

Topic Sentence – Benjamin Banneker

Name: _____

Forming good topic sentences is crucial to writing successful reports. Below is the topic sentence of a body paragraph within a biography on Benjamin Banneker. 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

Topic Sentence: Benjamin Banneker was an accomplished astronomer.

Sentence	Does it belong in the paragraph with the above topic sentence?
Benjamin showed an unusual interest in taking things apart and putting them back together.	
In 1792, Benjamin published a famous almanac that predicted the timings of lunar and solar eclipses.	
When Benjamin was 59, he was hired to help a team survey the land that would become the District of Columbia.	
His interest in space began when Joseph Ellicott lent him books on the planets and mathematics.	
His almanac also predicted the positions of the planets for every day of the year.	
Benjamin showed a keen interest in insects such as cicadas and honeybees.	
His almanac was so popular, that even Thomas Jefferson read it.	

Sentence	Does it belong in the paragraph with the above topic sentence?
Benjamin showed an unusual interest in taking things apart and putting them back together.	No
In 1792, Benjamin published a famous almanac that predicted the timings of lunar and solar eclipses.	Yes
When Benjamin was 59, he was hired to help a team survey the land that would become the District of Columbia.	No
His interest in space began when Joseph Ellicott lent him books on the planets and mathematics.	Yes
His almanac also predicted the positions of the planets for every day of the year.	Yes
Benjamin showed a keen interest in insects such as cicadas and honeybees.	No
His almanac was so popular, that even Thomas Jefferson read it.	Yes

Benjamin Banneker was an accomplished astronomer. His interest in space began when Joseph Ellicott lent him books on the planets and mathematics. In 1792, Benjamin published a famous almanac that predicted the timings of lunar and solar eclipses. His almanac also predicted the positions of the planets for every day of the year. His almanac was so popular, that even Thomas Jefferson read it.