from The Diary of Samuel Pepys

Diary by Samuel Pepys

READING 6 Analyze the effect of irony in literary essays, speeches, and other forms of literary nonfiction. **8** Analyze the consistency and clarity of the expression of the controlling idea and the ways in which the organizational and rhetorical patterns of text support or confound the author's meaning or purpose.

Meet the Author

Samuel Pepys 1633–1703

The Diary of Samuel Pepys contains firsthand accounts of some of the most important historical events of 17th-century England. Yet it is Pepys's candor in recording the minutiae of his private life—what he ate for dinner, a squabble with his wife, his childlike excitement over a new watch—that prompted his biographer Claire Tomalin to declare him "both the most ordinary and the most extraordinary writer you will ever meet."

An Insatiable Curiosity Pepys (pēps) had an insatiable curiosity and attempted to learn all that he could about every subject. It was undoubtedly this fascination with life that inspired him, at the age of 26, to begin keeping a diary in which he would eventually set down more than 1.2 million words. At the age of 35, he abandoned his diary, fearing it was straining his eyes so much that he might go blind.

"The Right Hand of the Navy" Shortly after starting his diary, Pepys became a clerk in the Royal Navy office and worked hard at rooting out corruption and streamlining management. Acknowledged as "the right hand of the Navy," in 1684 he was appointed the secretary of the admiralty. In that capacity, he doubled the number of battleships and restored the Royal Navy as a major sea power.

A Confidante of Kings During his years of public service, Pepys enjoyed a close relationship with King Charles II and his successor, James II. However, Pepys also made enemies in his rise to power. In 1678, some of his adversaries tried unsuccessfully to ruin his reputation, falsely accusing him of murder and treason. Although Pepys was imprisoned briefly, the intervention of Charles II kept him from further punishment.

A Scholarly Retirement Pepys lived in retirement for the last 14 years of his life. He spent his time amassing a large personal library, corresponding with various artists and scholars, and collecting material for a history of the navy, which he never completed. He bequeathed his large library, including his diary, to Cambridge University.

Postponed Publication Written in shorthand, the diary was not transcribed until the early 19th century. An abridged version—with his romantic dalliances and other details that "could not possibly be printed" removed—was published in 1825. The full, uncensored version did not appear until 1970.

