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Model Analysis of a Quotation



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Read the rubric and do the task. Analyze the quotation as accurately as possible.

“Love your enemies, for they will tell you your Faults.”

- Benjamin Franklin

Analyze the quotation .

Orally

Speaking time

3 minutes

Before you start, have in mind the following questions:

- 1
 - What do you know about Benjamin Franklin?
 - What are the keywords in his quotation?
- 2
 - What is the main idea of the quote? How can you paraphrase it?
 - Is the quotation a problem of the present-time?
- 3
 - What is your point of view?
 - Explain why you agree or disagree.

Benjamin Franklin was one of the Founding Fathers of the United States who lived in the 18th century and had various interests and occupations as a leading writer, printer, political philosopher and a politician.

Presumably, the saying: “Love your enemies, for they tell you your Faults” is a result of his experience as a political philosopher and politician. If I had to paraphrase his quote, it probably would sound like to love those who hate you because they will tell you your flaws. If we consider the word ‘enemies’ from Benjamin Franklin’s quote and ‘those who hate you’ from my interpretation, we’ll for sure understand the reasons for this hatred. I think it comes from a person’s fear that they will never be able to get to where you are right now. Consequently, they will tell you anything to make you feel incompetent and shoot an arrow aiming at your disposition and confidence. Allowing this to happen might make you suffer, feel offended or even undermine your spirits. I also think that by trying to attack you, your enemy is attempting to balance the differences between your and their achievements. We should love our enemies because they won’t hide feelings to spare ours, they even help us understand our strengths and what we are good at. Furthermore, from their critics, we become aware of the fact which part of our performance needs improvement and upgrade.

In conclusion, I could say that I do agree with Benjamin Franklin’s point of view. Although it was said 3 centuries ago, it is a question of present interest. The moral is to listen carefully to enemies, to resist our emotions and feelings, and to perceive enemies’ ill-natured sayings as strengths. I’m grateful to my enemies as they help me face the obstacles, overwhelm them and climb up the staircase of success.

Thank you for reading this material. Now you can try analyzing the quotation yourself or you can choose another one.