

Jackie Robinson

True/False Questions

1. Jackie Robinson was born in Pasadena, California.
False (He was born in Cairo, Georgia.)
2. Jackie Robinson was the first African American player in Major League Baseball in the modern era.
True
3. Jackie Robinson won the National League Most Valuable Player (MVP) Award in 1949.
True
4. Jackie Robinson retired from baseball in 1955, the same year the Dodgers won the World Series.
False (He retired in 1956.)
5. Jackie Robinson's number 42 is still worn by some players today in regular games.
False (His number 42 is retired across all teams, except on Jackie Robinson Day.)

Comprehension Questions and Answers

1. **Where and when was Jackie Robinson born?**
Jackie Robinson was born on January 31, 1919, in Cairo, Georgia, USA.
2. **How did Jackie's mother, Mallie Robinson, help raise the family?**
Jackie's mother, Mallie Robinson, raised her five children by herself after Jackie's father left the family. She worked very hard to give them a good life, even though it was very difficult.
3. **What sports did Jackie Robinson play in high school and college?**
Jackie played many sports, including football, basketball, track, and baseball. He excelled in all of them, especially in high school and at UCLA, where he became the first student to earn varsity letters in four sports.
4. **What challenges did Jackie face in the U.S. Army during World War II?**
While serving in the U.S. Army, Jackie faced racism. He was put on trial for refusing to move to the back of a segregated bus, but he was eventually cleared of the charges.
5. **Why did Branch Rickey choose Jackie Robinson to break the color barrier in Major League Baseball?**
Branch Rickey chose Jackie Robinson because he was not only a talented baseball player but also strong enough to handle the racism and discrimination that would come with being the first African American in Major League Baseball. Jackie also promised to stay calm and not fight back, even when people treated him badly.
6. **What promise did Jackie make to Branch Rickey when joining the Brooklyn Dodgers?**
Jackie promised Branch Rickey that he would not fight back or respond angrily to the racist insults and threats he would face when playing in Major League Baseball.
7. **How did Jackie perform in his first season with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947?**
Jackie had an excellent first season in 1947. He led the league in stolen bases and won the National League Rookie of the Year Award, helping the Brooklyn Dodgers win many games.
8. **What award did Jackie Robinson win in 1949, and why was it important?**
In 1949, Jackie won the National League Most Valuable Player (MVP) Award. It was

important because it showed he was one of the best players in the league, despite the challenges and racism he faced.

9. **How did Jackie Robinson contribute to the civil rights movement after retiring from baseball?**

After retiring, Jackie became active in the civil rights movement. He worked for equality, supported African American businesses, and spoke out against racial injustice, using his fame to promote change.

10. **Why is April 15 celebrated as Jackie Robinson Day, and what happens on that day in Major League Baseball?**

April 15 is celebrated as **Jackie Robinson Day** because it marks the day Jackie broke the color barrier by playing his first Major League Baseball game in 1947. On this day, every player in MLB wears Jackie's number 42 to honor his legacy and contributions to baseball and society.