

- Eles disseram que concluíram tudo. /não... nada /alguma coisa /parte do trabalho
THEY SAID THEY ACCOMPLISHED EVERYTHING. /NOTHING /SOMETHING /PART OF THE WORK
- Eles conferiram a folha de balanço. /a marca /o endereço do locador /o endereço da locadora
THEY CHECKED THE BALANCE SHEET. /THE BRAND /THE LANDLORD'S ADDRESS /THE LANDLADY'S ADDRESS
- Nós precisamos de algumas provas. /cintos de segurança /instruções /cereal
WE NEED SOME PROOF. /SEAT BELTS /INSTRUCTION /CEREAL
- Ele assinou a carta e acrescentou o apelido dele. /um bigode à foto dele
HE SIGNED THE LETTER AND ADDED HIS NICKNAME. /A MUSTACHE TO HIS PICTURE
- Isso não foi explicado no balanço. /na pesquisa /no acordo /nas instruções /no orçamento
THIS WASN'T EXPLAINED IN THE BALANCE. /IN THE RESEARCH /IN THE AGREEMENT /IN THE INSTRUCTIONS /IN THE BUDGET
- Eles tem uma seção médica? /um corrimão /um rádio portátil /uma boneca de cera
DO THEY HAVE A MEDICAL SECTION? /A RAIL /A PORTABLE RADIO /A WAX DOLL
- Por que as crianças estão nuas? /brincando com aquele sapo /lavando o urso de brinquedo /escrevendo no meu papel de carta bom
WHY ARE THE CHILDREN NAKED? /PLAYING WITH THE THAT FROG /WASHING THE TOY BEAR /WRITING ON MY GOOD STATIONERY
- Você ainda tem que somar todos esses números? /tudo isso aqui /todos esses custos
DO YOU STILL HAVE TO ADD UP ALL THESE NUMBERS? /ALL THIS /ALL THESE COSTS
- Bobby machucou o queixo dele. /a sobrancelha dele
BOBBY HURT HIS CHAIN. /HIS EYEBROW
- Não faço a menor ideia de eles querem sentar na primeira fileira. /ir conosco /ficar aqui
I DON'T HAVE THE SLIGHTEST IDEA IF THEY WANT TO SIT IN THE FIRST ROW. /GO WITH US /STAY HERE
- Por que você se sente culpado? Porque sim. /inventa uma história diferente todos os dias.
WHY DO YOU FEEL GUILTY? JUST BECAUSE. /MAKE UP A DIFFERENT STORY EVERY DAY
- Ele sabe tudo a respeito de orçamentos; ele entende facilmente. /hipotecas /faturas /arrendamento
HE KNOWS ALL ABOUT BUDGETS; HE CATCHES ON EASILY. /MORTGAGES /INVOICES /LEASING
- Por favor, aperte seu cinto de segurança. /seu cinto /o balanço na árvore
PLEASE, FASTEN YOUR SEATBELT. /YOUR BELT /THE SWING TO THE TREE
- Ele quase nunca anota as ideias dele. /as aulas
HE HARDLY EVER WRITES HIS OWN IDEAS. /THE CLASSES
- Por que você mantém esse lembrete na sua mesa de trabalho dia vai, dia vem? /essas instruções /a folha de balanço
WHY DO YOU KEEP THIS REMINDER ON YOUR DESK DAY IN, DAY OUT. /THESE INSTRUCTIONS /THE BALANCE SHEET
- Por favor, providencie a mão-de-obra necessária para mim, está bem?
