Jonathan Kerr

English III

**Benjamin Franklin Assignment**

Benjamin Franklin thought he had a handle on the right way to live; he believed he could achieve moral perfection. Write a short (350-500) word essay in which you think critically about Franklin’s hierarchy of virtues and the possibility of their achievement. Does his system still apply today? Frame your argument by picking the virtue which *you* see as being the most important and explain why. You may come up with your own word. Think of these virtues as attributes necessary for successful and happy living rather than as moral guidelines. I don’t want you to list the ten commandments. Write about the person you want to be and the most important attribute you need to foster in yourself to become that person.

**Format:**

12 pt. Arial or Times New Roman

Double Spaced

MLA header

I will be looking for:

1. Virtue in **one word** and its definition in **one or two** imperative sentences.
2. Witty and creative definitions
3. Thorough explanation of virtue
4. At least three specific examples of how the virtue would yield positive results in your life
5. Write correctly but not in an overly formal style. Feel free to be funny.