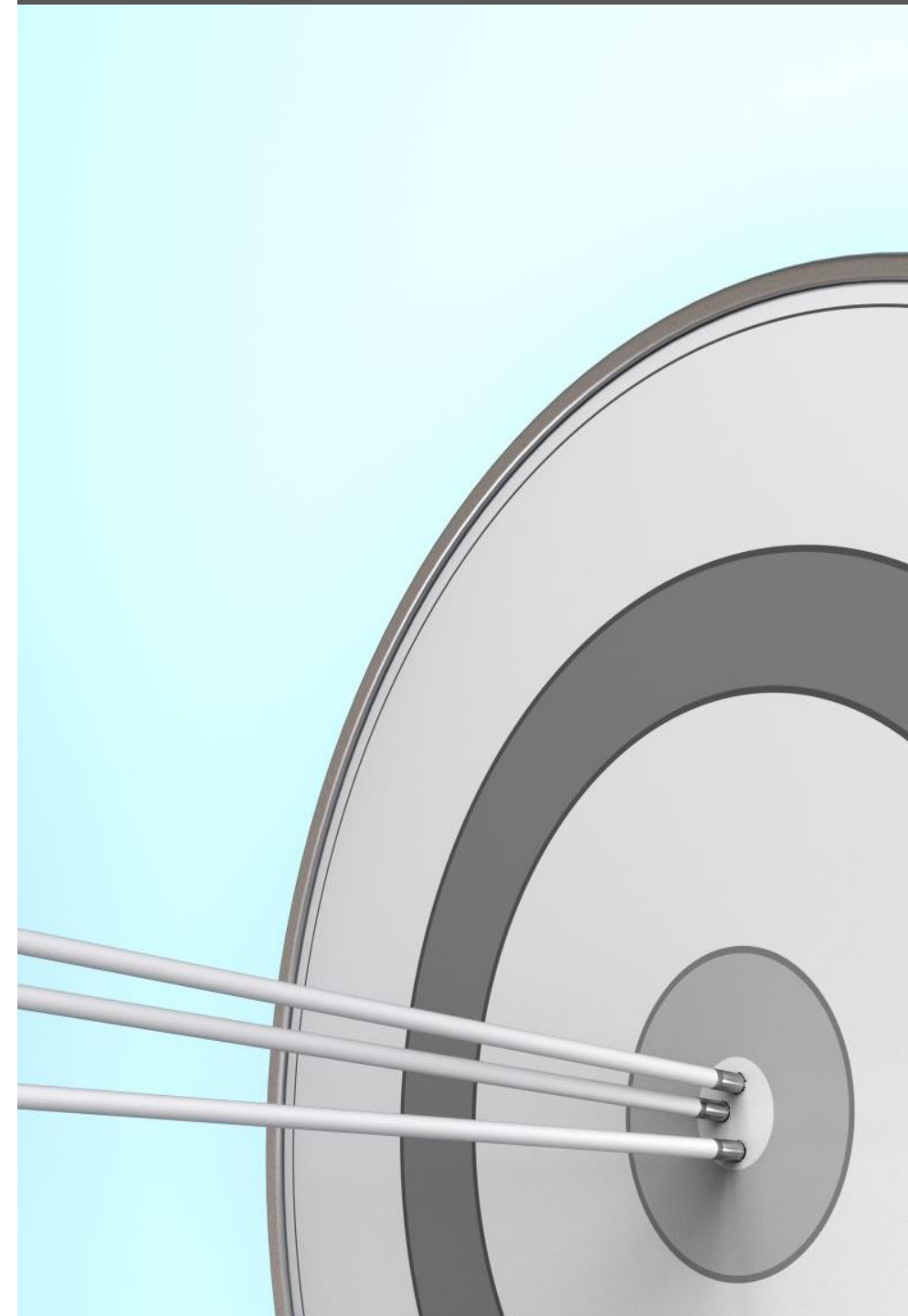




CHAPTER 2. DIARIES AND JOURNALS

OBJECTIVES:

- ❖ What is a diary, why it's important and read some of the famous diaries



WHAT IS A DIARY?