Author Online

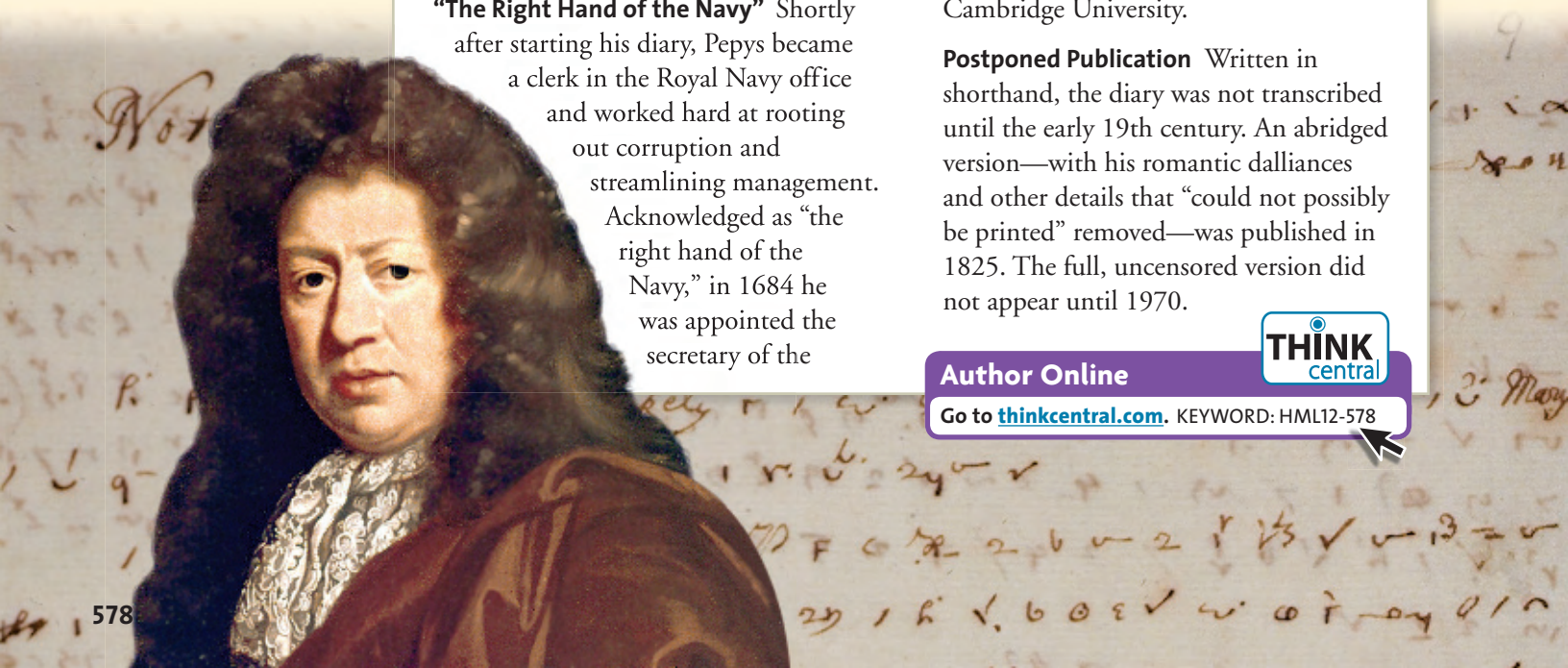
THINK central

Go to thinkcentral.com. KEYWORD: HML12-578

DID YOU KNOW?

Samuel Pepys . . .

- had 10 brothers and sisters.
- saved his house from the Great Fire of London, only to have it burn seven years later.
- kept his diary a secret—not even telling his wife about it.



Background: Diary entry written in Pepys's shorthand

LITERARY ANALYSIS: DIARY

A writer keeps a **diary** in order to make a daily account of his or her thoughts, experiences, and feelings. Diaries are **primary sources,** or materials created by people who were present at events either as participants or as observers. Most diaries are private and not intended to be shared. However, some have been published because, as primary documents, 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, the time of the Restoration. In the following passage, notice how Pepys conveys details about his household even as he reports on a major disaster of the period, the Great Fire of London:

Some of our maids sitting up late last night to get things ready against our feast today, Jane called us up, about 3 in the morning, to tell us of a great fire they saw in the city.

As you read the selection, pay attention to how Pepys discusses matters of both personal and public concern.

READING SKILL: CONNECT TO HISTORY

Eyewitness accounts like Pepys's diary often stir feelings of curiosity and excitement in readers. You may find yourself comparing the historical events retold in this selection to experiences you have read about, heard about, or known firsthand. You may even imagine yourself in Pepys's position, listening to the stories of Charles II or escaping the Great Fire. These responses are ways of **connecting** with what you are reading. As you read the selection, make connections between Pepys's world and your own by listing similarities between them. Record your observations in a chart like the one shown.

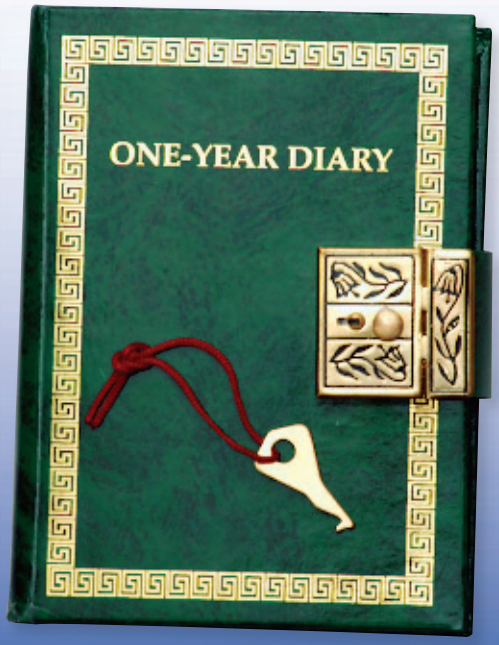
Pepys's World	My World
Great Fire of London	Hurricane Katrina

Complete the activities in your **Reader/Writer Notebook**.

