Interviews

Work with a partner to act out an interview with the main character in the diary. One partner will pretend to be the character from the diary as an adult. The other partner is the interviewer who is asking the character to reminisce about her childhood.

Preparation

- Read the epilogue in the diary to remember what happened to the character after the diary ended.
- Brainstorm a list of questions to ask the character, some about the time before the diary, some about the time period covered in the diary, and some about her later life. (Remember that some of the questions should be answered with information from the diary, but other questions could draw on things you learned about the period in your research, or could just ask for personal responses. You might even want to throw in a surprise question or two!)
- Choose ten of your best questions and check to make sure you are asking them in a logical order.
- Work together to prepare the answers for the questions.
- Find some appropriate costumes if you wish, and practice the interview with your partner. Try as much as possible not to read from your script.

Presentation

- The interviewer introduces her/himself and welcomes the character being interviewed.
- Present the questions and answers you created and rehearsed.
- At the end of the interview, thank the character.

After listening to several interviews, discuss how others interpreted the character. Did they create different kinds of people? If everyone was using the same information in the diary as their starting point, why did different versions of the character appear in the interviews? Did they ask different kinds of questions?