



Name \_\_\_\_\_

# 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Modified ELA Remote Learning Packet

## Week 20



Dear Educator,

My signature is proof that I have reviewed my scholar's work and supported him to the best of my ability to complete all assignments.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Parents please note that all academic packets are also available on our website at [www.brighterchoice.org](http://www.brighterchoice.org) under the heading "Remote Learning." All academic packet assignments are mandatory and must be completed by all scholars.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Week 20 Day 1 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

BCCS Boys

MIT/Stanford

**Do Now**

1. **Would you have liked to live in the 1920's in the United States? Explain your thinking.**

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**Unit 2, Module 3**

<b>Standard</b>	<b>RI.5.5: Cause and Effect Relationships</b>
<b>LEQ</b>	How can I determine _____ and effect relationships?
<b>Objective</b>	I can determine cause and _____ relationships in Promises to Keep.
<b>Assignment to Submit</b>	Exit Ticket (Google Form)

## Guided Notes: What is a cause and effect relationship?

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*My uncle Mack (l.), my father, and my grandmother Mollie at 121 Pepper Street, Pasadena.*



*Mack Robinson trains for the 1936 Olympics.*

The glory of the Harlem Renaissance was short-lived. In 1929, it was replaced by a deep economic depression. Dad was in junior high at the time. He helped his family out by taking on odd jobs like delivering newspapers, cutting the neighbors' grass, and selling hot dogs during football games at Pasadena's Rose Bowl. And he endured the problems associated with being poor and fatherless.

When he was a teenager, Dad and his friends formed the Pepper Street gang. They didn't use drugs, drink alcohol, or start fights. But they did throw clumps of dirt at passing cars, swipe golf balls and sell them back to the golfers, and steal fruit from the local grocers.

Several key factors helped my dad avoid serious trouble. The first and most important was his devotion to his mother and the values she worked hard to instill in him. The second was his love of athletics. Most of Dad's energy went into playing sports. In 1935, he was a star high school football quarterback at Muir Tech, where he also played baseball, basketball, tennis, and held records in track.

Dad's older brothers were another big influence on him. He really looked up to Edgar, Frank, and Mack. Dad didn't always understand Edgar's odd behavior, but he admired his love of speed. Edgar's feats on roller skates and his bicycle were legendary. It was said Edgar could outrace the bus from Pasadena to Santa Monica, a 30-mile trip!

Frank was my dad's favorite brother, but Mack became his idol. When Dad was 13, he watched with pride as Mack won a place on the U.S. Olympic track-and-field team.

Mack went to Berlin, Germany, for the 1936 Olympic Games. Dad listened to all the track meets on the radio. The U.S. relay team, made up of African-American athletes Jesse Owens, Uncle Mack, Ralph Metcalfe, Johnny Woodruff, and Cornelius Johnson, won the gold medal. By the end of the Olympics,

Owens had won four gold medals. Mack had won a silver in the 200-meter dash.

The 1936 U.S. Olympic relay team's victory was more than a personal athletic triumph. The team won one for humanity. The performances of my uncle and other African-American athletes shattered Nazi leader Adolf Hitler's theory of racial superiority. The Nazis, who rose to power in Germany in the 1930s, believed that select white people known as Aryans were superior to all other races, including blacks and non-Aryan whites. German leader Hitler snubbed Jesse Owens by refusing to shake his hand at the Olympic medal awards ceremony, but black America and freedom-lovers everywhere celebrated this stunning victory over racism.

The 1930s saw the rise of other African-American sports heroes. Joe Louis, "the Brown Bomber," was one of the most admired athletes of the time. On June 22, 1938, the heavyweight champion faced Germany's Max Schmeling in the ring. Like the 1936 Olympics, more than sports records were riding on the outcome.

Europe was on the verge of a second world war. Adolf Hitler gave Schmeling, his idea of the ideal "racially pure" man, a hero's send-off. Americans counted on Joe Louis to bring them victory. The fight of the century was on. It was as if war had already been declared. Louis knocked out Schmeling in two minutes, four seconds in round one. Joyous Americans all over the country—blacks and whites—celebrated in the streets.

But the victory party didn't last. The next morning, America woke up still separate and unequal.

*Joe Louis's K.O. of Max Schmeling was headline news all over, as shown on this front page of a Cleveland, Ohio, newspaper.*



## A Determined Pair



After graduating from high school in 1937, Dad attended Pasadena Junior College (PJC), where he continued to build his sports legacy. Two important people came into his life at this point: a sprinter named Jack Gordon, and a young preacher by the name of the Reverend Karl Downs. Jack and my dad shared a love of sports and developed a close friendship that lasted a lifetime. The minister earned the respect of Dad and his friends. They soon learned that they could trust him with their problems. The Reverend Downs helped guide my father into manhood.