Why keep a DIARY?

Samuel Pepys had no aspirations for publication. In fact, he took great measures to ensure the secrecy of his diary, writing his entries in an encrypted shorthand. Today, diarykeeping remains a popular pastime. Yet with the advent of online journals and blogs, it seems to be evolving from a private to a more public activity.

QUICKWRITE Make a list of the reasons that might prompt you to keep a diary. If you already have a diary or a blog, record the reasons you started it. Consider your reasons and then write a paragraph describing whether you would prefer to keep a traditional diary—one you could keep hidden from prying eyes—or a public blog that has a potential readership of millions.



THE DIARY OF *Samuel Pepys*

Samuel Pepys

Play Audio

BACKGROUND Few descriptions of daily life in any period of history are as vivid as those found in *The Diary of Samuel Pepys*—a rare firsthand account of events that occurred more than 300 years ago. As personal secretary to a British admiral, Pepys was aboard the ship on which King Charles II returned to England from exile in France. He also witnessed the Great Plague of 1665 and the Great Fire of London in 1666, which destroyed thousands of homes and most of London's government buildings.

The Restoration of Charles II *1660*

MARCH 16. . . . To Westminster Hall, where I heard how the Parliament had this day dissolved themselves[1] and did pass very cheerfully through the Hall and the Speaker without his mace.[2] The whole Hall was joyful thereat, as well as themselves; and now they begin to talk loud of the King. . . .

MAY 22. . . . News brought that the two dukes are coming on board, which, by and by they did in a Dutch boat, the Duke of York in yellow trimming, the Duke of Gloucester[3] in gray and red. My Lord[4] went in a boat to meet them, the captain, myself, and others standing at the entering port. . . .

MAY 23. . . . All the afternoon the King walking here and there, up and down (quite contrary to what I thought him to have been), very active and stirring. Upon the quarter-deck he fell in discourse of his escape from Worcester.[5] Where it made me ready to weep to hear the stories that he told of his difficulties that he had passed through. As his traveling four days and three nights on foot, every A

Analyze Visuals ▶
Pepys commissioned this portrait, choosing his costume and the music he holds. What image of himself do you think he was trying to convey?

A **DIARY**
Reread lines 5–13. What details tell you that Pepys was an eyewitness to Charles II's return to England?

1. **Parliament . . . themselves:** This Parliament ended the government established by Oliver Cromwell and restored the monarchy under Charles II, who had been living in exile in France.
2. **Speaker . . . mace:** a signal that Parliament is dissolved. The mace is the staff or stick used as a symbol of authority by the Speaker, or head, of Parliament's House of Commons.
3. **Duke of York . . . Gloucester** (glŏs′tər): the younger brothers of Charles II.
4. **My Lord:** Sir Edward Montagu, Pepys's relative and employer, who commanded the fleet that brought Charles back to England.
5. **his escape from Worcester** (wŏŏs′tər): After the forces he led were defeated by Oliver Cromwell's troops at the Battle of Worcester in 1651, Charles went into hiding and managed to escape to continental Europe.

