped, the government deports those who participated in the persecution during the Nazi regime and came to the country illegally. The Nuremberg trials revealed fully what can happen when a state decides to dehumanize its citizens. The hope was to seek justice against those who participated in the murder of millions, including Anne Frank, simply because they were Jewish.

STUDY QUESTIONS FOR TEACHERS AND CLASSROOM USE

1. About one week after Anne received her diary she wrote in it the saying. "Paper has more patience than people." (June 20, 1942.)

QUESTION: Why do you think Anne thought she could confide more in her diary than in people?

2. Almost two years later Anne wrote: "Will I ever be able to write something great, will I ever become a journalist or a writer? I hope so, oh, I hope so very much, because writing allows me to record everything, all my thoughts, ideals and fantasies." (April 5, 1944.)

QUESTION: Why would Anne's diary mean something different to her after she had been in hiding?

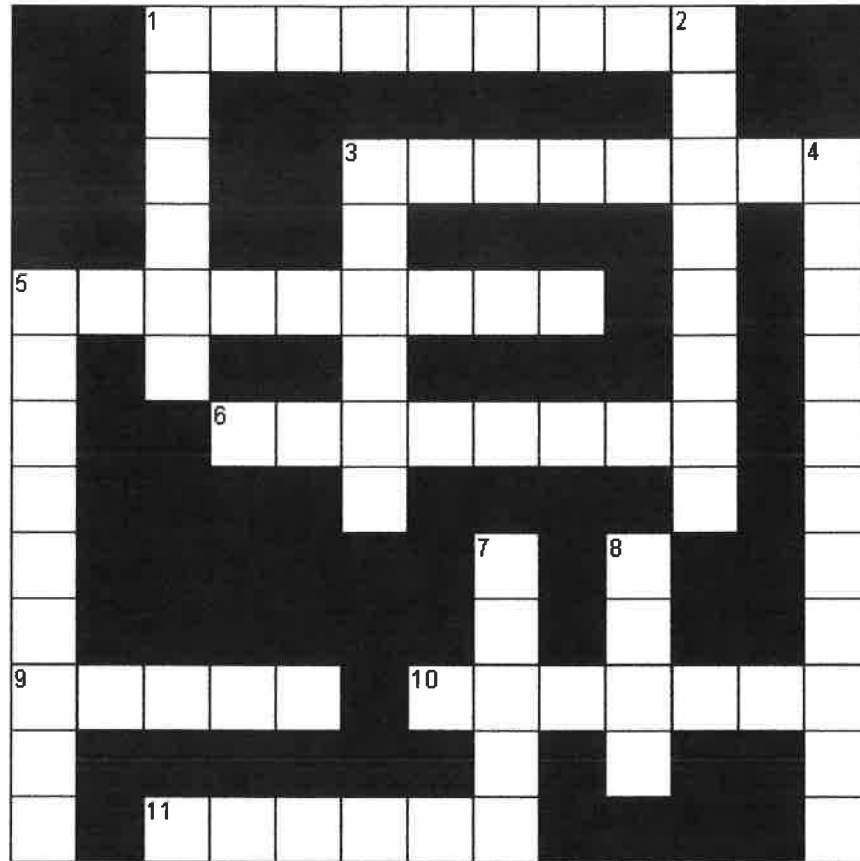
3. When Anne wrote about the growing anti-Semitism in the Netherlands, she said: "Oh, it's sad, very sad that the old adage has been confirmed for the umpteenth time: 'What one Christian does is his own responsibility, what one Jew does reflects on all Jews.'" (May 22, 1944)

QUESTION: What is a stereotype? Create your own definition. How did stereotypes contribute to the dehumanization process that happened in Anne's world? Do any of the stereotypes that Anne wrote about still exist? What other stereotypes exist?

4. Anne wrote: "I don't believe the war is simply the work of politicians and capitalists. Oh no, the common man is every bit as guilty; otherwise, people and nations would have rebelled long ago!" (May 3, 1944.)

QUESTION: Who do you feel is responsible for the deaths of those who hid in the secret annex? Who was responsible? Was it the leaders? Was it those who enforced the legislation? Was it those who transported them on cattle cars? Was it those who administered the concentration and death camps? Was it the townspeople near the camp? Explain your answer.

