

Reading Comprehension Test. Benjamin Franklin. From his Autobiography

Name _____

Date _____

Directions: Select the best answer from the choices provided. Write the letter of your answer on the line next to the number.

- _____ 1. Benjamin Franklin claims that he was charmed with and adopted the
- method of direct and forceful disputation.
 - Socratic method of argumentation.
 - Shaftsbury and Collins method.
- _____ 2. Franklin adopted the technique of being a “humble inquirer and doubter,” in part because
- he came to doubt many points of religious doctrine.
 - he believed that well-meaning men should express themselves gracefully.
 - he doubted the rhetorical skill of speakers who seemed diffident.
- _____ 3. If someone speaks in a “positive and dogmatical manner,” a listener may likely
- recognize the superior learning and intelligence of the speaker.
 - approve of the speaker’s argument.
 - contradict the speaker.
- _____ 4. By adopting a method of arguing based on asking questions and expressing doubt, Franklin
- upset people because of his uncertain attitude.
 - won arguments that he did not deserve to win.
 - acquired a reputation for being indecisive and weak.
- _____ 5. When someone says anything that may be disputed, Franklin recommends that the speaker use the words
- “it appears to me” or “I imagine it to be so.”
 - “certainly” or “undoubtedly.”
 - “sensibly” or “modestly in this regard.”