Samuel Pepys (1666), John Hayls. Oil on canvas. The Granger Collection, New York.

step up to his knees in dirt, with nothing but a green coat and a pair of country breeches on and a pair of country shoes, that made him so sore all over his feet that he could scarce stir. Yet he was forced to run away from a miller and other company that took them for rogues. His sitting at table at one place, where the master of the house, that had not seen him in eight years, did know him but kept it private; when at the same table there was one that had been of his own regiment at Worcester, could not know him but made him drink the King's health and said that the King was at least four fingers higher than he. Another place, he was by some servants of the house made to drink, that they might know him not to be a Roundhead,[6] which they swore he was. In another place, at his inn, the master of the house, as the King was standing with his hands upon the back of a chair by the fire-side, he kneeled down and kissed his hand privately, saying that he would not ask him who he was, but bid God bless him whither that he was going. . . . B

TEKS 6

B IRONY

In **situational irony,** what happens is the opposite of what a character or the reader might expect. Authors often use situational irony to shock or surprise readers or to create a humorous situation. Reread the Diary entry for May 23rd. Which incidents in this passage might be considered ironic? How does Pepys feel about the events he relates?

The Coronation of the King *1661*

APRIL 23. . . . About 4 in the morning I rose. . . . And got to the Abbey,[7] . . . where with a great deal of patience I sat from past 4 till 11 before the King came in. And a pleasure it was to see the Abbey raised in the middle, all covered with red and a throne (that is a chair) and footstool on the top of it. And all the officers of all kinds, so much as the very fiddlers, in red vests. At last comes in the dean and prebends of Westminster with the bishops (many of them in cloth-of-gold copes[8]); and after them the nobility all in their parliament-robes, which was a most magnificent sight. Then the duke and the King with a scepter (carried by my Lord of Sandwich) and sword and mond[9] before him, and the crown too.

The King in his robes, bare-headed, which was very fine. And after all had placed themselves—there was a sermon and the service. And then in the choir at the high altar he passed all the ceremonies of the coronation—which, to my very great grief, I and most in the Abbey could not see. The crown being put upon his head, a great shout begun. And he came forth to the throne and there passed more ceremonies: as, taking the oath and having things read to him by the bishop, and his lords (who put on their caps as soon as the King put on his crown) and bishops came and kneeled before him. And three times the king-at-arms[10] went to the three open places on the scaffold and proclaimed that if any one could show any reason why Ch. Stuart[11] should not be King of England, that now he should come and speak. And a general pardon also was read by the Lord Chancellor; and

6. **Roundhead:** a supporter of Cromwell's Puritan government, so called because of the close-cropped style of hair that Puritan men generally wore.
7. **Abbey:** Westminster Abbey, the London church where monarchs are traditionally crowned.
8. **copes:** long robes worn by church officials while performing services or rites.
9. **scepter** (sĕp′tər) **. . . mond:** symbols of royal authority. A scepter is a rod or staff held by a ruler; a mond is a sphere with a cross on top, used as a symbol of royal power and justice.
10. **king-at-arms:** one of the chief heralds assigned to make official proclamations.
11. **Ch. Stuart:** Charles Stuart, who will be crowned Charles II.

Detail of *Charles II's Cavalcade through the City of London, 22nd April, 1661* (1662), Dirck Stoop. Museum of London, London. © HIP/Art Resource, New York.

medals flung up and down by my Lord Cornwallis—of silver; but I could not come by any.

But so great a noise, that I could make but little of the music; and indeed, it was lost to everybody. . . . I went out a little while before the King had done all his ceremonies and went round the Abbey to Westminster Hall, all the way within rails, and 10,000 people, with the ground covered with blue cloth—and scaffolds all the way. Into the hall I got—where it was very fine with hangings and scaffolds, one upon another, full of brave[12] ladies. And my wife in one little one on the right hand. Here I stayed walking up and down; and at last, upon one of the side-stalls, I stood and saw the King come in with all the persons (but the soldiers) that were yesterday in the cavalcade; and a most pleasant sight it was to see them in their several robes. And the King came in with his crown on and his scepter in his hand—under a canopy borne up by six silver staves, carried by barons of the Cinque Ports[13]—and little bells at every end.