PLEASE, PROVIDE THE NECESSARY LABOR FOR ME, WILL YOU? /THE NECESSARY LOAN /THE NECESSARY SALES SHIP
- Por favor, resume essas instruções para mim, está bem? /essa palestra /esse estudo
PLEASE, SUMMARIZE THESE INSTRUCTIONS FOR ME, WILL YOU? /THIS LECTURE /THIS STUDY
- Eles estavam ponderando sobre a origem do problema. /o benefício que isso lhes traria /os prejuízos que eles tinham tido
THEY WERE REASONING ABOUT THE SOURCE OF THE PROBLEM. /THE BENEFIT THIS WOULD BRING THEM /THE LOSSES THEY HAD HAD
- Ela terá que datilografar isso mais cedo ou mais tarde. /desfazer-se disso /desligar isso /experimentalizar isso
SHE WILL HAVE TO TYPE THIS SOONER OR LATER. /GIVE THIS AWAY /SWITCH THIS OFF /TRY THIS OUT
- Ele quer agradá-la, por isso trouxe batatas fritas para ela. /fritas /cereal /uma balança
HE WANTS TO PLEASE HER, SE HO BROUGHT SOME POTATO CHIPS FOR HER. /FRENCH FRIES /CEREAL /A SCALE
- Ann estava espirrando porque um pouco de algodão entrou no nariz dela. /mostarda /pó
ANN WAS SNEEZING BECAUSE SOME COTTON GOT IN HER NOSE. /MUSTARD /DUST
- Levou muito tempo para eu somar todas essas despesas. /conferir toda a mercadoria /achar o devedor /achar o contador
IT TOOK A LONG TIME FOR ME TO ADD UP THESE EXPENSES. /CHECK ALL THESE MERCHANDISE /FIND THE DEBTOR /FIND THE ACCOUNTANT
- Esse departamento é novo em folha. /essa maçaneta /essa prancheta
THIS DEPARTMENT IS BRAND NEW. /THIS HANDLE /THIS CLIPBOARD
- Fique de olho no contador, por favor. /desembolso /departamento
KEEP AN EYE ON THE ACCOUNTANT, PLEASE. /OUTLAY /DEPARTMENT
- Continue datilografando; isso tem que estar pronto em dez minutos. /passando esse vestido /enchendo as garrafas
KEEP ON TYPING; THIS HAS TO BE READY IN TEN MINUTES. /IRONING THIS DRESS /FILING THE BOTTLES
- Ele é careca e tem um bigode. /parece culpado
HE IS BALD AND HAS A MUSTACHE. /LOOKS GUILTY
- Ele adquiriu esses quadros no leilão. /esse piano /aquele violino /essas vacas
HE ACQUIRES THESE PICTURES AT THE AUCTION. /THIS PIANO /THAT VIOLIN /THESE COWS
- Quem mantém essa casa? /esse museu /essa fazenda
WHO MAINTAINS THIS HOUSE? /THIS MUSEUM /THIS FARM
- Ela cobriu o carro com um plástico enorme. /a piscina
SHE COVERED THE CAR WITH A HUGE PLASTIC. /THE SWIMMING POOL
- Os candidatos foram informados que teriam que trabalhar horas extras às vezes. /aos sábados
THE APPLICANTS WERE INFORMED THAT THEY WOULD HAVE TO WORK OVERTIME ONCE IN A WHILE. /ON SATURDAYS
- Não deixe que as crianças fiquem fora do alcance de vista. /o cachorrinho
DON'T LET THE CHILDREN GET OUT OF SIGHT.
