

# Write On #55 CHARACTER SKETCH

## Objectives

1. Write a character sketch
2. Use descriptive writing

### DIRECTIONS

1. Choose a person, living or dead, that you will write about.
2. Develop a list of character traits about him or her. Think of adjectives that describe their character.
3. For each character trait, develop one or two paragraphs giving examples of what they did to be known for that character.

## Character Qualities Of Benjamin Franklin

1. creative
2. curious
3. a leader
4. diplomatic
5. wise

## The Character of Ben Franklin

Benjamin Franklin is known for his creative mind and abilities. He was an inventor who invented many things. Among his inventions were a musical instrument, a butter churn, and a calendar.

It was his curious nature that accounted for much of his work. Everyone is familiar with the fact that he flew a kite during a storm to study electricity. Many people for hundreds of years had wondered about lightning, but Benjamin had a curious enough mind that he had to do more than think.

He was also a leader. That is why he came up with so many “firsts” in America. He started the first post office, the first insurance company, and the first fire department. The first university in America was started by him and is still present today. He also helped to start the first hospital. Since these are organizations that cannot be done by one person alone, he had to be a great leader to get other people to make these ideas happen.

Franklin was diplomatic. That is why the colonies sent him to France as a diplomat. The best example of his diplomacy was the Great Compromise. He helped the large states and small states come to an important agreement in developing the Constitution.

All of these things indicate that he was also a wise man. He wrote proverbs such as, “A penny saved is a penny earned.” During the Constitutional Convention, he encouraged the delegates to pause for prayer rather than continue arguing over their own states’ interests. Perhaps it was his wisdom that guided him to use his other qualities to the good of the whole nation.