

Topic Sentence – George Washington Carver

Name:

Forming good topic sentences is crucial to writing successful reports. Below is the topic sentence of a body paragraph within a biography on George Washington Carver. There are four detail sentences that should come after the topic sentence. First, choose the four from the series of sentences below and then, form the paragraph. Start the paragraph with the topic sentence below. There are four additional sentences from those below that should be included.

Topic Sentence: While at Tuskegee, Carver developed an interest in helping poor African-American farmers using a system called crop rotation.

Sentence	Does it belong in the paragraph with the above topic sentence?
Carver quickly became famous and published numerous articles and "bulletins" concerning peanuts and their uses.	
In this way, the cotton crop was alternated with other crops such as soybeans, sweet potatoes, and peanuts.	
In 1922, Carver was instrumental in convincing Congress to place tariffs on peanuts imported from China that were making it impossible for American peanut farmers to make a living.	
Farmers in the south worked on poor soil, depleted of nitrogen by the annual cotton crops.	
Carver and his colleagues taught the farmers how to retain nutrients in the soil by rotating crops.	
Carver's crop rotation improved cotton yields and gave farmers additional crops from which they could earn money.	

Answers

Sentence	Does it belong in the paragraph with the above topic sentence?
Carver quickly became famous and published numerous articles and "bulletins" concerning peanuts and their uses.	NO
In this way, the cotton crop was alternated with other crops such as soybeans, sweet potatoes, and peanuts.	YES
In 1922, Carver was instrumental in convincing Congress to place tariffs on peanuts imported from China that were making it impossible for American peanut farmers to make a living.	NO
Farmers in the south worked on poor soil, depleted of nitrogen by the annual cotton crops.	YES
Carver and his colleagues taught the farmers how to retain nutrients in the soil by rotating crops.	YES
In this way, the cotton crop was alternated with other crops such as soybeans, sweet potatoes, and peanuts.	YES

While at Tuskegee, Carver developed an interest in helping poor African-American farmers using a system called crop rotation. Farmers in the south worked on poor soil, depleted of nitrogen by the annual cotton crops. Carver and his colleagues taught the farmers how to retain nutrients in the soil by rotating crops. In this way, the cotton crop was alternated with other crops such as soybeans, sweet potatoes, and peanuts. In this way, the cotton crop was alternated with other crops such as soybeans, sweet potatoes, and peanuts.