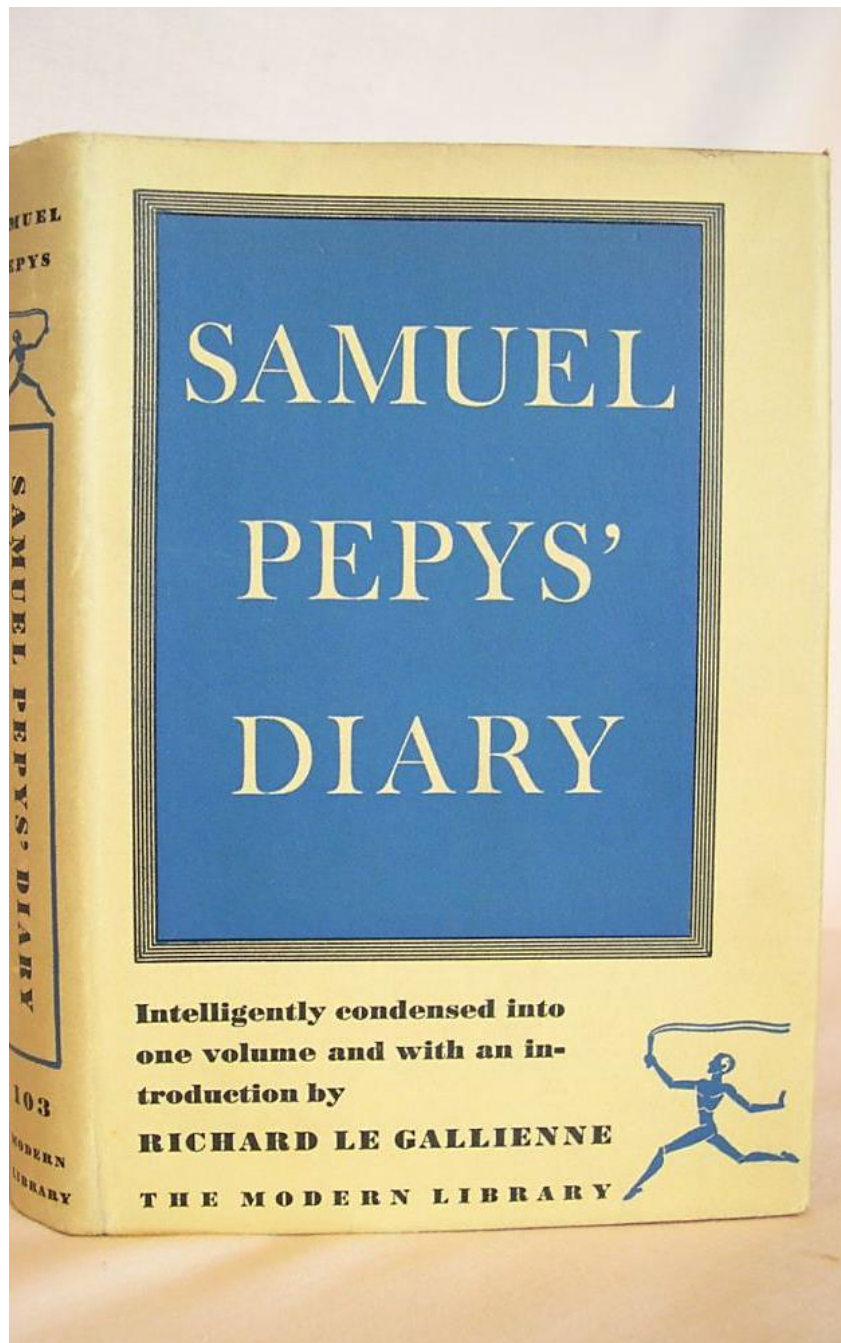
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ТЭМДЭГЛЭЛ/

A diary is an individual's personal account of his/her daily experiences.

Very often, diaries contain not just details of what happened on particular days, but also include observations and thoughts inspired by the events recorded.

EXTRACT 1. SAMUEL PEPYS'S DIARY





The first extract is by the 17th century writer Samuel Pepys (pronounced peeps). Pepys was a quite important civil servant who lived in London at the time of King Charles II; he worked in the Admiralty Office and kept a diary in which he recorded both public events and also details of his personal life and experiences. He wrote his diary in a form of code and had no intention that it would ever be published. However, after his death, his diaries were found and translated. They give us not just a unique insight into some of the great historical events of the time, but also an intimate understanding of the thoughts and attitudes of an individual human who was alive 350 years ago. This extract describes the Great Fire of London in 1666.

Read the
extract
carefully on
page 18-19.

Extract 1: Samuel Pepys's diary



New words:

- Maid/mayds/- A **maid** is a woman who works as a servant in a hotel or private house.
- Feast- a special meal with very good food or a large meal for many people
- Nightgown- a comfortable piece of clothing like a loose dress worn by a woman or a girl in bed
- To rise /rose/- to get out of bed
- To burn down- to destroy something, especially a building, by fire, or to be destroyed by fire
- Hath- /old English word/- has
- Lamentable- very bad, serious, fearful
- To endeavour- to try to do something

- To clamber- to climb up
- To perceive- to think, see
- Loth- /loath/- not wanting to do something
- To hover- to stay in one place in the air, usually by moving the wings quickly
- Staid- serious, boring
- To quench- to use water to put out a fire
- Combustible- able to burn easily, flammable
- Closett /closet/- a small room or space in a wall where you can store things such as clothes, sheets, etc
- Extraordinary- very unusual, special, unexpected

DO THE
EXERCISE 1.



Exercise 1. Samuel Pepys's diary

- *Answer the questions.*

1. Where did Samuel Pepys think that the fire had begun and who told him it had started?
2. Explain what Pepys means by referring to the fire as 'lamentable'.
3. What were most people doing instead of trying to put out the fire?
4. What two things does Pepys say were making the fire worse?
5. What did Pepys tell the King that he should do in order to try to stop the fire?
6. Using your own words, describe the state of mind of the Lord Mayor.
7. At the end of the extract what other reasons does Pepys give for why the fire was spreading so fiercely?

A festive background featuring a bright, glowing sparkler in the upper left corner, with numerous colorful bokeh lights in shades of red, orange, yellow, and blue scattered across a dark night sky. A large, stylized orange starburst shape is positioned on the right side, serving as a frame for the text.

HAVE A FUN
DAY!