At PJC, my father set a national junior college record in track by beating his brother Mack's broad jump record. One newspaper called my father the greatest base runner ever to play on a junior college baseball team. That same newspaper named Dad athlete of the year. His exploits on the football field added to the legend. The Pasadena Elks gave Dad a gold football and named him Most Valuable Player. Needless to say, the college scholarship offers piled in. Dad chose to continue his education at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA).

The summer before Dad attended UCLA was a tough one. His mother moved into a smaller house, at 133 Pepper Street, leaving the house at 121 Pepper Street to her grown children. That same year, Dad's brother Frank was tragically killed in a motorcycle accident. In spite of the personal loss, Dad started at UCLA in the fall of 1939. He commuted by car from Pasadena to UCLA, where he once again lettered in four sports.

By senior year, he was named the best all-around athlete on the West Coast. He twice led the Pacific Coast Conference in basketball scoring, won the Pacific Coast Intercollegiate Golf Championship,

and reached the National Negro Tennis Tournament semifinals. But, perhaps the most significant thing to happen to Dad that year was meeting Rachel Annetta Isum . . . my mom.

My parents met on UCLA's campus in the fall of 1940. Mom was an eager freshman just thrilled to be in college. Dad was a mighty senior, stunning athlete, and "big man on campus." Mom was attracted to Dad immediately. She liked his warm, engaging smile, and the fact that he was confident without being cocky.

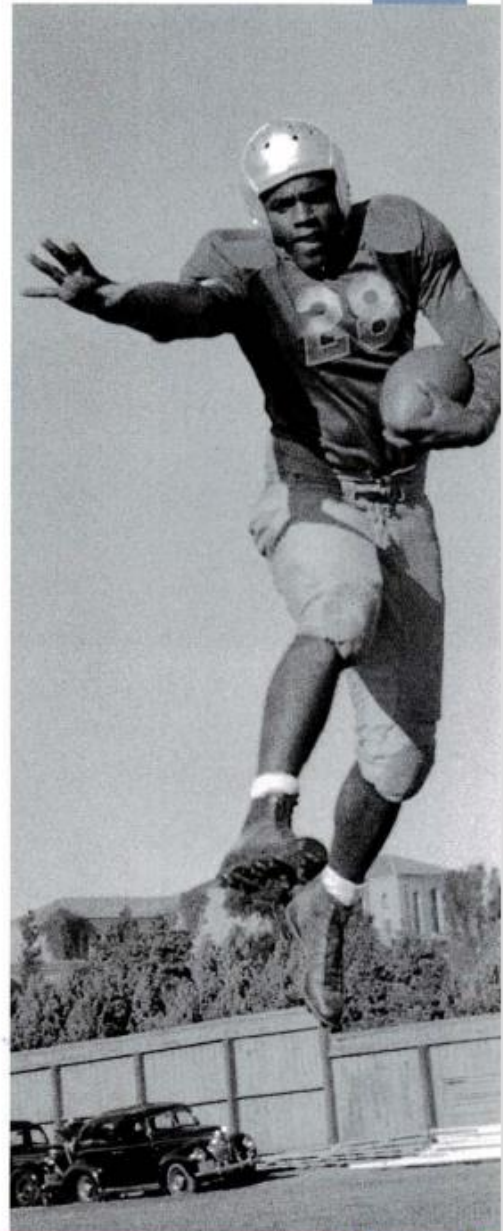
In the 1940s, black students at UCLA were a very small minority. Each day between classes they gathered in Kerckhoff Hall to eat and talk. This is where my mother and father met frequently and then began to date.

My parents were serious people with strong personal goals. Each wanted to be somebody. Mom wanted to be the first in her family to earn a college degree. Dad wanted to be a professional athlete.

As the romance between my parents heated up, so did America's preparation for World War II (1939–1945). As African Americans protested against their exclusion from the growing defense industry, Dad proposed to my mom. Not long after President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed an executive order banning discrimination in all plants working on national defense contracts, my father was drafted into the United States Army. It was still segregated.



*Mom studied nursing at UCLA while Dad served in the army. She graduated in 1945.*



*Dad's favorite sport in college was football.*

Causes	Effects
	Jackie Robinson avoided serious trouble as a teenager.
	Americans believed that they had won a victory over racism during the 1930s.





Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Week 20 Day 2 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

BCCS Boys

MIT/Stanford

**Do Now**

**Directions:** Close-read the following quote. Then paraphrase the quote on the lines below it.

**“For a number of years, the Negro passengers on the city bus lines of Montgomery have been humiliated, intimidated, and faced threats on this bus line. Just the other day, one of the fine citizens of our community, Mrs. Rosa Parks, was arrested because she refused to give up her seat for a white passenger. Mrs. Rosa Parks was arrested, taken down to jail, taken from the bus just because she refused to give up her seat. At present, we are in the midst of a protest of the Negro citizens of Montgomery representing some 44 percent of the population, 90 percent at least of the regular Negro bus passengers are staying off the buses, and we plan to continue until something is done.”**

**Paraphrase the quote (put it in your own words):**

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**Unit 2, Module 3**

<b>Standard</b>	<b>RI.5.3: Historical Relationships</b>
<b>LEQ</b>	<b>How can compare and contrast 2 <span style="background-color: yellow;">                    </span>?</b>
<b>Objective</b>	<b>I can compare and contrast Robinson’s busing incident with <span style="background-color: yellow;">                    </span> <span style="background-color: yellow;">                    </span>.</b>
<b>Assignment to Submit</b>	<b>Exit Ticket (Google Form)</b>



*Dad graduated from officer's training school as a second lieutenant.*

In spite of the inequities in the armed forces, black soldiers served their country. In preparation for World War II, the U.S. government formed a training school for black pilots. The school was located at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. The Tuskegee Airmen were the first African Americans to qualify as military pilots in any branch of the armed forces. By the end of World War II, almost 1,000 had won their wings at Tuskegee Army Airfield.

Dad was in the army for three years, from 1942 to 1945. Mom stayed at UCLA to get her degree. My parents were separated except for the times Dad came home on leave. My father wrote to Mom several times a week and sent a box of chocolates on Fridays. The separation was hard on both of them, but Mom believes that it helped prepare them for their life together.

Dad was stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas, and Fort Hood, Texas. Because of an old football injury, he wasn't sent overseas. Instead, he was assigned to the cavalry, where with the help of fellow soldier and boxing champion Joe Louis, he went to officers' training school and graduated as a second lieutenant.



*The Tuskegee Airmen. More than a million black men and women served in the World War II armed forces. Many black entertainers joined tours of army camps. On the home front, black civilians worked in the war industries.*

Neither Dad's rank of second lieutenant nor his college athletic celebrity protected him against the humiliation of serving in a segregated army in the Deep South. Dad served as a morale officer, yet could do nothing about the fact that the baseball team was segregated, whereas the football team was not. One way he protested this injustice was by refusing to play any sport for the army.

Toward the end of his stint in the armed forces, my father faced Jim Crow head on. During a bus ride from the army base into town, the bus driver ordered my father to the back of the bus, a section for black people only. Dad ignored the command; he knew his rights as a soldier. An argument followed, and Dad was arrested. Later, he had to defend himself in military court. The charges were dismissed.

On November 28, 1944, Dad was honorably discharged from the army. A year later, America and her allies declared victory over Hitler. With the war over, attention turned to peace at home.



*August 15, 1945: U.S. Armed Service members in Paris, France, celebrate the end of World War II.*



