Benjamin Franklin was an inquisitive man who knew a good deal about a lot of things. In 1732, he published *Poor Richard’s Almanack*. The book had a lot of general information and it also had several wise sayings.

One of Ben Franklin’s sayings was *Little strokes fell great oaks*. Felling an oak tree requires a lot of effort! It takes many strokes of an ax to cut the tree down. This saying tells us that a big task can be done if you break it down into little steps.

Think of a time when you had to do a big project. How did you break this big job down into smaller parts? What might have happened had you tried to do it all at once?

Another saying was *Lost time is never found again*. This reminds us to spend our time wisely. When we waste time, it is gone forever!

Have you ever spent time playing instead of doing your homework? Did you then have to do your homework in a hurry? Did you wish you could get those hours back again?

*A true friend is the best possession.* Possessions are things that we have or own. A true friend is one who is faithful, no matter what happens. Having a faithful friend is worth more than owning valuable things. Do you think having a good friend is important?

From 1733 to 1758, Ben Franklin published a new edition of the *Almanack* annually, and he added clever sayings every year. Many generations of Americans have enjoyed the advice the *Almanack* has to offer.
Answer the questions. You may reread parts of the passage to help you.

1. When was *Poor Richard’s Almanack* first published?
   - A. 1732
   - B. 1743
   - C. 1750
   - D. 1758

2. Who wrote *Poor Richard’s Almanack*?
   - A. Poor Richard
   - B. Richard Smith
   - C. Richard Franklin
   - D. Benjamin Franklin

3. What kinds of writing were found in the *Almanack*?
   - A. stories about Richard
   - B. news about the world
   - C. information and sayings
   - D. advertisements and songs

4. What does the saying below mean?
   
   *A true friend is the best possession.*
   
   - A. People should not give things to strangers.
   - B. Having a true friend is like owning a person.
   - C. People should care more about friends than about things.
   - D. People should have friends who own lots of valuable things.

5. What is the author’s opinion of the sayings in the *Almanack*?
   Use examples from the passage to support your answer.

Name __________________________  Date __________