

Comprehension Skills

Second Read

Author's Point of View

Remind students that in fiction first-person point of view is when one of the characters is telling the story. If the story is told in third-person point of view, someone outside the story is narrating it.

Have the students determine from which point of view this selection is told. Be sure the students understand that this is a nonfiction piece. Because this selection is from Anne's diary, it is told through Anne's eyes. Readers can only know what she knows and see what she sees. Therefore, it is a first-person point of view, as are all diaries.

Ask the students to discuss how the selection would be different if it were not a diary. (*If this were a short story, the author could choose another narrator.*)



Teacher Tip *Van Daan* is pronounced *vən•dān'.*



Author's Point of View

Introduced in Grade 2

Scaffolded throughout Grade 3–4

REINTRODUCED: Unit 1, Lesson 3

REINFORCED: Unit 2, Lesson 5

Unit 3, Lesson 3

Unit 4, Lesson 5

Unit 5, Lesson 6

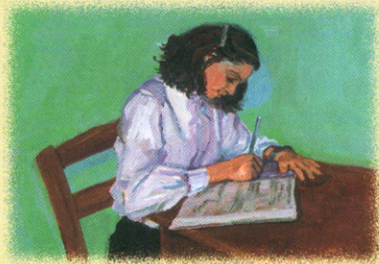
TESTED: Unit 4 Assessment

Second Reading Recommendation

ORAL • SILENT



Unit 4 Lesson 5 393



I hope I shall be able to confide in you completely, as I have never been able to do in anyone before, and I hope that you will be a great support and comfort to me.

Anne Frank, 12 June 1942.

Wednesday, 8 July, 1942

Dear Kitty,

Years seem to have passed between Sunday and now. So much has happened, it is just as if the whole world had turned upside down. But I am still alive, Kitty, and that is the main thing. Daddy says. **1**

Yes, I'm still alive, indeed, but don't ask where or how. You wouldn't understand a word, so I will begin by telling you what happened on Sunday afternoon.

2 At three o'clock (Harry had just gone, but was coming back later) someone rang the front doorbell. I was lying lazily reading a book on the veranda in the sunshine, so I didn't hear it. A bit later, Margot appeared at the kitchen door looking very excited. "The S.S. have sent a call-up notice for Daddy," she whispered. "Mummy has gone to see Mr. Van Daan already." (Van Daan is a friend who works with Daddy in the business.) It was a great shock to me, a call-up; everyone knows what that means. I picture concentration camps and lonely cells—should we allow him to be doomed to this? "Of course he won't go," declared Margot, while we waited together. "Mummy has gone to the Van Daans to discuss whether we should move into our hiding place tomorrow. The Van Daans are going with us, so we shall be seven in all." Silence. We couldn't talk any more, thinking about Daddy, who, little knowing what was going on, was visiting some old people in the Joodse Invalide; waiting for Mummy, the heat and suspense, all made us very overawed and silent.

393



California Theme Connection
Social Studies

Simon Wiesenthal, a Jewish concentration camp survivor, has dedicated his life to hunting Nazi war criminals. In addition to bringing many Nazi war criminals to trial, he verified that Karl Silberbauer was the arresting officer of Anne Frank and thus verified the authenticity of her diary. Simon Wiesenthal established the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles, California, in 1977. This international human rights organization focuses on preserving the memory of the Holocaust. The center provides educational outreach, engages in social action, and supports community involvement.

Author's Point of View Discuss with students how the point of view in Anne Frank's diary helps them understand the purposes of the Simon Wiesenthal Center.