And after a long time he got up to the farther end, and all set themselves down at their several tables—and that was also a rare sight. And the King's first course carried up by the Knights of the Bath. And many fine ceremonies there was of the heralds

Language Coach

Oral Fluency Part of reading fluently is correct pronunciation. In most English words that begin with *sce* or *sci,* the *c* is silent. Thus, *scepter*—a rod used in ceremonies to symbolize power—is pronounced /sep t r/ (line 58). What other words are like *scepter?*

12. **brave:** having a fine appearance.
13. **Cinque** (sĭngk) **Ports:** a group of five seaports on England's southeastern coast that formed a defensive association.

leading up people before him and bowing; and my Lord of Albemarle going to the kitchen and ate a bit of the first dish that was to go to the Kings's table. . . . C

C CONNECT TO HISTORY
Reread lines 27–65. Compare the king's coronation to a modern event, such as a presidential inauguration. Would you have been as eager as Pepys to witness the ceremony? Explain your response.

The Great London Fire *1666*

SEPTEMBER 2. (Lord's day) Some of our maids sitting up late last night to get things ready against our feast today, Jane[14] called us up, about 3 in the morning, to tell us of a great fire they saw in the city. So I rose, and slipped on my nightgown and went to her window, and thought it to be on the back side of Mark Lane at the furthest; but being unused to such fires as followed, I thought it far enough off, and so went to bed again and to sleep. About 7 rose again to dress myself, and there looked out at the window and saw the fire not so much as it was, and further off. So to my closet[15] to set things to rights after yesterday's cleaning. By and by Jane comes and tells me that she hears that above 300 houses have been burned down tonight by the fire we saw, and that it was now burning down all Fish Street by London Bridge. So I made myself ready presently, and walked to the Tower and there got up upon one of the high places, Sir J. Robinson's[16] little son going up with me; and there I did see the houses at that end of the bridge all on fire, and an infinite great fire on this and the other side the end of the bridge—which, among other people, did trouble me for poor little Michell and our Sarah on the bridge.[17] So down, with my heart full of trouble, to the Lieutenant of the Tower, who tells me that it begun this morning in the King's baker's house in Pudding Lane, and that it hath burned down St. Magnus Church and most part of Fish Street already. So I down to the water-side and there got a boat and through bridge, and there saw a lamentable fire. Poor Michell's house, as far as the Old Swan, already burned that way and the fire running further, that in a very little time it got as far as the steelyard while I was there. Everybody endeavoring to remove their goods, and flinging into the river or bringing them into lighters[18] that lay off. Poor people staying in their houses as long as till the very fire touched them, and then running into boats or clambering from one pair of stair by the water-side to another. And among other things, the poor pigeons I perceive were loath to leave their houses, but hovered about the windows and balconies till they were some of them burned, their wings, and fell down. D

D GRAMMAR AND STYLE
Reread lines 81–93. Note how Pepys's emotionally charged phrases, such as "heart full of trouble," and his use of **sentence fragments** reflect the intimacy and informality of a diary entry.

. . . At last met my Lord Mayor in Canning Street, like a man spent, with a handkerchief about his neck. To the King's message,[19] he cried like a fainting woman, "Lord, what can I do? I am spent. People will not obey me. I have been pull[ing] down houses. But the fire overtakes us faster than we can do it." That

14. **Jane:** Jane Birch, Pepys's cook.
15. **closet:** private room.
16. **Tower . . . Sir J. Robinson's:** Sir John Robinson was Lieutenant of the Tower of London, built as a fortress and later used as a royal residence and a prison.
17. **on the bridge:** people living in one of the houses that lined Old London Bridge.
18. **lighters:** barges.
19. **the King's message:** The king has ordered Pepys to find the Lord Mayor of London and tell him to pull down all the houses in the path of the fire to keep it from spreading.