ACTIVITY – CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Murder of over 6 million European Jews by the Nazis during World War II
3. Woman who helped hide Anne and her family in Amsterdam
5. Teenage girl who kept a diary during the Holocaust
6. Hid the entry to the secret annex
9. Journal that Anne kept
11. Anne Franks age when she died of typhus
12. Most who perished in the Holocaust were of this religion

Down

1. Anne Frank and her family were _____ in a secret annex
2. Anne Franks age when she began keeping a diary
3. Anne's older sister
4. Home to seven residents for two years
5. City where Anne Frank was hiding during the Holocaust
7. Anne Franks mother
8. Anne's father who survived the Holocaust

SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER READING

For younger students, age nine and up:

Anne Frank; Life In Hiding, by Johanna Hurwitz (Beech Tree Books) is a good introduction.

For middle school students:

Susan Bachrach; Tell Them We Remember: The Story Of The Holocaust, (Little Brown, 1994).

Seymour Rossell; The Holocaust: The Fire That Raged, (Franklin Watts, 1990).

Both are historical overviews.

For high school level and up:

A History Of The Holocaust, (Franklin Watts, 1982), by Yehudah Bauer and Niki Keren is an excellent readable history.

Teaching about the Holocaust by the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. (202-588-2661), is an excellent resource for further study of the Holocaust. It contains an annotated bibliography that is divided by middle school, high school, and adult sections as well as listing memoirs, literary criticism and videography.

The World Must Know: A History of the Holocaust as Told in the United States, Michael Berenbaum — U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, Boston: Little Brown, 1993

The Racial State: Germany 1933 —1945. Michael Burleigh and Wolfgang Wipperman New York: Cambridge University Press, 1992.

War Against the Jews: 1933 —1945. Lucy Dawidowicz, New York: Bantam, 1968.



INTERNET RESOURCES:

Check these websites for more information about
The Diary of Anne Frank.

<http://www.annefrank.nl> - The official site of Anne Frank's house

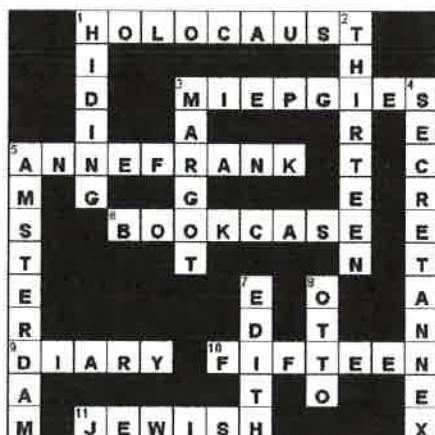
<http://www.annefrank.com> - The Anne Frank Center USA

<http://www.us-israel.org/jsource/holo.html> - Jewish Virtual Library - The Holocaust

http://www.vehiculepress.com/jewish_holocaust.html - Holocaust History and Survivor Testimony

<http://www.yadvashem.org> - Shoah Holocaust Resource Center

Crossword Answer



LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK!

We always appreciate hearing from students and teachers.

Students may write letters to the cast of *The Diary of Anne Frank.*

Teachers may forward them to:

Gablestage
Educational Theatre
1200 Anastasia Avenue
Coral Gables, Florida 33134

Please complete and mail to:
Gablestage
Educational Theatre
1200 Anastasia Avenue
Coral Gables, Florida 33134

TEACHER RATING FORM

School Name: _____

Teacher: _____

Performance Date: _____

Performance: *Diary of Anne Frank*

	LOW	BELOW AVERAGE	AVERAGE	ABOVE AVERAGE	EXCELLENT
Overall Quality of Performance					
Overall Audience Enjoyment of Performance					
Quality of Study Guide					
	YES	NO	UNDECIDED		
Would you sign up to see future shows by GableStage?					
	VERY LIKELY	NOT LIKELY	UNDECIDED		
How likely are you to use <i>The Diary of Anne Frank</i> in your yearly class curriculum?					
What type of shows would you like to see presented in the future?					

Comments: