

**Directions: Circle the correct answer.**

1. Leo and Layla visited Virginia in 1791. The place they were standing would eventually become \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Washington, D.C.
  - b. Mount Vernon
  - c. Virginia Tech University
2. Banneker said that as a child, his mother gave him the gift of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. kindness
  - b. reading
  - c. a family
3. Benjamin Banneker became close with the well-known \_\_\_\_\_. They were Quakers who always encouraged Benjamin to pursue his studies.
  - a. Kennedy
  - b. Jones
  - c. Ellicott
4. When Banneker's friend, Andrew Ellicott, was appointed by President George Washington to oversee the mapping out of the country's capital, Andrew brought Banneker on board. He knew Benjamin's advanced understanding of mathematics and knowledge of \_\_\_\_\_ would come in handy to plan out where the country's new capital should be.
  - a. tractors
  - b. latitude and longitude
  - c. landforms
5. Banneker wrote a letter to Secretary of State, Thomas Jefferson, challenging Jefferson to fulfill the promise that he had written about in the Declaration of Independence, the promise to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. consider freeing the slaves in his captivity
  - b. write a mathematics book
  - c. grant equal rights to all states



**Directions: Answer the following questions in complete sentences.**

6. Discuss Benjamin Banneker's young life. How did his experiences help shape Banneker into the person he would later become?

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7. Describe the almanac that Benjamin Banneker wrote.

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8. In your own words, explain why you think prejudice is harmful.

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9. Benjamin Banneker did not limit himself to just one job. He taught himself about many different subjects. Banneker was a mathematician, astronomer, almanac writer, surveyor, and farmer. What are some subject areas you would like to know more about? How might the information you learn be used in the future?

**Because I am interested in...**

**I could one day become a...**

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

## Benjamin Banneker| Answer Key

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**Directions: Answer the following questions in complete sentences.**

6. Discuss Benjamin Banneker's young life. How did his experiences help shape Banneker into the person he would later become?  
**Sample answer: After attending school for a short time, Banneker continued reading and learning and became self-taught. He was always curious and often borrowed as many books as he could get his hands on. Banneker learned about as many different subjects as possible. His family overcame many obstacles and continued to persevere regardless of prejudice.**

7. Describe the almanacs that Benjamin Banneker wrote.

Sample answer: Banneker's almanacs included some of his astronomical calculations, some information about ocean tides, and opinion pieces about literature and current events.

8. In your own words, explain why you think prejudice is harmful.

Sample answer: Prejudice is harmful because it hurts people's feelings, limits friendships, and causes people to be treated unfairly. It's important to be kind and fair to everyone, no matter how different they might be.

9. Benjamin Banneker did not limit himself to just one job. He taught himself about many different subjects. Banneker was a mathematician, astronomer, almanac writer, surveyor, and farmer. What are some subject areas you would like to know more about? How might the information you learn be used in the future?

Answers will vary. Accept reasonable responses.