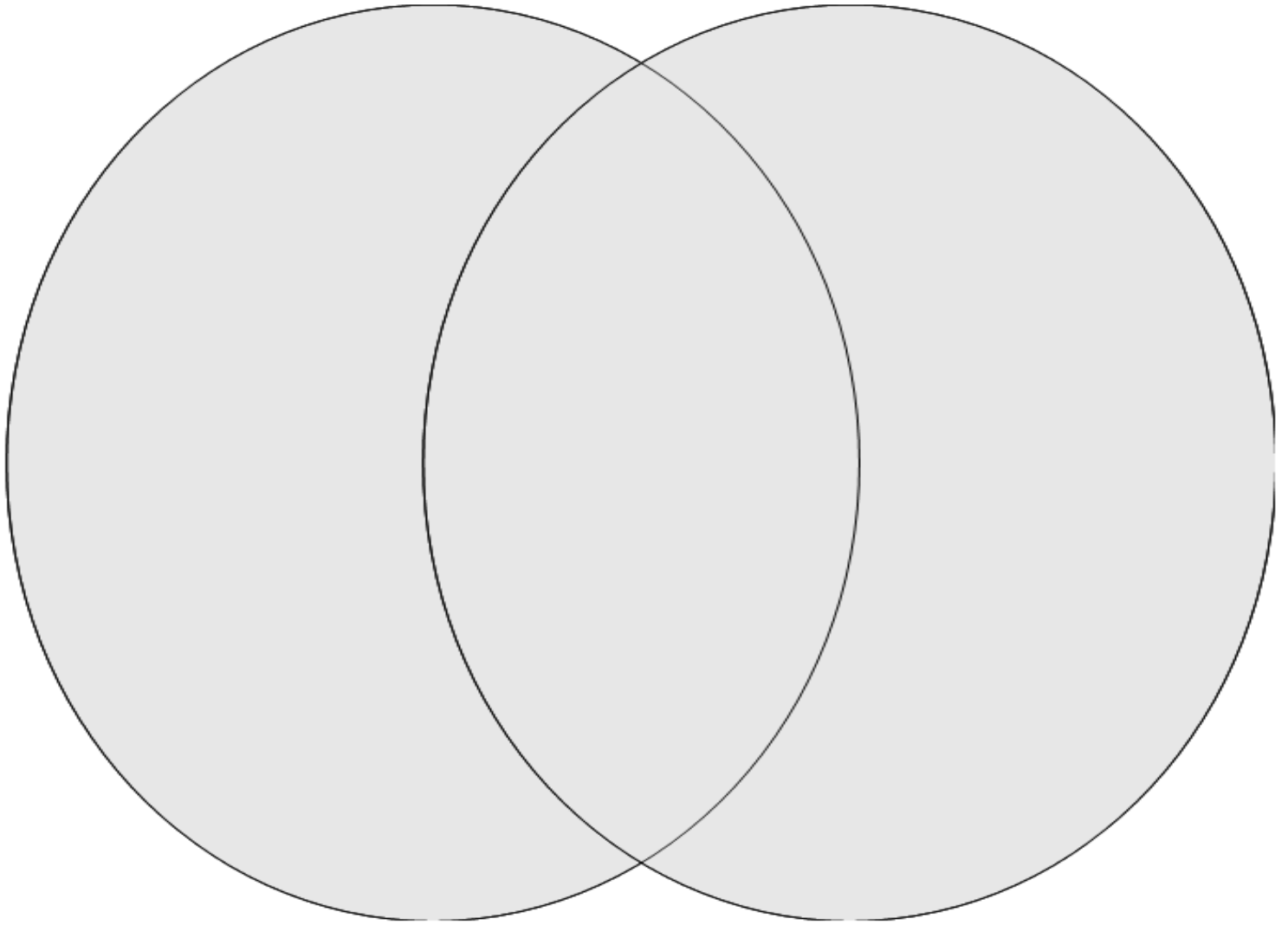
*Dad was on leave from his army base. He and Mom announced their engagement at this dance.*

**Bus Desegregation Venn Diagram**

**Jackie Robinson's  
Bus Incident**

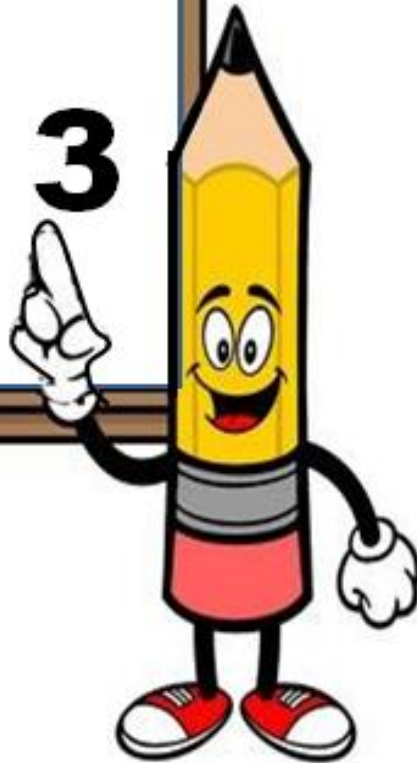
**Both Events**

**Montgomery Bus Boycott**





**Day # 3**



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Week 20 Day 3 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

BCCS Boys

MIT/Stanford

**Do Now**

1. What quality do Jackie Robinson and Rosa Parks share in common?

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2. Explain why you believe that is true.

