



Benjamin Franklin Activity Bundle

Integrated Reading and Critical Thought Activities

For Grades 4-8

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ANSWERS

Name	Answers
Benjamin Franklin (Basic) Reading Comprehension	C, C, Library, Lightning, Politics, A, D, 100
Founding Fathers on U.S. Currency Reading Comprehension (Basic)	B, A, BC, B, C
Hutchinson Affair Reading Comprehension	C, A, B, C, B, A, B
Philadelphia Reading Comprehension	B, A, D, C, D

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Symbols of the American Revolution and Today: Join, or Die and Corporate Logos



The above symbol remains one of the iconic mages of the Revolutionary War. Originally made as a woodcut by Benjamin Franklin, it was intended to symbolize the need for unity among Britain's North American colonies toward the efforts in the French and Indian War. According to superstition at the time, a snake cut into pieces would become whole again if assembled before sunset.

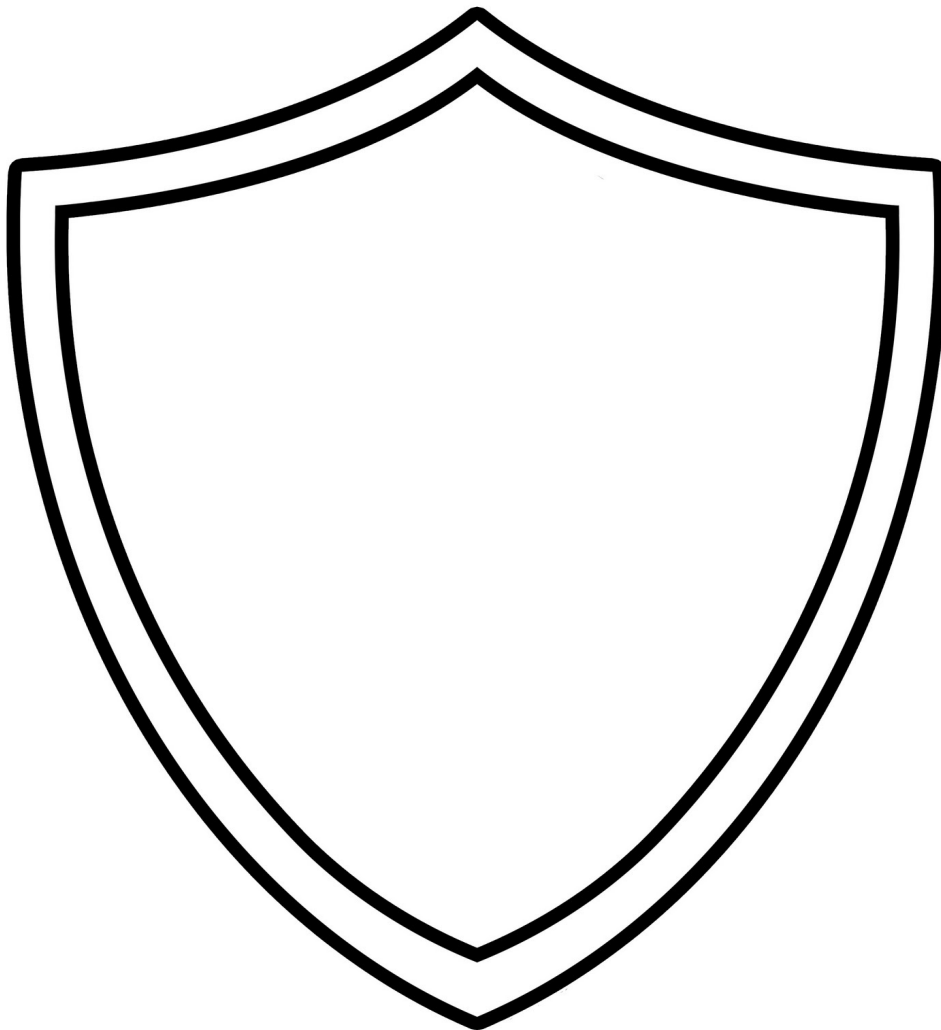
Similarly, today's companies and corporations use symbols in their logos. Use the chart below to label and color three corporate logos that you are aware of and describe what you think each symbolizes.

