R7. EX 5. BÀI TẬP DẠNG THỨC VSTEP

Đọc bài đọc sau đây và trả lời câu hỏi.

George Washington Carver

Scientist and inventor George Washington Carver was born into slavery, in Diamond Grove (now Diamond), Newton County, Missouri, near Crystal Place, sometime in the early or mid-1860s. The date of his birth is uncertain and was not known to Carver, but it was before slavery was abolished in Missouri, **which** occurred in January 1865, during the American Civil War. His master, Moses Carver, was a German-American immigrant, who had purchased George's parents, Mary and Giles, from William P. McGinnis on October 9, 1855, for $700. After slavery was abolished, Moses Carver and his wife, Susan, raised George and his older brother, James, as their own children. They encouraged George to continue his intellectual pursuits, and "Aunt Susan" taught him the basics of reading and writing.

Black people were not allowed at the public school in Diamond Grove. Carver decided to go to a school for black children 10 miles south, in Neosho. When he reached the town, he found the school closed for the night. He slept in a nearby barn. **By his own account**, the next morning he met a kind woman, Mariah Watkins, from whom he wished to rent a room. When he identified himself as "Carver's George", as he had done his whole life, she replied that from now on his name was "George Carver". Carver liked Mariah Watkins, and her words "You must learn all you can, then go back out into the world and give your learning back to the people" made a great impression on him.

Carver worked **diligently** to get an education. He managed to get an advanced degree in **botany**, which is the study of plants. After he finished his college degree, he worked in the South. He taught people about botany and about how it could be used to improve farming.

Carver learned that there was a problem with cotton farming in the South. Cotton takes nutrients from the soil. If cotton is planted year after year, the quality of the soil decreases. Carver knew that plants like peanuts and sweet potatoes are different from cotton. They add nutrients to the soil rather than take nutrients from the soil. Carver told farmers that it was a bad idea to grow only cotton and no other crops each year. He told them that they should also grow plants like peanuts and sweet potatoes, which improve the quality of the soil. Many farmers followed the advice that Carver offered them. The result was that the production on their farms increased.

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The increased production of peanuts and sweet potatoes improved the quality of the soil. [A] However, when production of peanuts and sweet potatoes increased, a new problem developed. [B] The new problem was that there were too many peanuts and sweet potatoes. [C] To solve this problem, Carver began working in a laboratory to find new uses for peanuts and sweet potatoes. [D] He developed hundreds of products that could be made from peanuts and sweet potatoes. These hundreds of products included food products, medicines, plastics, and fertilizer.

1. **Which of the following is NOT stated in paragraph 1 about George Washington Carver?**
   A. The period when he was born
   B. Who his parents were
   C. Where he was born
   D. What he studied in school

2. **The word "which" in paragraph 1 refers to _____.**
   A. the date of Carver's birth
   B. the state of Missouri
   C. the end of slavery
   D. the American Civil War

3. **The phrase "By his own account" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to _____.**
   A. According to what he said about his own life
   B. With all the money he had at that time
   C. At his own risk
   D. Under his own consideration

4. **The word "diligently" in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to _____.**
   A. very hard
   B. only a little
   C. very easily
   D. occasionally

5. **In botany (paragraph 3), one might NOT study _____.**
   A. oak trees
   B. roses
   C. corn
   D. sharks

6. **Which of the sentences below best expresses the essential information in the first highlighted sentence in paragraph 4?**
   A. The soil will get worse due to repeated planting of cotton.
   B. The same soil is used when cotton is planted year after year.
   C. The amount of soil decreases if cotton is planted over again.
   D. The quality of the cotton decreases if it is planted over again.

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7. It can be inferred from paragraph 4 that _____.
   A. peanuts and sweet potatoes are good for the soil while cotton is not
   B. peanuts, sweet potatoes and cotton are all good for the soil
   C. cotton is good for the soil while peanuts and sweet potatoes are not
   D. neither peanuts and sweet potatoes nor cotton is good for the soil

8. Which of the following sentences below best expresses the essential information in the second highlighted sentence in paragraph 4?
   A. Farmers told Carver that it was not good to grow cotton.
   B. Carver told farmers not to plant cotton with other crops.
   C. Carver knew that it was best to plant cotton with no other crops.
   D. Farmers learned from Carver that it was not good to grow only cotton.

9. It is stated in paragraph 5 that Carver was working in a laboratory to find new _____.
   A. ways to grow peanuts and sweet potatoes
   B. kinds of peanuts and sweet potatoes
   C. products that can be made from peanuts and sweet potatoes
   D. ways to turn peanuts into sweet potatoes

10. In which space (marked [A], [B], [C], and [D] in the passage) will the following sentence fit?

    It added nutrients back to the soil.



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