- Essa é uma tarefa difícil; e eu ainda não sei o procedimento disso. /nova
THIS IS A DIFFICULT TEST; AND I DON'T KNOW THE PROCEDURE OF THIS YET
- Eles fizeram todos os acertos por conta própria. /decidiram a respeito do desembolso adicional
THEY MADE ALL THE ARRANGEMENT ON THEIR OWN. /DECIDED ON THE ADDITIONAL OUTLAY
- Quanto mais clips de papéis eu dou para você, mais você quer. /aumentos /batatas fritas
THE MORE PAPER CLIPS I GIVE YOU, THE MORE YOU WANT. /INCREASES /FRENCH FRIES
- Eles pagam melhores salários. /maiores /mais baixos
THEY PAY BETTER WAGES. /HIGHER /LOWER
- Ele é um rapaz duro, de fato. /confiável /convencido
HE IS A TOUGH GUY, INDEED. /RELIABLE /CONCEITED
- Esse aumento veio como uma bênção. /lucro desse mês
THIS RAISE CAME AS A BLESSING. /MONTH'S PROFIT
- A palestra dele não faz sentido. /a exigência dele /o levantamento dele
HIS LECTURE DOESN'T MAKE SENSE. /HIS DEMAND /HIS SURVEY
- Meu pai acidentalmente atropelou o rabo do cachorro. /gato
MY FATHER ACCIDENTALLY RAN OVER THE DOG'S TAIL. /CAT'S
- Você pode cancelar esse cargo. /essas despesas /esse rendimento /esse fornecedor
YOU CAN CROSS OUT THIS POSITION. /THESE EXPENSES /THIS INCOME /THIS SUPPLIER
- Eu estou contente que você se recuperou do seu problema de pele. /o padeiro... do problema de pele dele /o urso... do problema de pele dele /os gêmeos... do problema de pele deles
I'M GLAD THAT YOU RECOVERED FROM YOUR SKIN PROBLEM. /THE BAKER... FROM HIS /THE BEAR... FROM ITS /THE TWINS... FORM THEIRS
- Peter é um tanto convencido. /duro
PETER'S KIND OF CONCEITED. /TOUGH
- As testemunhas na maioria contam a verdade. /são em maioria confiáveis
THE WITNESSES MOSTLY TELL THE TRUTH. /ARE MOSTLY RELIABLE
- Nosso fornecedor me disse que está noivo. /mordomo /auditor /contador
OUR SUPPLIER TOLD ME HE'S ENGAGED. /BUTLER /COMPTROLLER /ACCOUNTANT
- Eu não tenho recursos para pagar essas despesas adicionais. /essa franquia /esses folhetos
I CAN'T AFFORD TO PAY FOR THESE ADDITIONAL EXPENSES. /THIS FRANCHISE /THESE LEAFLETS
- Por favor, tenha em mente que você não deve nos interromper a tempo todo. /mais cedo ou mais tarde eu espero que você compreenda que /eu gostaria de observar que
PLEASE, BEAR IN MIND YOU ARE NOT SUPPOSED TO INTERRUPT US ALL THE TIME. /SOONER OR LATER I HOPE YOU'LL UNDERSTAND /I WANT TO POINT OUT TO YOU THAT
- O posto de gasolina não funciona. /a embreagem /o carro da testemunha
THE GAS STATION IS OUT OF ORDER. /THE CLUTCH /THE WITNESS' CAR
- Eles lançaram uma nova pesquisa de mercado. /uma nova política /uma nova circular informativa /um novo folheto
THEY ISSUED A NEW MARKET SURVEY. /A NEW POLICY /A NEW NEWSLETTER /A NEW LEAFLET
- Quando eles adquiriram essa mercadoria? /franquia /filial /fazenda lindíssima
WHEN DID THEY PURCHASE THIS MERCHANDISE? /FRANCHISE /BRANCH /GORGEOUS FARM
- Por que você bate na mesa o tempo todo? /franze a testa /me lembra disso
WHY DO YOU KNOCK ON THE TABLE ALL THE TIME? /FROWN /REMIND ME OF
- Você não deveria acusá-lo. /preveni-lo /incluí-lo /franzir a testa para ele /contratá-lo
YOU SHOULDN'T ACCUSE HIM. /WARN HIM /INCLUDE HIM /FROWN AT HIM /HIRE HIM
