

## Mickey Mantle

### True/False Questions

1. Mickey Mantle was born in Commerce, Oklahoma.  
**False** (He was born in Spavinaw, Oklahoma but grew up in Commerce.)
2. Mickey Mantle was named after a famous baseball player.  
**True** (He was named after Mickey Cochrane.)
3. Mickey Mantle played for both the New York Yankees and the Los Angeles Dodgers.  
**False** (He only played for the New York Yankees.)
4. Mickey Mantle won seven World Series championships with the New York Yankees.  
**True**
5. Mickey Mantle was not able to hit both right-handed and left-handed.  
**False** (He was a switch hitter, meaning he could hit both right-handed and left-handed.)

### Comprehension Questions and Answers

1. **Where was Mickey Mantle born, and where did he grow up?**  
Mickey Mantle was born in Spavinaw, Oklahoma, and he grew up in Commerce, Oklahoma.
2. **Who taught Mickey Mantle how to play baseball, and how did they help him become a switch hitter?**  
Mickey's father, Mutt Mantle, and his grandfather taught him how to play baseball. His father threw right-handed pitches, and his grandfather threw left-handed pitches. This helped Mickey learn to bat both right-handed and left-handed, making him a switch hitter.
3. **What other sport did Mickey Mantle play in high school, and why did he stop playing it?**  
Mickey Mantle played football in high school. He stopped playing football after he injured his leg during a game, and doctors thought he might never walk again. He recovered but decided to focus only on baseball.
4. **When did Mickey Mantle sign his first professional baseball contract, and which team did he sign with?**  
Mickey Mantle signed his first professional baseball contract in 1949 when he was 17 years old. He signed with the New York Yankees.
5. **Why did Mickey almost quit baseball early in his career, and what changed his mind?**  
Mickey struggled in the minor leagues and felt frustrated because he had trouble hitting the ball. He thought about quitting baseball, but with the support of his father and coaches, he worked hard to improve and decided to keep playing.
6. **What made Mickey Mantle's 1956 season so special, and what awards did he win that year?**  
Mickey Mantle's 1956 season was special because he won the Triple Crown by leading the league in batting average, home runs, and runs batted in (RBIs). He hit 52 home runs, had 130 RBIs, and a batting average of .353. He was also named the American League's Most Valuable Player (MVP) that year.
7. **How did Mickey Mantle's injuries affect his career, and how did he keep playing despite them?**  
Mickey suffered many injuries, especially to his knees. One of his most serious

injuries happened during the 1951 World Series when he hurt his knee. Despite these injuries, Mickey continued to play because of his determination and love for the game. He often played through the pain to help his team.

8. **How many World Series titles did Mickey Mantle win with the Yankees, and what record does he still hold in the World Series?**

Mickey Mantle won seven World Series titles with the New York Yankees. He still holds the record for the most home runs in World Series history, with 18 home runs.

9. **What challenges did Mickey Mantle face after retiring from baseball, and how did he try to improve his life?**

After retiring, Mickey struggled with alcohol, which affected his health. In the 1990s, he realized that his drinking was a problem, and he sought help to live a healthier life and be a better example for his family and fans. He also spoke out about the dangers of alcohol later in life.

10. **What legacy did Mickey Mantle leave behind in the world of baseball, and how is he remembered today?**

Mickey Mantle is remembered as one of the greatest baseball players of all time. He is known for his power as a hitter, his ability to hit home runs as a switch hitter, and his toughness on the field. Mickey's career achievements, such as winning the Triple Crown, hitting 536 home runs, and helping the Yankees win seven World Series titles, made him a baseball legend. He was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1974, and his jersey number 7 was retired by the Yankees.