	The original "Golden Arches" logo was supposed to symbolize the architectural design of early McDonald's restaurants. Contrary to popular belief, it has nothing to do with French Fries or food.

The Many Hats of Benjamin Franklin

Benjamin Franklin was unquestionably one of the most remarkable figures in American history. For starters, he discovered that lightning was electricity through his famous key experiment. He was also a prolific inventor, creating the Franklin Stove, bifocals, and the lightning rod among other things. He penned Poor Richard's Almanac, a famous publication which included predictions, jokes, and sayings such as "a penny saved is a penny earned." He helped the city of Philadelphia create its first library, fire insurance company, and hospital. He also founded the University of Pennsylvania in 1740. Finally, he was a founding father who spent many years in Europe championing the American cause, before coming back to America to help write the Declaration of Independence.

If you could create a shield or coat of arms that illustrated Benjamin Franklin's life and all of his accomplishments, what would it look like? Use lots of color.



Topic Sentence – Benjamin Franklin

Name: _____

Forming good topic sentences is crucial to writing successful reports. Below is the topic sentence of a body paragraph within a biography on Benjamin Franklin. There are four detail sentences that should come after the topic sentence. First, choose the four from the series of sentences below and then, form the paragraph. Start the paragraph with the topic sentence below. There are three additional sentence from those below that should be included.

Topic Sentence: Benjamin Franklin was a crucial figure in the quest for independence.

Sentence	Does it belong in the paragraph with the above topic sentence?
In 1752, Franklin devised a simple experiment to see if electricity could be harnessed from a storm.	
Franklin's charm and persuasion were successful in convincing France to join America at war with England.	
In 1783, Franklin signed the Treaty of Paris, which formally ended the Revolutionary War and made America a free country.	
He was elected a member of the Continental Congress and helped Thomas Jefferson write the Declaration of Independence.	
Franklin launched various campaigns designed to improve the lives of Philadelphia's citizens.	
After signing the declaration, he set sail for France as America's ambassador.	

[illegible]

Answers

Sentence	Does it belong in the paragraph with the above topic sentence?
In 1752, Franklin devised a simple experiment to see if electricity could be harnessed from a storm.	NO
Franklin's charm and persuasion were successful in convincing France to join America at war with England.	YES
In 1783, Franklin signed the Treaty of Paris, which formally ended the Revolutionary War and made America a free country.	YES
He was elected a member of the Continental Congress and helped Thomas Jefferson write the Declaration of Independence.	YES
Franklin launched various campaigns designed to improve the lives of Philadelphia's citizens.	NO
After signing the declaration, he set sail for France as America's ambassador.	YES

Benjamin Franklin was a crucial figure in the quest for independence. He was elected a member of the Continental Congress and helped Thomas Jefferson write the Declaration of Independence. After signing the declaration, he set sail for France as America's ambassador. Franklin's charm and persuasion were successful in convincing France to join America at war with England. In 1783, Franklin signed the Treaty of Paris, which formally ended the Revolutionary War and made America a free country.



Benjamin Franklin

Benjamin Franklin was one of the most important Americans in history. In the early part of his life, Franklin was a business person and inventor. He ran the Pennsylvania Gazette (newspaper) and also published Poor Richard's Almanac. Poor Richard's Almanac was very popular because it made predictions about the future and had wise sayings. Ben Franklin also invented the Franklin stove, lightning rod, bifocals (eyeglasses), and started America's first library. He is probably best known for his kite experiment which proved electricity could be harnessed from lightning.

In the later part of his life, Franklin became interested in politics. He spent many years in England before coming back to America. In 1776, Franklin helped Thomas Jefferson write the Declaration of Independence. Two years later, he went to France and convinced the French to help America in the war against England. After the war, Franklin joined the Continental Congress and signed the Constitution. He died in 1790. Today, Ben Franklin is honored on the \$100 dollar bill. His name is honored on highways, schools, and businesses across America.

1.) Which of the following is something invented by Ben Franklin?

- A. Headphones
- B. Electricity
- C. Bifocals
- D. Kites

2.) Which is something that may have been found in Poor Richard's Almanac?

- A. Directions for operating a soda machine.
- B. The score of a football game.
- C. "A penny saved is a penny earned".
- D. People's phone numbers.

3.) Ben Franklin started America's first _____.

4.) Ben Franklin proved electricity could be harnessed from _____.

5.) In the later part of his life, Franklin became interested in _____.

6.) Which of the following did Ben Franklin not do?

- A. Become President
- B. Sign the Constitution
- C. Help with the Declaration of Independence
- D. Travel to England

7.) What happened first?

- A. Franklin goes to France.
- B. 1776.
- C. Franklin signs the Constitution.
- D. Franklin goes to England.


8.) Today, Ben Franklin is honored on the _____ dollar bill

Symbols of the American Revolution and Today: Join, or Die and Corporate Logos



The above symbol remains one of the iconic mages of the Revolutionary War. Originally made as a woodcut by Benjamin Franklin, it was intended to symbolize the need for unity among Britain's North American colonies toward the efforts in the French and Indian War. According to superstition at the time, a snake cut into pieces would become whole again if assembled before sunset.

Similarly, today's companies and corporations use symbols in their logos. Use the chart below to label and color three corporate logos that you are aware of and describe what you think each symbolizes.

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United States Currency



George Washington is on the \$1 bill. He was America's first president and hero of the Revolutionary War. Our capital city, Washington, is named in his honor.



Thomas Jefferson is on the \$2 bill. He wrote the Declaration of Independence and was the third president of the United States. He was also an inventor, scientist, architect, and writer. He lived in a famous house in Virginia called Monticello. Unlike the other bills on this list, the \$2 bill is not often used.



Abraham Lincoln is on the \$5 bill. He was president during the American Civil War. His choices during the war saved the country and enabled it to get rid of slavery for ever.



Alexander Hamilton is on the \$10 bill. He fought in the Revolutionary War and helped to establish America's government and economy. He recently was the subject of a very popular Broadway show named Hamilton.



Benjamin Franklin is on the \$100 bill. He was an important publisher, scientist, inventor, diplomat, and Patriot. It was Benjamin Franklin who convinced France to help America fight England in the Revolutionary War.

1. What dollar bill is not used very much?

- A. \$1
- B. \$2
- C. \$10
- D. \$100

2. Who convinced France to help America in the Revolutionary War?

- A. Benjamin Franklin
- B. Alexander Hamilton
- C. George Washington
- D. Thomas Jefferson

3. Circle the people below who were not presidents. There are more than one.

- A. Thomas Jefferson
- B. Alexander Hamilton
- C. Benjamin Franklin
- D. George Washington

4. What dollar bill has the man who wrote the Declaration of Independence?

- A. \$1
- B. \$2
- C. \$10
- D. \$100

5. What dollar bill has the man who was president during the American Civil War?

- A. \$1
- B. \$2
- C. \$5
- D. \$10



Poor Richard's Almanac

Poor Richard's Almanac was a publication printed by Benjamin Franklin in between 1732 and 1758. It contained "aphorisms," or clever sayings meant to teach moral lessons. Below is a list of famous sayings from the almanac. Next to each saying, describe what lesson you think it intended to teach.

Saying	Meaning
Lost time is never found again	
Speak little, do much	
Clean your finger, before you point at my spots	
Three may keep a secret, if two of them are dead.	

Philadelphia

Philadelphia was founded and planned in 1682 by William Penn, although the area was previously settled by Swedes, who called the area Wiccacoa, in the early 1600's

The name "Philadelphia" means "brotherly love" in Greek. Penn hoped the colony could serve as a refuge for those seeking religious freedom and tolerance. Philadelphia quickly grew as an economic, cultural, and intellectual hub, and became the most important city in the thirteen colonies, and the second most important English speaking city in the world behind London. One of Philadelphia's leading citizens, Benjamin Franklin, founded the Pennsylvania Gazette, The University of Pennsylvania, and the nation's first public library and fire company in Philadelphia.

Philadelphia played prominently in the American Revolution. The Continental Congress first met in Philadelphia in 1775 and Thomas Jefferson drafted the Declaration of Independence at Independence Hall in Philadelphia in 1776. In addition, the city served as the capital of the colonies from 1777 to 1788.

1. William Penn hoped Philadelphia...

- A. would become home to Benjamin Franklin.
- B. would become a place people could practice religion freely.
- C. would become the site of Independence Hall.
- D. would eventually become the site of the drafting of the Declaration of Independence.

2. What could be a synonym of the word "refuge" as used in the second paragraph?

- A. Safe Place
- B. Business
- C. Church
- D. House

3. What was NOT true about Philadelphia?

- A. It was the site of America's first public library
- B. It served as the capital of the colonies
- C. It was the site of the first meeting of the Continental Congress
- D. It was the largest English-speaking city in the world

4. What question is answered in the second paragraph?

- A. When was the University of Pennsylvania established?
- B. When was Philadelphia named capital of the colonies?
- C. What does the name "Philadelphia" mean?
- D. How many people lived in Philadelphia?

5. Which of the following was a reason Philadelphia grew so quickly?

- A. People came to see the first library
- B. Its name means "city of brotherly love"
- C. It was originally settled by the Swedes
- D. It attracted immigrants because of its religious tolerance



Benjamin Franklin Cloze Reading

Instructions: Use your contextual vocabulary skills to fill in the blanks with the words from the word bank.

Word Bank:

established figures filled forever harnessed Numerous
predictions probably proving successful

Benjamin Franklin was one of the most fascinating and accomplished _____ in American history. Ben Franklin was not just a famous ambassador, he was an extremely _____ business person, philanthropist, and inventor. Although Franklin is _____ best known for _____ electricity could be _____ from lightning (the kite and key experiment), he also _____ America's first library, invented bifocal glasses, the lightning rod and the Franklin Stove. He founded Poor Richard's Almanac, a book _____ with _____ and wise sayings. The saying, "A penny saved is a penny earned" first came from Franklin's pen. Franklin also established the American Philosophical Society and the Pennsylvania Hospital. Ben Franklin is memorialized _____ on the front of the one hundred dollar bill. _____ museums, highways, schools, and businesses and buildings bear his name as well.



ANSWERS

Benjamin Franklin was one of the most fascinating and accomplished **figures** in American history. Ben Franklin was not just a famous ambassador, he was an extremely **successful** business person, philanthropist, and inventor. Although Franklin is **probably** best known for **proving** electricity could be **harnessed** from lightning (the kite and key experiment), he also **established** America's first library, invented bifocal glasses, the lightning rod and the Franklin Stove. He founded Poor Richard's Almanac, a book **filled** with **predictions** and wise sayings. The saying, "A penny saved is a penny earned" first came from Franklin's pen. Franklin also established the American Philosophical Society and the Pennsylvania Hospital. Ben Franklin is memorialized **forever** on the front of the one hundred dollar bill. **Numerous** museums, highways, schools, and businesses and buildings bear his name as well.

The Hutchinson Affair Reading Comprehension

Name: _____

An Abridgement of What Are Called English Liberties

Thirteen letters from an anonymous source were dropped into Benjamin Franklin's lap in December 1772. When he opened them, he found a series of communications between Massachusetts governor Thomas Hutchinson, his lieutenant governor Andrew Oliver, and authorities from the English government. At the time, the American colonies were under rule from the British, but tensions were rising. Hutchinson's letters recommended that the English send more troops to Massachusetts to keep the colonists quiet, and endorsed harsh punishments for the colony. In the most significant line of the letters, Hutchinson stated that he didn't think the colonists could have all of the rights that they might have had in England, and said that an "abridgement of what are called English liberties" was necessary.

Letters are Leaked

Franklin knew that if the letters got out to the public, the resulting anger and shock would be severe. He showed the letters to Samuel Adams. Later, Speaker of the Massachusetts House Thomas Cushing asked Franklin if the letters could be presented before the House. Franklin agreed, but said they could only be shown to other people - not copied or published. However, Samuel Adams deeply disliked Hutchinson, and began hinting at the contents of the letters in assemblies and to the public. He leaked certain parts of the letters to increase public interest, angering Hutchinson. Finally, in June 1773, the letters were published in the Boston Gazette.

Anger in the Colonies

As Franklin had predicted, the public response was intense. The people were furious at Hutchinson, particularly for his statement that the colonists should lose some of their freedoms. They took it as a sign that the British were determined to keep the colonists from being free, and that revolution might be necessary. Within days, the Massachusetts General Court passed a resolution that removed both Hutchinson and Oliver from office.

Merry Christmas!

In England, government officials were angry at what had happened. They demanded to know who had originally leaked the letters. How had they slipped out of Hutchinson's hands? People pointed fingers, desperate to catch the culprit, leading to a sword duel between two men in early December 1773. With lives on the line, Franklin revealed his part in the Hutchinson affair by publishing a letter on Christmas Day. He said that he had received the letters and that he had passed them to other people, but not from whom he had gotten them. Franklin himself was called before the Privy Council - a group of advisors to the King, and was accused of thievery and dishonor.

Still a Mystery Today

The original leaker of the Hutchinson Letters remains a mystery to this day. Some historians think it might have been former Massachusetts governor Thomas Pownall, who had similar political views to Franklin and whose brother John was a colonial secretary with access to colonial administration buildings. But until new evidence arises, a true answer might never be reached.

- 1. Whose involvement in the Hutchinson Affair has never been explicitly confirmed?**
 - a. Samuel Adams
 - b. Benjamin Franklin
 - c. John Pownall
 - d. Andrew Oliver
- 2. Hutchinson wrote that an abridgement of the colonists' English liberties, or freedoms, was necessary. Which of the following is the best synonym for abridgement in context?**
 - a. Decrease
 - b. Emphasis
 - c. Elongation
 - d. Battle
- 3. Infer why Benjamin Franklin did not want the Hutchinson letters to be copied or published, based on evidence from the article.**
 - a. Franklin was a friend of Hutchinson's and wanted to protect him.
 - b. Franklin did not want a dangerous public uproar if the letters were published.
 - c. Franklin had also written letters to the English government and did not want them to be leaked.
 - d. Franklin wanted to be the only one with the power to distribute the letters.
- 4. Which of the following events happened first?**
 - a. Andrew Oliver is removed from office.
 - b. Samuel Adams begins teasing the public with snippets of the letters.
 - c. Benjamin Franklin lets Thomas Cushing show the letters to the Massachusetts House.
 - d. Two men sword duel over the original leaker of the letters.
- 5. On December 16, 1773, the Boston Tea Party occurred, during which angry colonists threw boxes of British tea into the Boston Harbor. Infer the relationship between the Hutchinson letters and the Boston Tea Party.**
 - a. The Hutchinson letters had no influence on the Tea Party since they occurred in different states.
 - b. Tensions in Massachusetts continued to rise after the Hutchinson letters, leading to the Tea Party.
 - c. The Hutchinson letters calmed things down in Massachusetts, making the Tea Party less severe than it would have been.
 - d. Thomas Hutchinson was a key figure in the rebellion and led the efforts at the Boston Tea Party.
- 6. Which of the following best describes Benjamin Franklin's role in the Hutchinson Affair?**
 - a. Cautionary and deliberate
 - b. Selfish and thoughtless
 - c. Reckless and wild
 - d. Fearful and careless
- 7. Which of the following documents might shed light on who leaked the Hutchinson letters?**
 - a. A letter from Thomas Pownall to his wife in June 1771
 - b. A copy of one of the Hutchinson letters in John Pownall's room
 - c. A newspaper clipping from the Boston Gazette in June 1773
 - d. A photo of Thomas and John Pownall together in 1772

Fact or Fiction?

Name: _____

Below is a biography on Benjamin Franklin. On the following page is a chart with ten statements. Indicate whether each statement is fact or fiction.

Benjamin Franklin was born on January 17, 1706, in Boston, Massachusetts. He was one of ten children born to Josiah Franklin, a soap maker, and his wife, Abiah Folger. Josiah wanted Benjamin to enter the clergy but could not afford to send him for schooling. Consequently, when Benjamin was 12, he apprenticed for his brother James who was a printer. Benjamin worked extremely hard at formatting the text and composing publications.

Silence Dogood

When Benjamin was 15, his brother printed the first editorial newspaper in Boston. Unlike other publications throughout Boston that simply reprinted events, James's newspaper, called *The New England Courant*, printed articles and editorial columns. Benjamin was very interested in his brother's newspaper and desperately wanted to help him write it. Unfortunately, he knew that James would not allow a fifteen-year-old boy to write articles. Benjamin thought of a plan. He would write under an anonymous pen name and slip the articles under the door at night. He chose the name Silence Dogood. Articles written by Silence Dogood became very popular. People throughout Boston wanted to know who she was. She spoke out about issues abroad and the poor treatment of women. Finally, after 16 letters, Benjamin confessed to James that he was Silence Dogood. James was very angry and jealous of the attention Benjamin received.

Off to London

Nevertheless, the paper continued. James's editorials became increasingly critical of the Puritan leadership within Boston, especially for their support of the smallpox inoculation (which the Franklins believed made people sicker). James was incarcerated for his criticism and Benjamin was left in charge of publication. When James was released from jail, he beat Benjamin, despite the fact that he had kept the publication afloat. In 1723, Benjamin ran away and eventually ended up in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he met Deborah Read. While in Philadelphia, Benjamin lived with her family and soon found work as an apprentice printer. Franklin was an excellent printer and was sent by the governor of Pennsylvania to London to purchase font types and printing supplies. In exchange for his service, the governor promised to help Benjamin start his own printing business. In the meantime, Benjamin and Deborah had grown very close, and she had begun to suggest they should get married. Benjamin felt unprepared and left for England. Unfortunately, the governor lied, and Benjamin was forced to work in London for several months. Deborah married another man while he was gone (but the relationship was far from over).

The Pennsylvania Gazette and Poor Richard's Almanac

Upon his return to Philadelphia, Benjamin borrowed money and started his own printing business. He worked extremely hard and soon received government printing contracts. Benjamin's business became very successful and he became well-known throughout Philadelphia. In 1730, he married his sweetheart, Deborah Reed, whose husband had left her.

In 1729, Franklin bought the *Pennsylvania Gazette* and turned it into the most successful newspaper in the colonies. His newspaper contained the very first political cartoons. Benjamin continued to design and author creative and popular publications. In 1733, he printed his *Poor Richard's Almanac*. While most almanacs of the time contained weather reports and other predictions, *Poor Richard's Almanac* contained lively writing, interesting facts, and creative sayings—many which are still used today. “A penny saved is a penny earned” came from Franklin's almanac.

Modernizing Philadelphia

While Benjamin was busy with his publications, he also found time for charity and public work. Franklin launched various campaigns designed to improve the quality of life for Philadelphia's residents. He helped in lighting and paving Philadelphia's streets, cleaning up its environment, and in starting America's first circulation library. He also started the American Philosophical Society as well as the Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia Union Fire Company, and the Philadelphia Contribution for Insurance Against Loss by Fire Company.

Making History in Science!

In the meantime, Benjamin was also conducting science experiments. He had already invented the Franklin stove, which was effective in keeping large houses warm in the winter, as well as bifocal glasses. He soon became interested in the concept of electricity. In 1752, Franklin devised a simple experiment to see if electricity could be harnessed from a storm. He succeeded and gained international fame.

The Statesman

Soon Benjamin turned to politics to satisfy his enormous craving to learn. He soon became the colonial representative for Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Georgia, and New Jersey in England. He stayed in England for 18 years, enjoying the life of a wealthy diplomat. Although he begged his wife to join him in England, she refused and eventually died while Benjamin was in England.

The Hutchinson Affair

In 1765, England passed the Stamp Act on the colonies, which forced Americans to pay taxes on any sort of printed document. America was outraged, and word soon spread across England about the rumblings in the colonies. Franklin helped persuade Parliament to repeal the act but grew sick of the corruption he saw among political officials in England. He began to formulate a plan for

united colonies. Franklin was soon embarrassed by members of Parliament for exposing the “Hutchinson Letters Affair” to the colonies. Thomas Hutchinson, the royal governor of Massachusetts, was a British official sent to Massachusetts to pretend to side with the colonists concerning their complaints against England. In reality, he was controlled by Parliament and had no intention of helping the colonists.

A Founding Father

Benjamin Franklin then came home to join the cause for independence. He was elected a member of the Continental Congress and helped Thomas Jefferson draft the Declaration of Independence. After he signed the Declaration of Independence, Franklin set sail for France as America’s ambassador. Franklin’s charm and persuasion were successful in convincing the French to sign the 1778 Treaty of Alliance, which asserted France’s intention to aid the colonies in their quest for independence and secure loans for military supplies. In 1783, Franklin attended the signing of the Treaty of Paris, which ended the Revolutionary War.

After returning from France, Franklin became a member of the Constitutional Convention and signed the Constitution in 1787. He died three years later on April 17, 1790. Twenty thousand people attended his funeral.

	FACT	FICTION
Silence Dogood was actually a young Benjamin Franklin.		
Benjamin’s brother ran the <i>Pennsylvania Gazette</i> , a popular newspaper.		
Poor Richard’s Almanac was similar to other almanacs of the time.		
Benjamin helped to improve the lives of Philadelphia’s citizens.		
Benjamin Franklin invented things like the Franklin Stove, bifocal glasses, and electricity.		
Benjamin served as the colonial representative of four different colonies.		
Benjamin lived in England for 18 years; while he was there, his wife Deborah died.		
Benjamin actually supported the British when they issued the 1765 Stamp Act.		
Benjamin Franklin earned praise and respect in England for exposing “the Hutchinson Letters Affairs.”		
Benjamin was involved in the drafting of the Declaration of Independence.		
Benjamin Franklin wrote the Constitution.		

Answers:

	FACT	FICTION
Silence Dogood was actually a young Benjamin Franklin.	X	
Benjamin's brother ran the <i>Pennsylvania Gazette</i> , a popular newspaper.		X
Poor Richard's Almanac was similar to other almanacs of the time.		X
Benjamin helped to improve the lives of Philadelphia's citizens.	X	
Benjamin Franklin invented things like the Franklin Stove, bifocal glasses, and electricity.		X
Benjamin served as the colonial representative of four different colonies.	X	
Benjamin lived in England for 18 years; while he was there, his wife Deborah died.	X	
Benjamin actually supported the British when they issued the 1765 Stamp Act.		X
Benjamin Franklin earned praise and respect in England for exposing "the Hutchinson Letters Affairs."		X
Benjamin was involved in the drafting of the Declaration of Independence.	X	
Benjamin Franklin wrote the Constitution.		X

If Benjamin Franklin Got His Way....

To Benjamin Franklin, the selection of the bald eagle was an insult to the new nation. According to Franklin, the eagle “is a bird of bad moral character; he does not get his living honestly. You may have seen him perched in some dead tree where, too lazy to fish for himself, he watches the labor of the fishing hawk and, when that diligent bird has at length taken a fish and is bearing it to his nest for his young ones, the bald eagle pursues him and takes the fish. With all this injustice, he is never in good case.”

Franklin was much more enthusiastic about the wild turkey as America’s national symbol. He called it a “bird of courage” that “would not hesitate to attack a grenadier of the British guards who should presume to invade his farm yard with a red coat on.” Despite Franklin’s protests, Congress made the bald eagle America’s national symbol. Today, the bald eagle is one of the most ubiquitous symbols of America and appears on the back of the American quarter (among many other places). Pretend Benjamin Franklin got his way and the turkey became America’s symbol. Design the “new” reverse side of the quarter considering the turkey as the national symbol.

Current Reverse Side of Quarter	New Reverse Side with Turkey
	



Name _____

Loyalists/Patriots: Dialogue between father and son.

When William Franklin was 21 years old, he accompanied his father, Benjamin, on what would become one of the most famous experiments of all time – Franklin's discovery that lightning was electricity. By 1763, William had secured his position as Royal Governor of New Jersey – likely because his father lobbied the king. During the Revolutionary War, however, Benjamin pleaded with his son to take up the Patriot cause, but William refused and the relationship between father and son was ruined forever. In 1782, William left for England and never returned to America. He saw his father briefly one last time when Benjamin stopped in England on his way back from France.

What do you think their last conversation was like? Use your knowledge of the reasoning behind the Patriot and Loyalist causes to compose a politically charged "last dialogue" between the two Franklin's. Visit <http://www.mrnussbaum.com/amrevolution/loyalists.htm> to learn more.

(In England)

Benjamin (somerly): It has been a long time, son. Has our time apart given you new insight into the Patriot cause?

William:

Benjamin:

William:

Benjamin:

William:

Benjamin:

William: