

Benjamin Franklin Exemplar

Prompt: Benjamin Franklin accomplished so much in his lifetime due to his virtues. A virtue is a character trait that makes people successful. Describe how some of the virtues he worked to practice every day might have helped him with specific achievements he made.

Benjamin Franklin lived in early America and played an important role in the United States. He did this by practicing important virtues that helped him make the achievements that he did.

Franklin practiced silence and temperance. Both being quiet and being wise enough to not get drunk helped him socially both in the USA and when he travelled. The text states that, "He was so good at listening and communicating that he even helped fix international problems." Since he did not speak too much or drink too much, he was able to speak in ways that did not upset others and did not make comments he would later regret. This would have helped him to communicate well and avoid offending others so he made a good statesman and politician.

Next, this early American practiced a virtue called industry. Industry means that a person should waste no time and only do necessary activities, rather than wasting time away. Benjamin was able to become an editor of a newspaper, set up a print shop, run a post office, make important discoveries and invent so many wonderful items because he used his time so well. He seems to have been busy with great work for all the time he was alive.

Finally, he believed in humility which means to imitate the lives of great people. Great people help others. He did this when his inventions helped others, when he helped set up colleges, and when he helped with the Revolutionary War. He showed that he had humility because he spent so much time helping others. He showed so many characteristics of greatness that "he received a place only second to that of Washington as the champion of American independence."

Benjamin Franklin accomplished so much in his life for himself and others. Practicing simple virtues seem to have great power in helping people to succeed.