

Benjamin Franklin's Letter of Thanks for an Electrical Tube (March 14, 1747)

This letter is adapted from an actual letter of thanks that Franklin wrote to his friend, Peter Collinson, who lived in London. Collinson sent Franklin and his colleagues at the Library Company of Philadelphia an electrical tube with descriptions of experiments to be performed with it. You can see the actual letter printed here, in Franklin's [*Experiments and Observations on Electricity*](#) (pp. 1-2).

_____,
honorific

Your _____ present of an electric tube, with directions for
adjective

using it, has put several of us on making _____, in which we
plural noun

have _____, some _____
verb (not ending in -ing) adjective

phenomena that we look upon to be new. I shall, therefore, communicate them to

you in my next letter, though possibly they may not be new to you, as among the

numbers daily employed in those experiments on your side of the water, 'tis probable

someone or other has hit on the same observations. For my own part, I never was

before engaged in any study that so _____ engrossed my attention
adverb

and my _____ as this has lately done; for what with making
noun

_____ when I can be alone, and repeating them to my
noun

Friends and _____, who, from the
noun

_____ of the thing, come continually in crowds to see them, I
adjective

have, during some _____ past, had little leisure for anything else.
length of time

I am, &c. B. Franklin.

A Letter of Thanks for a Mask (2020)

This is a template that might be used to write a thank you note today. Many people are sending masks to loved ones to wear during the pandemic. Here's an example of a letter you might write thanking someone for their gift. This is adapted from the 18th century letter of thanks for a seal.

Dear _____,
name

The mask you sent me is the _____ thing I ever saw, and I
superlative adjective

am _____ I cannot praise it _____. But let
adjective adverb

me tell you that any _____ who would cover their
person

_____’s mouth, because not careful in keeping isolated, should
family member

have such a _____ mask. The most
adjective

_____ designers are _____ to yours. No, I may
adjective negative noun

say, _____ never created any _____ with
favorite artist noun

the _____ and art of your creation. But as I think of your present as a
noun

sign of your friendship, rather than as a masterpiece, I cannot thank you enough.

_____, _____
closing name