

SOLUTIONS INTERMEDIATE 5

CULTURE 5:

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

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FAME





**WHAT QUALITIES
DO YOU NEED TO
BE SUCCESSFUL
IN LIFE?**





**KNOWING
EVERYTHING.**



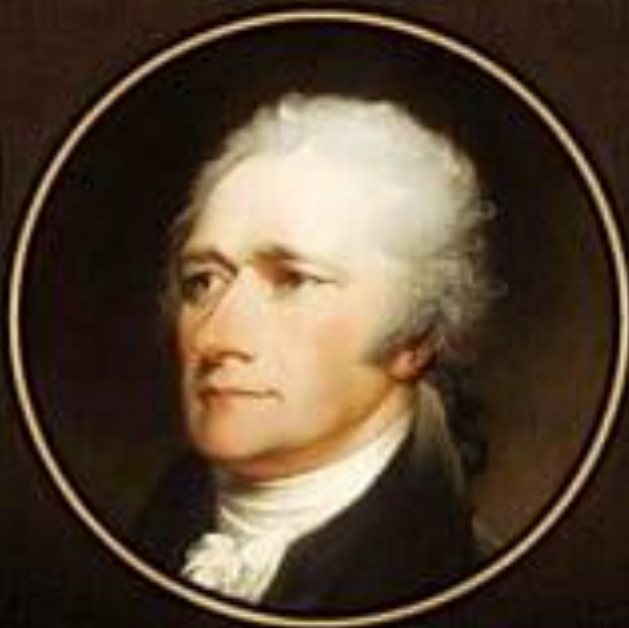
**KNOWING
EVERYTHING.
OMNISCIENT**

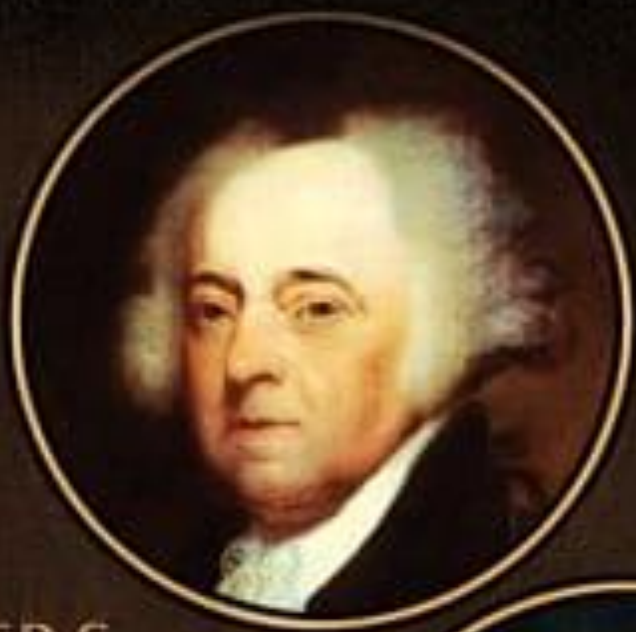
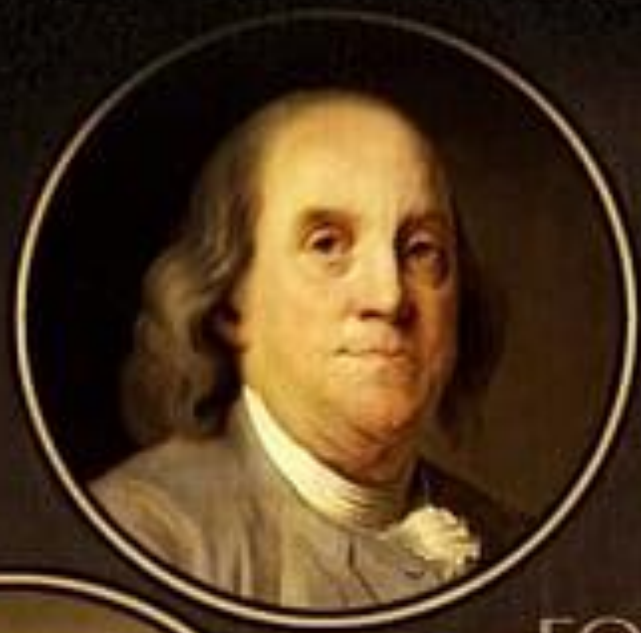
1 **SPEAKING** Can you think of any famous people from your own country's history who were famous for more than one reason? Use the words below to help you.

actor composer explorer inventor musician
politician / statesman scientist soldier
sportsman / sportswoman writer



Who are they?






