8th Grade ELA Comprehension Questions

Unit 4.1: “The Diary of Anne Frank, Act I” p. 279-323 by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett

Act I, Scenes 1-2, lines 1-785 (p. 280-292)

1. ANALYZE DRAMA: Stage Directions are typically in italic type and include information about the setting, the time, and place of the actions. **During what years does this play take place? In what city does it take place? Why do you think the stage directions include a description of the sounds outside the Annex?**
2. ANALYZE CHARACTERS: One way authors reveal what characters are like is through their actions. **Re-read lines 26-37 (p. 282).** **Identify Mr. Frank’s thoughts and feelings. How does the white glove affect Mr. Frank? What does this reveal about him?** (RL.1.1, RL.1.3)
3. ANALYZE LANGUAGE: Consider some of the moral and legal dilemmas people faced during the Holocaust. **Re-read lines 291-306 (p. 285). What does Mr. Kraler mean when he distinguishes the “black market” from the “white market?”** (RL.2.4)
4. ANALYZE CHARACTERS: Another way an audience gets to know and understand a character is through the reactions of other characters within the play. **Re-read lines 334–337**: **What does this comment by Mr. Kraler reveal about Mr. Frank?**
5. ANALYZE LANGUAGE: When authors draw a contrast they identify the differences in two or more objects. **Re-read lines 530–540: What does Peter mean when he says he is “a lone wolf”? What contrast do the playwrights reveal between Anne and Peter in this passage?**
6. ANALYZE LANGUAGE: **Re-read lines 570–586: What does the Star of David symbolize? What do Peter’s and Anne’s views about the star reveal about them?**
7. ANALYZE DRAMA: A script of a play provides cues and signals to the actors, the director, and the stage crew. **Re-read lines 748-759 (p. 291). What instructions do the stage directions give about lighting? What happens to the stage curtain? Why does the beginning of line 753 say “Anne’s Voice” instead of just “Anne?”** (RL.1.1)