Great Fire of London, 1666 (1800s). Wood engraving. The Granger Collection, New York.

he needed no more soldiers; and that for himself, he must go and refresh himself, having been up all night. So he left me, and I him, and walked home—seeing people all almost distracted and no manner of means used to quench the fire. The houses too, so very thick thereabouts, and full of matter for burning, as pitch and tar, in Thames Street[20]—and warehouses of oil and wines and brandy and other things. . . .

Having seen as much as I could now, I away to Whitehall[21] by appointment, and there walked to St. James's Park, and there met my wife and Creed and Wood and his wife and walked to my boat, and there upon the water again, and to the fire up and down, it still increasing and the wind great. So near the fire as we could for smoke; and all over the Thames, with one's face in the wind you were almost burned with a shower of firedrops—this is very true—so as houses were burned by these drops and flakes of fire, three or four, nay five or six houses, one from another. When we could endure no more upon the water, we to a little alehouse on the bankside over against the Three Cranes, and there stayed till it was dark almost and saw the fire grow; and as it grew darker, appeared more and more, and in corners and upon steeples and between churches and houses, as far as we could see up the hill of the city, in a most horrid malicious bloody flame, not like the fine flame of an ordinary fire. Barbary and her husband away before us. We stayed till, it being darkish, we saw the fire as only one entire arch of fire from this to the other side the

Language Coach

Meaning of Idioms The word *away* usually appears after a verb and means "from that place" (*to go away*). Pepys often uses *away* without a verb but with the same meaning as the example above. How would you rephrase lines 104 and 116 in modern English?

20. **Thames** (tĕmz) **Street:** a street running along the Thames, the main river flowing through London.

21. **Whitehall:** a wide road in London, the location of many government offices.

bridge, and in a bow up the hill, for an arch of above a mile long. It made me weep to see it. The churches, houses, and all on fire and flaming at once, and a horrid noise the flames made, and the cracking of houses at their ruin. So home with a sad heart, and there find everybody discoursing and lamenting the fire. . . . E

SEPTEMBER 3. About 4 o'clock in the morning, my Lady Batten sent me a cart to carry away all my money and plate and best things to Sir W. Rider's at Bethnal Green; which I did, riding myself in my nightgown in the cart; and Lord, to see how the streets and the highways are crowded with people, running and riding and getting of carts at any rate to fetch away thing[s]. . . .

SEPTEMBER 8. . . . I met with many people undone, and more that have extraordinary great losses. People speaking their thoughts variously about the beginning of the fire and the rebuilding of the city. . . .

SEPTEMBER 20. . . . In the afternoon out by coach, my wife with me (which we have not done several weeks now), through all the ruins to show her them, which frets her much—and is a sad sight indeed. . . .

SEPTEMBER 25. . . . So home to bed—and all night still mightily troubled in my sleep with fire and houses pulling down.

E CONNECT TO HISTORY
Reread Pepys's account of the Great Fire in lines 66–121. Think about your own reaction to an impending fire or another disaster. Would you have responded as Pepys did? Why or why not?

Domestic Affairs 1663

JANUARY 13. So my poor wife rose by 5 o'clock in the morning, before day, and went to market and bought fowl and many other things for dinner—with which I was highly pleased. And the chine of beef was down also before 6 o'clock, and my own jack,[22] of which I was doubtful, doth carry it very well. Things being put in order and the cook come, I went to the office, where we sat till noon; and then broke up and I home—whither by and by comes Dr. Clerke and his lady—his sister and a she-cousin, and Mr. Pierce and his wife, which was all my guest[s].

I had for them, after oysters—at first course, a hash of rabbits and lamb, and a rare chine of beef—next, a great dish of roasted fowl, cost me about 30s, and a tart; and then fruit and cheese. My dinner was noble and enough. I had my house mighty clean and neat, my room below with a good fire in it—my dining-room above, and my chamber being made a withdrawing-chamber, and my wife's a good fire also. I find my new table very proper, and will hold nine or ten people well, but eight with great room. After dinner, the women to cards in my wife's chamber and the doctor [and] Mr. Pierce in mine, because the dining-room smokes unless I keep a good charcoal fire, which I was not then provided with. . . .

