

Task 4: Ordering Paragraphs

Below, you will find a set of paragraphs about the topic of Genetically Modified Corn (GM Corn). Your task is to arrange them in the correct order to form a cohesive and meaningful article. Pay attention to logical progression, transitions, and how ideas are connected from one paragraph to the next.

4 Paragraph A:

Furthermore, GM corn has been a source of hope for developing nations, especially in regions where food security is a major concern. For example, countries in Sub-Saharan Africa have adopted GM corn to combat crop losses caused by pests and diseases. In these regions, GM corn has led to a significant reduction in crop failure rates and an increase in yields. However, critics argue that over-reliance on GM seeds, which are often patented by large corporations, could lead to increased economic dependence on these companies.

5 Paragraph B:

In conclusion, while GM corn has made a considerable impact on global agriculture, it continues to spark debate. On one hand, it offers potential solutions to food security issues, particularly in developing countries. On the other hand, concerns about environmental impact, economic inequality, and health risks remain at the forefront of the discussion. Ultimately, the future of GM corn will depend on how well these concerns are addressed, and whether stricter regulations and monitoring can ensure its safe and sustainable use.

1 Paragraph C:

To begin with, genetically modified (GM) corn has become one of the most widely cultivated crops in the world. Since the 1990s, farmers in many countries have adopted GM corn due to its resistance to pests and herbicides. As a result, GM corn has led to higher yields and reduced reliance on chemical pesticides. Despite these advantages, the introduction of GM corn has also generated significant controversy, particularly regarding its environmental and economic impacts.

3 Paragraph 4:d

Moreover, in countries like Mexico, the birthplace of maize, the introduction of GM corn has met with strong resistance. Many traditional farmers and indigenous groups argue that GM corn threatens the biodiversity of native maize varieties, which have been cultivated for centuries. In response, the Mexican government has taken measures to ban the importation of GM corn in an effort to protect its rich agricultural heritage. Nevertheless, GM corn continues to dominate global agricultural markets, raising questions about the future of traditional farming practices.

2 Paragraph 5:e

In addition, the environmental impacts of GM corn have sparked debates in both developed and developing countries. While GM corn can reduce the need for pesticides, there are concerns that it may lead to unintended consequences such as the development of herbicide-resistant weeds. For instance, in the United States, where GM corn is widely cultivated, farmers have reported an increase in superweeds that are resistant to the herbicides used on GM crops. As a result, some environmentalists argue that GM corn may cause more harm than good in the long run.

instructions:

Read the paragraphs carefully and decide the best order for them. Consider how the article should begin, how ideas flow from one paragraph to the next, and how the article should end.

Answer Key (Suggested Order):

1. **Paragraph C3**
2. **Paragraph D5**
3. **Paragraph A1**
4. **Paragraph D4**
5. **Paragraph B2**

Explanation:

1. **Paragraph 3** introduces the topic of GM corn and gives background information on its adoption and the resulting controversy, making it the logical introduction.
2. **Paragraph 5** builds on the initial introduction by addressing the environmental impacts of GM corn, which naturally follows the broader discussion about the crop's advantages and disadvantages.
3. **Paragraph 1** then shifts focus to the specific benefits and challenges faced by developing nations in adopting GM corn, which adds a new layer to the argument.
4. **Paragraph 4** continues the discussion by exploring Mexico's resistance to GM corn and the cultural and biodiversity concerns, connecting the global debate to a specific case study.
5. **Paragraph 2** concludes the article by summarizing the key points and reflecting on the future of GM corn, making it a natural ending.

This activity will help students practice understanding the logical flow of ideas and how cohesive devices and transitions guide the reader through an argument. Would you like to add any follow-up questions or activities for this exercise?