- Quando você tem que assinar isso? /entregar /emitir /anunciar /importar /apresentar
WHEN DO YOU HAVE TO SIGN THAT? /DELIVER /ISSUE /ADVERTISE /IMPORT /PRESENT
- Eles disseram que havia um urso por perto. /um sapo /um peru /uma coruja /uma minhoca
THEY SAID THERE WAS BEAR NEARBY. /A FROG /A TURKEY /AN OWL /A WORM
- Não adianta procurar pela diferença. /pela fatura /pelo recorte de jornal /pela multa /pela lista de controle
IT'S NO USE LOOKING FOR THE DIFFERENCE. /FOR THE INVOICE /FOR THE CLIPPING /FOR THE FINE /FOR THE CHECKLIST
- Eu presumo que você tenha despedido aquele homem. /rezado por /considerado /parabenizado
I ASSUME YOU HAVE DISMISSED THAT MAN. /PRAYED FOR /CONSIDERED /CONGRATULATED
- Eu estou acostumado a comprar peru congelado. /galinha congelada /comida congelada
I'M USED TO BUYING FROZEN TURKEY. /FROZEN CHICKEN /FROZEN FOOD
- Eu tenho que falar com todos eles, principalmente com o fornecedor. /os administradores /o porteiro externo /o porteiro interno
I HAVE TO TALK TO ALL OF THEM, MAINLY THE SUPPLIER. /THE TRUSTEES /THE GATE KEEPER /THE DOORMAN
- Você pode ir visitar os pontos turísticos. Enquanto isso eu vou fazer compras. /a reunião da comunidade /a palestra /a estação de trem
YOU CAN GO SIGHTSEEING. MEANWHILE I'LL GO SHOPPING. /TO THE COMMUNITY MEETING /TO THE LECTURE /TO THE TRAIN STATION
- Nem o suspeito, nem a testemunha chegaram. /o juiz /o advogado
NEITHER THE SUSPECT, NOR THE WITNESS ARRIVED. /THE JUDGE /THE LAWYER
- Mais cedo ou mais tarde haverá um atraso. /essa fruta estará madura /você compreenderá nosso objetivo /você chegará a uma conclusão
SOONER OR LATER THERE WILL BE A DELAY. /THIS FRUIT WILL BE RIPE /YOU'LL UNDERSTAND YOUR AIM /YOU'LL COME TO A CONCLUSION
- Não é de se admirar que ele está preocupado: ele tem tido somente despesas o ano inteiro. /prejuízos
NO WONDER HE IS WORRIED: HE HAS HAD ONLY EXPENSES YEAR ROUND. /LOSSES
- Essas fritas são realmente ótimas; elas são bem melhores que as outras. /essas batatas fritas /esses afilinetes /esses afilinetes de segurança /esses grampos de cabelo
THESE FRENCH FRIES ARE REALLY OUTSTANDING; THEY ARE FAR BETTER THAN THE OTHER ONES. /THESE POTATO CHIPS /THESE PINS /THESE SAFETY PINS /THESE HAIR PINS
- Eu sinto muito pelo atraso; eu ainda tinha que esquentar a comida congelada. /o peru /a abóbora
I'M VERY SORRY FOR THE DELAY; I STILL HAD TO WARM UP THE FROZEN FOOD. /THE TURKEY /THE PUMPKIN
- Essa pilha consiste de camisas azul marinhas. /vestidos /meias /tênis
THIS PILE CONSISTS OF NAVY BLUE SHIRTS. /DRESSES /SOCKS /TENNIS SHOES
- Sempre que eu vejo aquela secretária eu penso que ela deve estudar taquigrafia. /datilógrafa
WHenever I SEE THAT SECRETARY I THINK SHE OUGHT TO STUDY SHORTHAND. /TYPIST
- Ela bateu a porta. /derrubou o meirinho a bicicleta dela /derrubou o abajur da mesinha de cabeceira /derrubou a jarra
SHE KNOCKED THE DOOR. /KNOCKED THE BOWSIDE WITH HER BICYCLE /KNOCKED THE LAMP OFF THE BEDSIDE TABLE /KNOCKED OVER THE PITCHER
- Meu irmão vai formar-se mês que vem. /meu sobrinho /minha sobrinha
MY BROTHER IS GOING TO GRADUATE NEXT MONTH. /MY NEPHEW /MY NIECE
- A mãe diz que ela quer deitar-se um pouco. /isso está aqui há duas semanas /o México se situa na América do Norte
MOTHER SAYS SHE WANTS TO LIE DOWN A LITTLE. /THIS HAS LAIN HERE FOR TWO WEEKS /MEXICO LIES IN NORTH AMERICA
- Quem quer que você veja; não tenha medo. /onde quer que você tenha que ir /sempre que você tiver que olhar para o monstro
WHOEVER YOU SEE; DON'T BE AFRAID. /WHEREVER YOU HAVE TO GO /WHenever YOU HAVE TO LOOK AT /THE MONSTER
- Os gêmeos são parecidos. /a experiência deles é /as perspectivas são /as conclusões são
THE TWINS ARE ALIKE. /THEIR BACKGROUND IS /THEIR PROSPECTS /THEIR CONCLUSIONS ARE /THEIR AIMS ARE
- Por que eles vendem a preços mínimos? /a preços máximos /mais com o decorrer do tempo
WHY DO THEY SELL AT FLOOR PRICES? /AT CEILING PRICES /MORE IN THE LONG RUN
- Você está se dirigindo à matriz? /ao escritório do pesquisador /ao concerto
ARE YOU HEADING TO THE MAIN OFFICE? /TO THE RESEARCHER'S OFFICE /TO THE CONCERT
- Ele é cheio de recursos. /sempre breve /um dos administradores
HE IS FULL OF RESOURCES. /ALWAYS BRIEF /ONE OF THE TRUSTEES
- O seu objetivo é estar na marinha no ano que vem. /gerência /matriz
YOUR AIM IS TO BE IN THE NAVY NEXT YEAR. /MANAGEMENT /MAIN OFFICE
- Você está ciente do prazo final? /disposto a fazer isso antes do
ARE YOU AWARE OF THE DEADLINE? /WILLING TO DO THIS BEFORE THE
- Eu fico imaginando qual será a reação quando eu falar sobre esses tópicos. /a nova política /o novo padrão /a folha de pagamento
I WONDER WHAT THE RESPONSE WILL BE WHEN I TALK ABOUT THESE TOPICS. /THE NEW POLICY /THE NEW STANDARD /THE PAYROLL
- Você tem ouvido falar das últimas notícias sobre nossos concorrentes? /sobre o mal-entendido do ano /sobre os novos padrões
HAVE YOU HEARD THE LATEST NEWS ABOUT OUR COMPETITORS? /ABOUT THE MISUNDERSTANDING OF THE YEAR /ABOUT THE NEW STANDARDS
- Ele disse diretamente que 15 de dezembro era nosso prazo final. /os padrões atuais não eram suficientemente bons /ele não aceitaria nossas mercadorias
HE BLUNTLY SAID THAT DECEMBER 15 WAS OUR DEADLINE. /THE PRESENT STANDARDS WEREN'T GOOD ENOUGH /HE WOULDN'T ACCEPT OUR MERCHANDISE
- O que ele anuncia? Freios. /embreagens /batatas fritas
WHAT DOES HE ADVERTISE? BRAKES. /CLUTCHES /FRENCH FRIES
- Você entendeu mal a reação deles. /palestra /circular informativa /política
YOU MISUNDERSTOOD THEIR RESPONSE. /LECTURE /NEWSLETTER /POLICY
- Esse freio não funciona muito bem. /esse cabo de marchas /essa embreagem /esse câmbio
THIS BRAKE DOESN'T WORK VERY WELL. /THIS GEAR SHIFT LEVER /THIS CLUTCH /THIS GEAR SHIFT
- Eu levarei você para cada, contanto que eles concertem o vazamento no meu tanque. /o que quer que esteja errado com essa marcha
I'LL TAKE YOU HOME, PROVIDED THEY FIX THE LEAK IN MY TANK. /WHATEVER IS WRONG WITH THIS GEAR
- Eles estão fazendo uma campanha nacional dos produtos deles. /das mercadorias deles /dos relógios de pulso preciosos deles
THEY'RE MAKING A NATIONWIDE CAMPAIGN OF THEIR PRODUCTS. /OF THEIR MERCHANDISE /OF THEIR ACCURATE WATCHES
- Você pode escolher qualquer coisa que desejar. /quiser /gostar
YOU MAY PICK UP ANYTHING YOU WISH. /WANT /LIKE
- Eles não incluíram minha comissão. /os salários /a produção média
THEY DIDN'T INCLUDE MY COMMISSION. /THE WAGES /THE AVERAGE PRODUCTION
- Eu quero parabenizá-la pela bonita cerca viva que você tem do redor de sua casa. /fazenda /terreno
I WANT TO CONGRATULATE YOU ON THE BEAUTIFUL HEDGE YOU HAVE AROUND YOUR HOUSE. /FARM /PIECE OF LAND
- Você sabe aonde é a saída? /esta de minha carteira de motorista /fica o posto de gasolina /está na minha moeda velha
DO YOU WHERE THE EXIT IS? /MY DRIVER'S LICENSE IS /THE GAS STATION IS /MY OLD COIN IS
- Eu acho que aquela árvore é ôca. /aquele lápis é /esse discurso foi
I THINK THAT TREE IS HOLLOW. /THAT PENCIL IS /THIS SPEECH WAS
- Eu gosto de pão caseiro. /queijo /suco /biscoitos
I LIKE HOME-MADE BREAD. /CHEESE /JUICE /COOKIES
- Esses preços são escandalosos. /esses custos são /essa história é /o que você me conta é
THESE PRICES ARE OUTRAGEOUS. /THESE COSTS ARE /THIS STORY IS /WHAT YOU TELL ME IS
- Ele está preocupado porque está sem emprego. /ele não tem dinheiro
HE IS WORRIED BECAUSE HE IS OUT OF A JOB. /HE DOESN'T HAVE MONEY
- A mãe põe a mesa para o jantar. /diz que o sol está se pondo mais tarde nessa época do ano /diz que as minhas palavras a fizeram pensar /determinou novas regras para estudar e dormir
MOTHER SET TABLE FOR DINNER. /SAYS THE SUN IS SETTING LATER THIS TIME OF THE YEAR /SAYS MY WORDS SET HER THINKING /SET NEW RULES FOR STUDYING AND SLEEPING
- Ela distribuiu os folhetos com um rosto alegre. /deu-me o livro
SHE HANDED OUT THE BROCHURES WITH A CHEERFUL FACE. /GAVE ME THE BOOK
- Ele não era educado, quanto mais alegre. /estava usando um anel falso /não estava falando seriamente /não era mentiroso /estava escrevendo uma dissertação
HE WASN'T POLITE, LET ALONE CHEERFUL. /WAS WEARING A FAKE RING /WASN'T SPEAKING SERIOUSLY /WASN'T A LIAR /WAS WRITING AN ESSAY
- Não há quaisquer vínculos verdadeiros entre nós; eu meramente o conectei numa festa no sábado. /a
THERE AREN'T ANY REAL TIES BETWEEN US; I MERELY MET HIM AT A PARTY ON SATURDAY. /HER
- Nós teremos que falar com o Sr. Johnson sobre aquele subsídio imediatamente. /eles deveriam
WE'LL HAVE TO TALK TO MR. JOHNSON ABOUT THAT GRANT RIGHT AWAY. /THEY OUGHT TO
- Cuidado! Há gordura no chão. /óleo na estrada
WATCH OUT! THERE'S GREASE ON THE FLOOR. /OIL ON THE ROAD
- Eles desapareceram antes da reunião. /estavam preocupados com /juntaram todos os papéis necessários para /preferiram
THEY DISAPPEARED BEFORE THE MEETING. /WERE CONCERNED ABOUT /GATHERED ALL THE NECESSARY PAPERS FOR /POSTPONED /CONSIDERED ANY TOPICS AT /EMPTIED ALL THE WATER BOTTLES AT
- Essa foi um bom trabalho em equipe. Vocês certamente receberão uma recompensa. /eles
THIS WAS A GOOD TEAMWORK. YOU'LL CERTAINLY GET A REWARD. /THEY'LL
- Até agora tudo bem; um por um apresentou um relatório padrão. /preciso /médio
SO FAR, SO GOOD; ONE BY ONE PRESENTED A STANDARD REPORT. /ACCURATE /MEDIUM

LISTEN TO THE AUDIO, ANSWER THE QUESTIONS AND TRANSCRIBE IT:

- Who is this story about?
Which century did Benjamin Franklin live in?
What was his father's profession?
How many wives did his father have?
His father had lots of children. How many children were there?
What did Benjamin love since he was a child?
How old was he when his father taught him how to read?
What was one of his brother's profession?
What did Benjamin work as?
Later on, what did his brother found?
He didn't have time to go to school, so how did he learn the other subjects that schools taught?
Why did he leave his parents' house?
Where did he go to, when he left home?
What job did he find in Philadelphia?
In Philadelphia he met a person who would become very important in his life. Who was she and what was her name?
He usually saved money from all his wages. What did he save money for?
What did he lend to his friends?
Did his so-called friends pay him back?
Who sent him to England and France?
What happened when he got to England?
How many children did he have?
Did he have both children with the same woman?
He enjoyed exercises. Which was his favorite one?
Do you remember any of his famous sayings?
What was his most famous invention?
Do you remember anything else about his life story?
What catches your attention the most about this man that never patented any of his inventions?

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

- apprentice** – aprendiz
- printer** – impressor, impressora
- to found, founded, founded** – fundar
- to save, saved, saved** – economizar, salvar
- wealthy** – rico
- lightning rod** – pára-raio

having already died – já tendo morrido

- PERFECT PARTICIPLE (HAVING + PAST PARTICIPLE)**
- Having left** the job, he opened his own business.
- Having been** painted, the house was ready for sale.

Benjamin Franklin (1706 – 1790) was born in Boston. His father, Joshua, was a maker of soap and candles and had emigrated from England. His mother, Abigail, was his father's second wife, his first wife having already died. Benjamin was the 8th of Abigail's 10 children, and the 15th of Joshua's 17. Benjamin was so young when his father taught him how to read and write that he couldn't remember when it happened. He loved books since he was a child, and so he went to work as an apprentice for his brother, who was a printer and later founded a newspaper. He worked a lot and also found time for self-education (1718 – 1723). He loved to write and many of his articles were published.

Wanting to become independent, Benjamin went away with almost no money and found a job as a printer in Philadelphia. There he met his future wife, Deborah Read. Soon he had money again, and he always saved half of it to buy books. But he still had to learn a lot about people: he easily lent money to friends who never returned it. Also he was sent to England and France by the provincial governor, who said that money and letters of recommendation would be waiting for him in England. When he got there he found neither. And he had an illegitimate son, William, who was educated by his wife along with their daughter.

Benjamin Franklin was a surprising person. He liked to swim for very long distances. He founded several newspapers and regularly wrote for the famous "Poor Richard's Almanac": "God helps those who help themselves", and "Early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise" are only two of the many famous sayings of Franklin. He wrote several books and also an Autobiography.

He was also an inventor: it was he who first noticed that lightning was electricity, and he invented the lightning rod, the famous Franklin stove and many other things. Franklin never patented his inventions because he wanted them to be useful for everybody.