OCTOBER 21. This evening after I came home, I begun to enter my wife in arithmetic, in order to her studying of the globes,[23] and she takes it very well—and I hope with great pleasure I shall bring her to understand many fine things. F

F DIARY
In lines 135–153, Pepys describes aspects of his home life. What roles and responsibilities do he and his wife each fulfill?

22. **chine of beef . . . jack:** a cut of meat containing part of the backbone, roasted on a device called a jack that rotates the meat.

23. **globes:** geography (the earthly globe) and astronomy (the heavenly globes).

1667

JANUARY 7. . . . To the duke's house and saw Macbeth;[24] which though I saw it lately, yet appears a most excellent play in all respects, but especially in divertisement,[25] though it be a deep tragedy; which is a strange perfection in a tragedy, it being most proper here and suitable. . . .

MAY 26. (Lord's day) . . . After dinner, I by water alone to Westminster . . . toward the parish church. . . . I did entertain myself with my perspective glass[26] up and down the church, by which I had the great pleasure of seeing and gazing a great many very fine women; and what with that and sleeping, I passed away the time till sermon was done. . . .

MAY 27. . . . Stopped at the Bear Garden[27] stairs, there to see a prize fought; but the house so full, there was no getting in there; so forced to [go] through an alehouse into the pit where the bears are baited, and upon a stool did see them fight, which they did very furiously, a butcher and a waterman. The former had the better all along, till by and by the latter dropped his sword out of his hand, and the butcher, whether not seeing his sword dropped or I know not, but did give him a cut over the wrist, so as he was disabled to fight any longer. But Lord, to see how in a minute the whole stage was full of watermen to revenge the foul play, and the butchers to defend their fellow, though most blamed him; and there they all fell to it, to knocking down and cutting many of each side. It was pleasant to see, but that I stood in the pit and feared that in the tumult I might get some hurt. At last the rabble broke up, and so I away. . . . G

G DIARY
Reread lines 154–174. Which details suggest that Pepys led a privileged life during the Restoration?

1669

JANUARY 12. . . . This evening I observed my wife mighty dull; and I myself was not mighty fond, because of some hard words she did give me at noon, out of a jealousy at my being abroad this morning; when, God knows, it was upon the business of the office unexpectedly; but I to bed, not thinking but she would come after me; but waking by and by out of a slumber, which I usually fall into presently after my coming into the bed, I found she did not prepare to come to bed, but got fresh candles and more wood for her fire, it being mighty cold too. At this being troubled, I after a while prayed her to come to bed, all my people being gone to bed; so after an hour or two, she silent, and I now and then praying her to come to bed, she fell out into a fury, that I was a rogue and false to her. . . . At last, about 1 o'clock, she came to my side of the bed and drew my curtain open, and with the tongs, red hot at the ends, made as if she did design to pinch me with them; at which in dismay I rose up, and with a few words she laid them down and did by little and little, very sillily, let all the discourse fall; and about 2, but with much seeming difficulty, came to bed and there lay well all night. . . .

24. **To the duke's house . . . Macbeth:** to the new Duke Theatre, to see a production of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*.
25. **divertisement** (də-vûr′tĭs-mənt): diversion; amusement.
26. **perspective glass:** small telescope.
27. **Bear Garden:** a London establishment used for the spectator sport of bearbaiting, in which a bear was chained to a post and tormented by dogs. The Bear Garden also held prizefights between men.

Comprehension

1. **Recall** What is Pepys's attitude toward the return of King Charles II?
2. **Clarify** What issue causes conflict between Pepys and his wife?
3. **Summarize** In your own words, describe Samuel Pepys's way of life.

READING 8 Analyze the consistency and clarity of the expression of the controlling idea and the ways in which the organizational and rhetorical patterns of text support or confound the author's meaning or purpose.

