

SELF-MADE (WO)MEN

MY ONLINE BOOK:

<https://manuelnumeriquemax.belin.education/anglais-seconde>

Pages of the book

<https://fr.calameo.com/read/003221622c576fc7c6455?authid=4xG7TjarwoQe>

What is a SELF-MADE (WO)MAN?

It is a person who became successful and/or wealthy through hard work and not by inheritance or help from others.

Give examples of self-made men and women.

What is a SELFIE? Make sentences with: myself, yourself, him/her/itself, ourselves, yourselves, themselves.

Subject

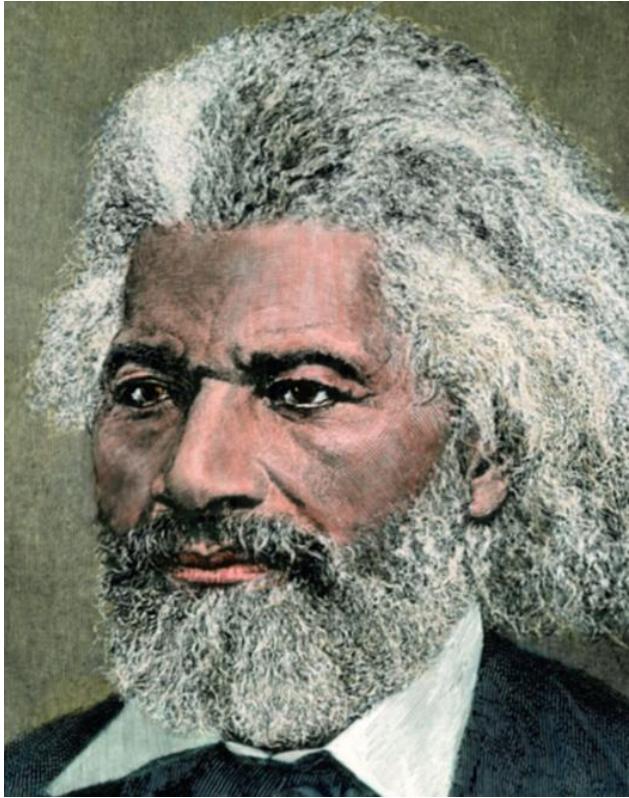
- I
- You
- He
- She
- It
- We
- You
- They

Reflexive

pronouns

- myself
- yourself
- himself
- herself
- itself
- ourselves
- yourselves
- themselves





-In this famous speech, **Frederick Douglass** offers, from the very first sentence, the basis of his vision of the self-made man: a man who combines moral strength with an unwavering commitment to his work, and who succeeds without outside help. The rest of the highlights the self-made man as the master of his destiny, able to overcome all obstacles. This speech, initially given to students, creates a mirror effect for young people today and gives food for thought about dreams and success.

-**Frederick Douglass:** Born a slave, Frederick Douglass managed to escape at the age of twenty to New York and then to Massachusetts where he was noticed for his eloquence and hired by the American Anti-Slavery Society, an abolitionist society in Massachusetts. In 1845, he published his autobiography. The book was a great success and Douglass was forced to travel to Ireland and Great Britain for fear that his former master would try to get him back. There, his speeches and his person met with great success and philanthropic friends offered him to buy back his freedom. In December 1846, he was officially freed and became a free man. Upon his return to the United States, he founded his own abolitionist newspaper, *The North Star*, whose title was a tribute to the name of the North Star that guided slaves to the North. During the Civil War (1861-1865), he acted as an advisor to President Lincoln. He ended his career as Consul General for Haiti (1889-1891).

Where does he come from?

What does he achieve?

How does he do it?

Frederick Douglass defines the self-made man as someone:

1/ Who comes from nothing...2/ And who achieves success... 3/ Thanks to hard work and determination. Alexander Hamilton is a true self-made man. He went from rags to riches.

1/ He came from nothing

Alexander Hamilton was born in the Caribbean. He led a poor life. His father left when he was 10, and two years later, his mother got sick and died when he was 12. Because he was then an orphan, he

moved in with a cousin, but his cousin committed suicide.

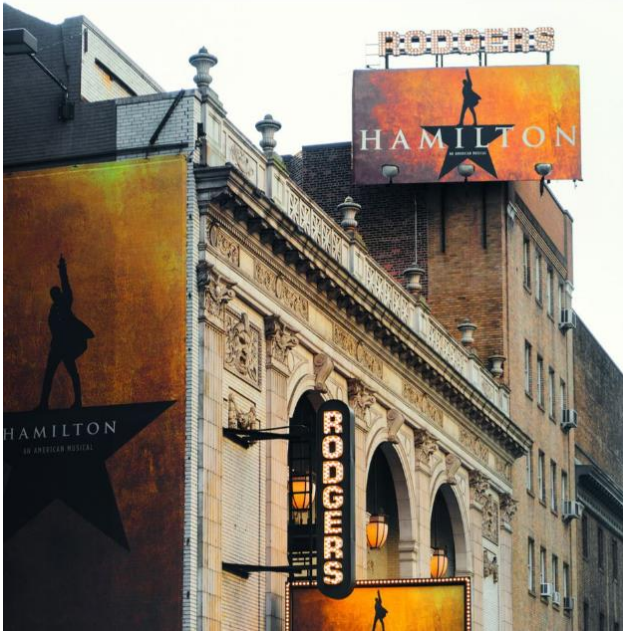
2/ He achieved success

At the age of 14, he was already in charge of a trading charter. He moved to New York and became one of the Founding Fathers. He is now on every 10 ten-dollar bill.

3/ Thanks to hard work and determination

Hamilton was hungry for success. He read every book he could find.

He worked a lot. He was a self-starter. He overcame every obstacle.



-The **Hamilton** Musical: This musical follows the life of Alexander Hamilton, an iconic self-made man whose atypical journey will take him from immigrant orphan to founding father who signed the Declaration of Independence. Since 2015, this show that blends American history, hip-hop dance and rap has become a phenomenon in the United States. Lin-Manuel Miranda, who wrote the songs and libretto for the musical, also plays the lead character. Of Puerto Rican origin, he has managed to bring hip-hop and rap to Broadway with undeniable success: critically acclaimed, Hamilton set a record of 16 Tony Award nominations in 2016 including 11 awards. His success continues to resonate in the heart of an America that continues reinvent itself to the rhythm of the American dream.



Portrait of Benjamin Franklin, David Martin, oil on canvas on panel from the White House collection, Washington D.C., 1767

Benjamin Franklin: the archetype of a the self-made man

Benjamin Franklin was an author, a painter, an inventor, a father, a politician, and the first American Ambassador to France. He invented bifocals, swim flippers, lightning rods, and the Franklin stove. He founded a public library, a hospital, and insurance company and a fire department. He helped write the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. He was one of the greatest citizens and thinkers the world has ever seen. But Franklin was not always a great or successful man. At the age of 17 he ran away from home in Boston, estranged from his family because of an argument he had with his brother.

Franklin tried in business and failed, not once but twice. As a young adult Franklin was by almost any measure and especially his own measure a dismal failure. His life was confused, difficult and not at all satisfying to Franklin or to anyone else. He decided to change.

Benjamin Franklin sat down and made a list. The list consisted of twelve characteristics, values and virtues to which he aspired. He called his list “Virtues”. Franklin’s list of virtues looked like this.

1. **Temperance**- eat not to dullness; drink not to elevation.
2. **Silence** - Speak not but what may benefit others or yourself; avoid trifling conversation.
3. **Order** - Let all your things have their places; let each part of your business have its time.
4. **Resolution**- Resolve to perform what you ought; perform without fail what you resolve.
5. **Frugality**- Make no expense but to do good to others or yourself; that is, waste nothing.
6. **Industry**- Lose no time; be always employed in something useful; cut off all unnecessary actions.
7. **Sincerity**- Use no hurtful deceit; think innocently and justly; speak accordingly.
8. **Justice** - Wrong none by doing injuries; or omitting the benefits of your duty.
9. **Moderation** - Avoid extremes; forbear resenting injuries so much as you think they deserve.
10. **Cleanliness**-Tolerate no uncleanness in body, clothes, or habitation.

