

Name:  Forming good topic sentences is crucial to writing successful reports. Below is the topic sentence of a body paragraph within a biography on Harriet Tubman. 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: Tubman spent her early life as a slave.	
They were forced to work in the merciless heat without rest and were often beaten and forced to live in poor conditions.	
Her injury would haunt her for the reminder of her life, resulting in periodic fainting spells.	
Life as a slave was extremely difficult.	
Fearing that she was about to be sold, Harriet resolved to run away.	
Furthermore, slaves were often sold to southern	
plantations where they would never have contact with their families again.	
During the Civil War, she served as a cook, nurse, and spy for the Union army.	
-	

## **Answers**

Sentence	Does it belong in the paragraph with the above topic sentence?
They were forced to work in the merciless heat without	YES
rest and were often beaten and forced to live in poor conditions.	
Her injury would haunt her for the reminder of her life,	NO
resulting in periodic fainting spells.	
Life as a slave was extremely difficult.	YES
Fearing that she was about to be sold, Harriet resolved to	YES
run away.	
Furthermore, slaves were often sold to southern	YES
plantations where they would never have contact with	
their families again.	
During the Civil War, she served as a cook, nurse, and spy	NO
for the Union army.	

Tubman spent her early life as a slave. Life as a slave was extremely difficult. They were forced to work in the merciless heat without rest and were often beaten and forced to live in poor conditions. Furthermore, slaves were often sold to southern plantations where they would never have contact with their families again. Fearing that she was about to be sold, Harriet resolved to run away.