Literary Analysis

4. **Make Inferences About the Author** Summarize Pepys's behavior. What can you infer about his **character traits,** or consistent qualities, from his diary?
5. **Interpret Diction and Tone** Reread lines 66–93 of the selection, noting Pepys's diction, or word choice. On the basis of phrases such as "my heart full of trouble" and "lamentable fire," describe Pepys's tone, or attitude toward his subject.
6. **Examine Author's Purpose** In general, an author writes to fulfill one or more of these purposes, or goals: to inform, to express thoughts or feelings, to persuade, or to entertain. What is Pepys's primary purpose in keeping his diary? Cite evidence from the selection to support your conclusion.
7. **Analyze Diary** *The Diary of Samuel Pepys* not only records the drama of public events but also provides a rare glimpse into the author's views about social issues. What messages does Pepys communicate about the following?
   - the English monarchy (lines 36–60)
   - material wealth (lines 135–150)
   - education (lines 151–153)
   - marriage (lines 175–189)
8. **Connect to History** Review the chart you completed as you read the selection. What historical events presented in Pepys's diary did you find most compelling? Explain the connections you made between these events and your own life experiences.

Literary Criticism

9. **Critical Interpretations** The author Virginia Woolf once said that the "chief delight" of Pepys's diary is its revelation of "those very weaknesses and idiosyncrasies that in our own case we would die rather than reveal." Do you agree or disagree with this opinion? Explain your answer.

Why keep a DIARY?

Why do you think so many people are compelled to record their thoughts and experiences in diaries? What advantages does a diary offer that other means of expression do not?

Conventions in Writing

WRITING 15C Write an interpretation of a literary text. **ORAL AND WRITTEN CONVENTIONS 17** Understand the function of and use the conventions of academic language when speaking and writing.

GRAMMAR AND STYLE: Use Appropriate Language

Review the **Grammar and Style** note on page 584. Like most diarists, Samuel Pepys used his diary as a place to jot down the events of his life soon after they happened. Pepys dispenses with formal language in favor of an informal, conversational style peppered with **sentence fragments** and charged with raw emotion—a writing style that is appropriate for a diary. Here is an example:

> *Upon the quarter-deck he [Charles II] fell in discourse of his escape from Worcester. Where it made me ready to weep to hear the stories that he told of his difficulties that he had passed through.* (lines 11–13)

Pepys confesses that he had been "ready to weep," conveying a sense of how deeply the stories affected him. The sentence fragment gives the passage a sense of spontaneity—as if Pepys were transcribing an image from his memory directly to the pages of his diary.

PRACTICE Rewrite the following paragraph about the great Asian tsunami of 2004 as a diary entry, imitating Samuel Pepys's writing style. Make sure to incorporate emotionally charged words and sentence fragments to convey the difficult experiences of the time.

> On December 26, 2004, a massive undersea earthquake erupted in the waters off the western coast of the Indonesian island of Sumatra, setting off a tsunami, or giant shock wave, that was felt more than 3,000 miles away on the coast of East Africa. Survivors of the disaster described hearing a roar moments before seeing a wall of water rip through beaches and villages. Within minutes, the water swept trees, cars, buildings, and people hundreds of yards inland. The worst damage was in the Indonesian province of Ache, where at least 127,000 people died, another 30,000 were reported missing, and more than 500,000 were left homeless.

READING-WRITING CONNECTION

YOUR TURN

Expand your understanding of *The Diary of Samuel Pepys* by responding to this prompt. Then, use the **revising tips** to improve your diary entry.

WRITING PROMPT	REVISING TIPS
WRITE A DIARY ENTRY What kind of information about life today could your diary provide to readers centuries from now? Write a **three-to-five-page diary entry** in which you describe how you spend a normal day.	• Describe your day in chronological order. • Make sure you include clear, detailed references to specific objects and activities.

Interactive Revision THINK central

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