11. Tranquility- Be not disturbed at trifles or at accidents common or unavoidable.

12. Chastity- Rarely use venery but for health or offspring, never to dullness, weakness, or the injury of your own or another's peace or reputation.

Franklin set about to reorder his life. Each day he would read his list and each week he would focus on a different aspect of his list repeating the process over and over and over again.

The rest is history. Franklin went on to become one of the most productive, successful and self-actualized people in all of history. He knew what mattered most.

**"Ethics, Virtues, and Values: Knowing What Matters Most", U.S.
Department of State**

Benjamin Franklin was a self-made man.

1/ He came from nothing

Benjamin Franklin had to face many difficulties in life. He left home **when he was just** 17 years old **after a quarrel** with his brother. He failed twice as an entrepreneur.

2/ He achieved success

Nevertheless, he **succeeded in becoming** one of the greatest citizens and thinkers the world has ever seen. He became an inventor, an artist and a politician. He **participated in the writing** of the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.

3/ Thanks to hard work and determination

Benjamin Franklin was persistent. He made a list of virtues **with the purpose of achieving** success and moral perfection.

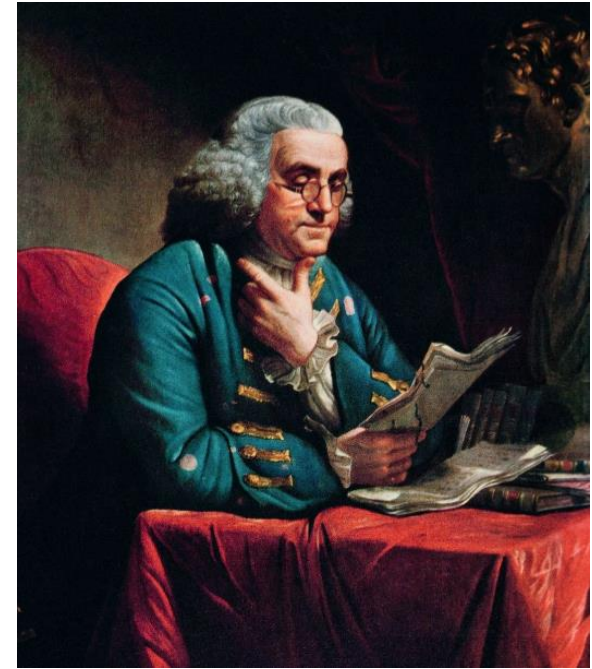
1) Look at the painting.

Try to find as many clues as you can about Benjamin Franklin's life (nationality, era, interests, appearance, social class, etc.).

This portrait is part of the White House collection in Washington D.C. It was painted in 1767.

We can conclude that Benjamin Franklin is American and that he lived in the 18th century.

Benjamin Franklin liked reading books. He is painted wearing a blue overcoat with golden stripes. He looks quite wealthy.



2) Read the text. List the difficulties Benjamin Franklin had to face in life.

Benjamin Franklin had to face many difficulties in life. He left home when he was 17 years old after a quarrel with his brother. He failed twice as an entrepreneur.

List his achievements.

Benjamin Franklin succeeded in becoming one of the greatest citizens and thinkers the world has ever seen. He became an inventor, an artist and a politician. He participated in the writing of the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution

How did he manage to become a self-made man?

Benjamin Franklin became a self-made man thanks to hard work. He was persistent. He made a list of virtues with the purpose of achieving success and moral perfection.

3)Read the chart and the article.

What reasons are given by the journalist to explain the limits of the American dream today?

Today, the American dream is in danger because of technology, globalization and a difficult access to education.

