

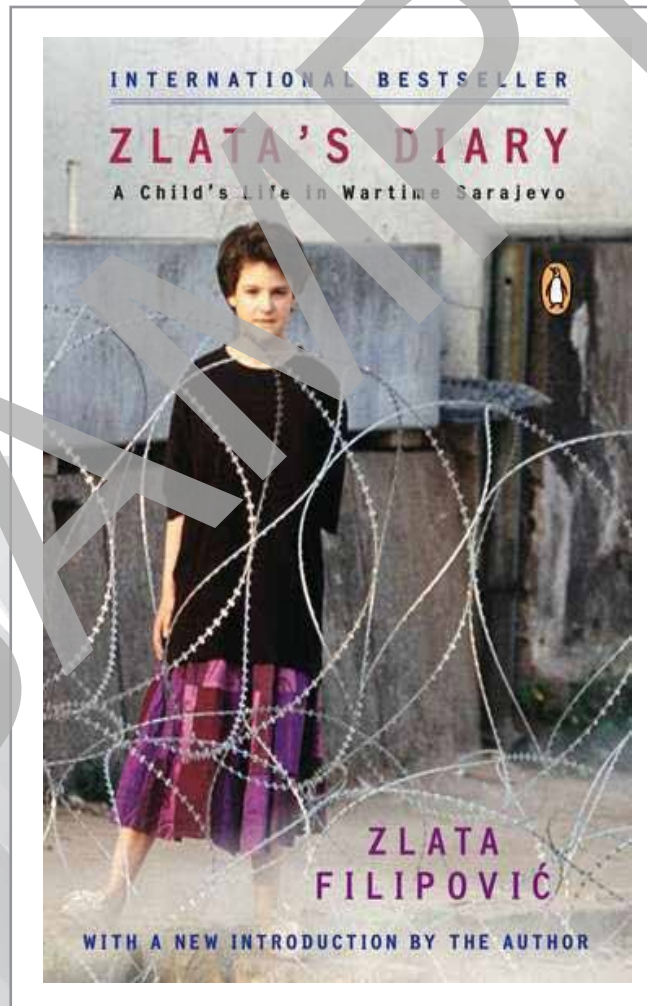


**STUDENT PACKET**

**GRADES 6-8**

# **Zlata's Diary: A Child's Life in Sarajevo**

Zlata Filipovic



**READ, WRITE, THINK, DISCUSS AND CONNECT**

# Zlata's Diary: A Child's Life in Sarajevo

Zlata Filipovic

## STUDENT PACKET

### NOTE:

The trade book edition of the novel used to prepare this guide is found in the Novel Units catalog and on the Novel Units website. Using other editions may have varied page references.

Please note: We have assigned Interest Levels based on our knowledge of the themes and ideas of the books included in the Novel Units sets, however, please assess the appropriateness of this novel or trade book for the age level and maturity of your students prior to reading with them. You know your students best!

---

**ISBN 978-1-50205-152-3**

Copyright infringement is a violation of Federal Law.

© 2020 by Novel Units, Inc., St. Louis, MO. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, translated, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any way or by any means (electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise) without prior written permission from Novel Units, Inc.

Reproduction of any part of this publication for an entire school or for a school system, by for-profit institutions and tutoring centers, or for commercial sale is strictly prohibited.

Novel Units is a registered trademark of Conn Education.

Printed in the United States of America.

To order, contact your  
local school supply store, or:

Toll-Free Fax: 877.716.7272

Phone: 888.650.4224

3901 Union Blvd., Suite 155

St. Louis, MO 63115

[sales@novelunits.com](mailto:sales@novelunits.com)

[novelunits.com](http://novelunits.com)

9. How are the “kids” planning on dividing the people of Sarajevo?
10. What happened in the house that makes Mommy scared and uncomfortable?
11. What is Nedo going to do?
12. Does Daddy think that Nedo will return to Sarajevo? Why or why not?

### **May 25–August 26, Pages 142-168**

1. What will happen to Zlata's diary entries?
2. Why can't the family keep the puppy?
3. What is Nedo going to do?
4. Why do letters from her friends mean so much to Zlata?
5. Do you think good things always happen to good people? Why or why not?
6. Identify the metaphors in Zlata's message that she read at the promotion.
7. Why can't the journalists do something to help Zlata and the people of Sarajevo?
8. Why does it frighten Zlata to be compared to Anne Frank?
9. What happened to Cici? Why is Zlata upset?
10. Explain why Mommy and Daddy keep telling Zlata that “after the clouds comes the sun.”
11. Why does Zlata say that they must “steel themselves”?

### **August 27–Epilogue, Pages 169-197**

1. In your own words, explain how Zlata must feel to see all of her friends leaving Sarajevo.
2. Why does the loss of the mail have such an impact on Zlata?
3. What is supposed to happen on September 21?
4. Why does Zlata say that the war should end?
5. How many people have died? been injured?
6. What happens to the notion of peace?
7. What was supposed to happen on December 8, 1993?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Understanding Values

**Directions:** Values represent people's beliefs about what is important, good, or worthwhile. For example, most families consider spending time together as very important—it is something they value.

Think about the following characters from *Zlata's Diary* and the values they have: Zlata, Mommy, Daddy, the "kids," Nedo, Braco. What do they value? What beliefs do they have about what is important, good, or worthwhile? On the chart below, list each character's three most important values, from most important to least. Be prepared to share your lists during a class discussion.

**Zlata**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Mommy**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Daddy**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Values**

**"kids"**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Nedo**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Braco**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

After you have finished the chart and participated in the class discussion, think about which character seems to have values most like your own. Write a paragraph that explains why you chose this character.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Herringbone

**Directions:** Find out some information about the condition of Sarajevo today. How has it changed? Has the war ended? What happened to all of the refugees? Did they ever return home? How has Sarajevo changed forever? What other countries have suffered this same fate? Add spaces if there are more than two answers to a question. Then write a newspaper article about Sarajevo's current condition.

