

1. Mark the parts that confuse you. Make a marginal note to explain how it confuses you.
2. Use what context clues you can to make a guess about what confuses you.
3. Comment on the text by connecting to personal experience or previous knowledge.

Anne Frank Fund threatens legal action over plans to publish her diary online

By ALLAN HALL and SIMON TOMLINSON FOR Deutsche Wells January 2016

A French MP and an academic have announced plans to publish the diary of Anne Frank on January 1, the day the work falls within the public domain. The organization with publication rights is threatening legal action.

Anne Frank

University of Nantes lecturer Oliver Ertzcheid said the intended January 1 publication date of the diary in Frank's native Dutch would be on the day the work falls into the public domain. European copyright law stipulates that a book falls within the public domain on January 1, 70 years after the author's death.

Anne Frank's diary, "The Diary of a Young Girl," documents a period of her life during World War II when she and her family hid from the Nazis during the occupation of the Netherlands. The diary was published in 1947, becoming an international bestseller, with over 30 million copies sold, and making her an enduring symbol of Holocaust victims. The Frank family went into hiding in 1942 from the Nazis in a secret annex at the back of an Amsterdam canal house, owned by her father Otto Frank's company, until they were betrayed in 1944 and sent to Germany. Anne and her sister Margot were moved from the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp to Bergen-Belsen in November 1944, as the Russian army closed in from the east. Anne died at the age of 15 in the Bergen-Belsen camp in 1945.

Describing himself as an "activist" when it comes to issues of public domain rights, Ertzcheid said the pushback against the publication is "appalling."

Adolf Hitler's "Mein Kampf" will also enter the public domain on January 1.

Holding publication rights to Frank's book, the Anne Frank Fund told news agency AFP it had sent a letter threatening legal action should the work be published.

The Fund argues the book is a posthumous publication, arguing that copyright extends 50 years past the original publication date. The Dutch State Institute for War Documentation (NIOD) previously published

unpublished material in 1986 which the organization says is under copyright until at least 2037.

Attard called the move a “question of money.”

Scientific Research

On Tuesday a court in Amsterdam ruled extracts from Frank's diaries can be copied and used for scientific purposes, saying that research falls under the freedom of scientific pursuit. Frank's diaries and other writings are property of the Dutch state, which permanently loaned them to the Anne Frank House in 2009. The scientific research begun in 2011 looks at Anne's development as a writer and the events outlined in her works.

(From Second Article)

Anne Frank's famous *Diary of a Young Girl* entered the public domain today, making it free to download, read, and distribute, 70 years after her death. Copyright on the diary, written while the young Frank was hiding in an attic with her family from soldiers during the Nazi occupation of Amsterdam, was scheduled to run out on January 1st, 2016. Within a few hours of the clock striking midnight on the new year, the full text was available to read — in its original Dutch — online.

The publication comes as a copyright dispute still swirls around the diary. By European law, written works enter the public domain 70 years after their author dies. Anne Frank died in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in 1945, but Anne Frank Fonds — the charitable foundation set up in her memory — argues that her father Otto made such significant changes to the manuscript that he had "earned his own copyright." Otto Frank — who outlived Anne and died in 1980 — reportedly combined two versions of his daughter's diaries, cutting and pasting certain sections to make a single, readable record. "The book he created earns his own copyright," Yves Kugelmann, one of Anne Frank Fonds' trustees, said. "For the purposes of copyright, he is to be viewed as an 'author' of that version."

Some, such as French parliament member Isabelle Attard, have criticized this position, arguing that it lessens the impact of the diary. A spokesperson for Attard — who put a copy of the book up today on her own site — said that adding another author to the diary "is weakening the weight it has had for decades, as a testimony to the horrors of this war." But Kugelmann specifies that although Otto's work should reset the copyright clock, "this does not imply that he 'co-wrote' anything."