

English (3º /4ºESO)

The Spanish National Library celebrates the 7th edition of the Female Writers Day, in which the BNE organises in partnership with the Federación Española de Mujeres Directivas, Ejecutivas, Profesionales y Empresarias (FEDEPE) and with the Asociación Clásicas y Modernas with the aim of vindicate the women writers' work and legacy througout History, reading some excerpts of their books...

This 7th edition, the topic chosen is "Before, during and after wars". In our English lessons, and also with the School Library we take part in this event, alogside the "Bibliotecas Escolares de Galicia". By reading this text, we honor this writer:

Hannah Arendt

From: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hannah_Arendt:

Hannah Arendt (14 October 1906 – 4 December 1975) was a political philosopher, author, and Holocaust survivor. She is widely considered to be one of the most influential political theorists of the 20th century

Arendt was born in Linden, which later became a district of Hanover, in 1906, to a Jewish family. At the age of three, her family moved to Königsberg, the capital of East Prussia, [..] Arendt was raised in a politically progressive, secular family. Her mother was an ardent supporter of the Social Democrats. After completing her secondary



Young Hannah Arendt (cropped)

education in Berlin, she studied at the University of Marburg under Martin Heidegger, with whom she had a fouryear affair.[20] She obtained her doctorate in philosophy writing on Love and Saint Augustine at the University of Heidelberg in 1929 under the direction of the existentialist philosopher Karl Jaspers.

[...] She escaped and made her way to the United States in 1941 via Portugal. She settled in New York, which remained her principal residence for the rest of her life. She became a writer and editor and worked for the Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, becoming an American citizen in 1950. With the publication of The Origins of Totalitarianism in 1951, her reputation as a thinker and writer was established and a series of works followed. These included the books The Human Condition in 1958, as well as Eichmann in Jerusalem and On Revolution in 1963.

This extract was taken from the preface to part one of the Hannah Arendt's book *The Origins of Totalitarianism*:

«[...]The history of antisemitism, like the history of Jew-hatred, is part and parcel of the long and intricate story of Jewish-Gentile relations under the conditions of Jewish dispersion. Interest in this history was practically nonexistent prior to the middle of the nineteenth century, when it coincided with the rise of antisemitism and its furious reaction to emancipated and assimilated Jewry-obviously the worst possible constellation for establishing reliable historical records »

ARENDT, Hannah (1906 – 1970): *The Origins of Totalitarianism*. (New edition). Harvest Book, 1973.



EXERCICES: Read carefully and answer the teacher's questions.