FOUNDING FATHERS

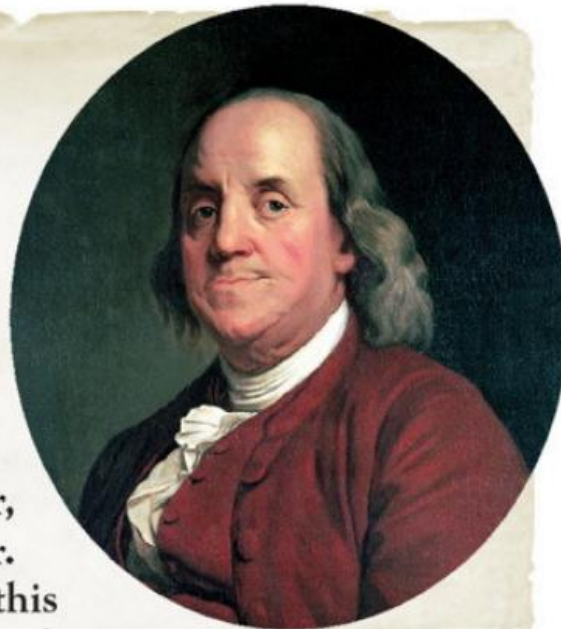


- America's Founding Fathers — including George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, James Monroe and Benjamin Franklin — together with several other key players of their time, structured the democratic government of the United States and left a legacy that has shaped the world.




- 2  4.10 Read the introductory paragraph. Then listen. Complete the missing dates in the timeline of Benjamin Franklin's life.

Benjamin Franklin is a giant of American history, partly because he was successful in so many different areas. Today, he is perhaps remembered mostly as a scientist and inventor, but he was also a publisher, a musician, a newspaper owner, a politician and a philosopher. And he was able to do all of this despite quite a poor background.



- 1706 Born in Boston, USA, the eighth of ten children.
-
- 1 _____ Leaves school after only two years because his parents cannot afford to pay.
-
- 1718 Starts working for his brother James, a printer.
-
- 1728 Starts his own printing company in Philadelphia.
-
- 2 _____ Becomes owner of a newspaper, the *Pennsylvania Gazette*.
-
- 1731 Founds America's first lending library.
-
- 3 _____ Begins to publish the first in a series of almanacs, yearly books containing interesting facts, stories and puzzles. Their success makes Franklin rich.
-
- 1748 Retires from printing to spend more time on science and experiments.
-
- 1750 Publishes important work on electricity.
-
- 4 _____ Carries out his famous experiment with a kite in a storm.
-
- 1776 Becomes the first American Ambassador to France, and works to improve the relationship between the two countries.
-
- 1785 Retires from politics.
-
- 5 _____ Dies at the age of 84. Funeral is attended by 20,000 people.



**WHAT ARE THE MOST
IMPORTANT OR
IMPRESSIVE
ACHIEVEMENTS OF
BENJAMIN
FRANKLIN?**




ATTEND FUNERAL





CARRY OUT EXPERIMENT



3  4.10 Listen again and complete the collocations with the verbs below.

attend build carry out found publish
retire start write


- 1 _____ your own business
- 2 _____ an article for a newspaper
- 3 _____ a book
- 4 _____ a hospital
- 5 _____ a scientific experiment
- 6 _____ strong relations between two countries
- 7 _____ from a job
- 8 _____ a funeral




4 **SPEAKING** Describe the picture using the words below. Have you heard of this experiment? What do you think Franklin was trying to discover?

cord electricity key kite
lightning spark storm clouds



5  4.11 Listen to a news report about Franklin's famous kite experiment. Are the sentences true or false? Write T or F.

- 1 Franklin's experiment became well known in America and other countries too. ___
- 2 According to the traditional story, Franklin bought a kite and attached a piece of metal to it. ___
- 3 According to the story, Franklin put his hand near the piece of metal and felt an electrical spark. ___
- 4 Dr Tom Tucker began investigating the experiment while working at a university. ___
- 5 Dr Tucker first became suspicious after reading Franklin's own reports of the experiment. ___
- 6 Dr Tucker successfully recreated Franklin's experiment when he used a modern kite. ___
- 7 Dr Tucker thinks that Franklin's theories about electricity were correct, even if his report of the experiment was invented. ___



**WILL YOU PUT
YOUR LIFE IN
DANGER FOR THE
SAKE OF SCIENCE
OR KNOWLEDGE?**

6 **SPEAKING** In pairs, discuss these quotations by Benjamin Franklin. Decide what they mean and whether you agree or disagree with them.

'Hard work is the mother of good luck.'

'Some people die at 25 and aren't buried until 75.'

***'Having been poor is no shame,
but being ashamed of it, is.'***



**WHO IS THE MOST
IMPRESSIVE
PERSON IN YOUR
LIFE? WHY?**

HE/SHE SHOULD BE FAMOUS!

DO YOU REMEMBER WASHINGTON D.C.?





ASSIGNMENT: SUMMARY

DEADLINE: SUNDAY