Would adherence to Franklin’s virtues foster good citizenship? Specifically identify which of his virtues are most relevant for citizenship and explain why. Would you add any additional virtues in order to promote good citizenship? Would you remove or revise any of his virtues in order to promote good citizenship? Would these virtues make good human beings? Are there any differences in which virtues would make good citizens, and which good human beings?

Franklin’s virtues would foster good citizenship because these virtues would hinder an individual from making personal or social mistakes. Silence and resolution are the most relevant because silence encourages one to think before speaking. And resolution because it encourages people to do what they know is right in their heart.

An additional virtue I would add is patience for your neighbor and tolerance. I would not remove a virtue but would revise temperance to make it more suitable for the community.

Being a citizen does interfere with your personal moral. Franklin believed that faking a virtue was easier and more profitable than actually having it. If you aren’t leadership, honest, and loyal, which he did, then you’re not considered a good citizen. However, these other qualities don’t define how human being; for they can be faked. Therefore, you can still be a good human being. An example of this text is found in part 1 when he talks about his private community.

The first virtue, temperance shows good human being qualities, as well as good citizenship qualities. Frugality is another virtue that represents great qualities. Sincerity, and cleanliness are also virtues that show good human and citizenship qualities. Basic human kindness...
Patience, Benevolence, Diligence.

The most important of his virtues for good citizenship are tranquility, justice, and sincerity. These virtues came from a foundation of love for others and the world. We disagree with the Chastity virtue because sex is personal business that shouldn't affect society.
What connections do you see between Franklin’s selected virtues and his Puritan upbringing? Be specific. Which Puritan values seem to be reflected in his choices? Do any of his virtues seem to be in conflict or tension with Puritan values?

Franklin’s virtue of order—everyone has their place in Puritan society (elect, not elect)

- Justice
- Chastity
- Humility

*Chastity* aligns w/ Puritan aim to imitate Jesus, stay humble, avoid lust

*Frugality* conflicts w/ Puritan idea that even good behavior doesn't change destiny/fate

Franklin’s conservativeness exemplified in his virtues is influenced by Puritan view, but his faith in the power of the individual is highly conflicting.

We can’t disagree with what was written above by another group.

- **Moderation** - Do not refrain from injuries or setbacks unless you are deserving of them.

- **Humility** - Imitate Jesus and socrates

  Franklin had very *moderate* moral beliefs such as humility, moderation, justice, etc., which do align w/ his puritan heritage; however, he does not fully exert them as a way of living, but rather as a moral code.

  **Chastity** - To be a pure person spiritually, and physically

  **Humility** - Imitate Jesus, Socrates

  **Industry** - The puritans had to work day and night to build a community together.

  Silence is a virtue that brings conflict because puritans all voiced the same belief. Justice too—Salem witch trials brought tension.
Franklin says that he acquired the "appearance" rather than the "reality" of humility. He suggests that it is worthwhile to cultivate the appearance of virtue in such cases, even when there is no sincere internalization of the virtue. Do you agree? Is it beneficial to feign a virtue? In practical terms? In moral terms? Can this practice improve a person? Does it make him/her a hypocrite? What tone does Franklin adopt in discussing his own pride?

I do with the cultivation of the virtue rather than actually learning to possess it is helpful in some cases.

I do agree with the cultivation of the "appearance" of the virtue rather than actually learning to possess it.

To a certain extent it is good to have virtue but do not pretend to be something you are not to others. Franklin in relation to pride, was proud of his humility.

We think Franklin's effort to achieve his virtues is the best thing (closest to perfection) that he can do. He knows that nobody can achieve all of these virtues perfectly, but trying itself will get you better off (to a better state of being) than not prioritizing the virtues at all.

It is not very Christian-like to lie to yourself. The Puritan Beliefs Ben Franklin's tone in discussing his own pride is not hypocritical. We feel that way because he does what he has to do with his maximum effort of his virtues. Practicing these virtues is the Puritan and Christian way. Hopefully over a period of time, these tensions will break.
What does Shurr’s article contribute to your understanding of Franklin’s *Autobiography*? Does a different take on Franklin’s motives change your reading of it? What seems to be Franklin’s purpose in articulating the details of his younger life?

William Shurr’s article contributes to the significance of Benjamin Franklin’s *Autobiography*. Shurr wrote this because he wanted to write about his past.

- Shurr’s article is a commentary on Franklin’s *Autobiography*, so we get more historical context, analysis of Franklin’s writing and intentions, and various perspectives on his life and focus.

- Franklin’s work is like a personal speech fueled by beliefs and emotions. Shurr helps explain (read between lines).

- The article makes Franklin more human and relatable. If Franklin’s son was illegitimate then Franklin did not practice what he preached. This shows that even the best of people have flaws.

Shurr’s article contributed to knowledge because he explained the reasons and motives of Franklin to write this autobiography. Franklin does talk a change of audience in between parts because of his son’s disfigurement, and Shurr makes sure that we understand that, Franklin was very proud of his lineage and he was passing knowledge to his son, so he never forget when he come from.