

from THE DIARY OF SAMUEL PEPYS

Literary Analysis

DIARY

A **diary** is a daily account of a writer’s own thoughts, experiences, and feelings. Diaries are **primary sources**, or materials written by people who were present at events either as participants or observers. Most diaries are private and not intended to be shared. However, some have been published because they provide valuable insights into historical events and eras. One example is *The Diary of Samuel Pepys*, which paints a fascinating portrait of English life in the early 1660s.

Directions: In the chart, record public events and social issues that Pepys describes in his diary. Then describe his personal insights he reveals about each event/issue. One has been done for you.

Public Event/Social Issues	Insight
Education	Both men and women should enjoy education.