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**Unit 2, Module 3**

<b>Standard</b>	<b>RI.5.8: Identify the reasons an author uses to support a point.</b>
<b>LEQ</b>	Can I form an <b>_____</b> using evidence from the text?
<b>Objective</b>	I can <b>_____</b> a person's opinion based on what they say in a text.
<b>Assignment to Submit</b>	Exit Ticket (Google Form)

## 1945: A Changing World



*Satchel Paige (l.) and my father (r.) played in the Negro Leagues together.*

After the army, Dad worked for a year as a coach at Huston-Tillotson College in Austin, Texas. He then played baseball in the Negro Leagues for one season (1945). That was the only league open to an African-American ballplayer at the time.

Between 1888 and 1947, black ballplayers were restricted to the Negro Leagues. The Negro Leaguers played a unique and exciting style of baseball that entertained millions in small towns and big cities across America. Negro League teams gave us great players such as Satchel Paige, Josh Gibson, Willie Mays, and Henry (“Hank”) Aaron.

Despite the glory associated with Negro League baseball, it was still a part of a discriminatory system. Major League Baseball had an unwritten policy that kept nonwhite players out of organized baseball. Black ballplayers were denied the opportunity to play in the major leagues. Salaries were lower in the Negro Leagues, the schedules were less structured, and when the teams traveled south, they were forced to follow Jim Crow laws.

Because of its inequities, Dad questioned his future in professional baseball. Although my dad knew that the black press, some liberal sportswriters, and a few politicians were fighting for an end to Jim Crow baseball, he had little faith that it would happen in his lifetime. Little did Dad know that change was close . . . or that he was the prime candidate to break down the racial barrier.



The end of World War II signaled a turning point in America in many ways. Segregation was one area that was certain to change.

The black veterans returning from World War II were more determined than ever to abolish segregation. In 1948, President Harry S. Truman announced an end to segregation in the U.S. military. Other people were just as interested in desegregating civilian life. Some of them started with sports.

Because of its significance to American culture, baseball was the first team sport targeted for change. American baseball, which grew out of British ball-and-stick games like cricket and rounders, gained in popularity during the Civil War. By the end of the war, baseball was considered America's pastime. It seemed to represent all that was considered good about America: Democracy. Teamwork. Fair play. Excellence. It also represented America at its worst: Divided. Discriminatory. Unjust.



*As a member of the Kansas City Monarchs, my dad played in 47 games hitting .387, with 14 doubles, 4 triples, and 5 home runs. His strong performance won him a slot as a shortstop on the Negro League All-Star team.*

Determined to end institutionalized discrimination in baseball, sportswriters such as Wendell Smith of the *Pittsburgh Courier*, Frank A. Young of the *Chicago Defender*, Art Cohn from the *Oakland Tribune*, Sam Lacy of the *Baltimore Afro-Americans*, and Shirley Povich of the *Washington Post* wrote daily articles on the injustice of segregation within professional sports. They appealed to the Baseball Commissioner, to the owners of teams, to the ballplayers themselves, and to the fans who supported the game.

The questions these journalists raised went beyond the issue of

*Baseball parks, like the game itself, were segregated.*



race and into the economics of the game. They asked: Could baseball truly be considered America's pastime when black ballplayers and white ballplayers couldn't play on the same field? Could post-World War II teams afford to rebuild and be successful without including the enormous talent pool that existed within the Negro Leagues? Could the business of baseball grow when it was being accused of racism? Could the United States really consider itself a democracy if a portion of its population were denied basic human rights and opportunities simply because of the color of their skin?



### 1845

There are several myths about how and when professional baseball reached the continental United States. However, it is now commonly agreed that in 1845 the Knickerbocker Base Ball Club of New York adapted the European games of the past into the game we know today as baseball.

### 1846

The first recorded game is played on June 19 at Elysian Fields in Hoboken, New Jersey, where the New York Knickerbockers lost to the New York Baseball Club.

### 1869

The Cincinnati Red Stockings become the first openly salaried team and are considered the first professional team.

### 1876

The first major league, the National League, is formed in New York City.

### 1882

There are now two rival major baseball leagues in existence: the National League and the American Association. Neither league has any black players.

### 1884

Moses Fleetwood Walker from Ohio becomes the first black major leaguer when his team, the Toledo Blue Stockings, of the Northwestern League, joins the American Association.

### 1887

White players complain that they don't want to play alongside black players. Baseball owners vote not to offer any further major league contracts to black players.

### 1920

The first national all-black league is formed.

**Journalist Question:**

Could baseball truly be **considered** America's **pastime** when black ballplayers and white ballplayers couldn't play on the same field?

Paraphrase:

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Journalists' Opinion:

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Week 20 Day 4 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

BCCS Boys

MIT/Stanford

**Do Now**

1. How can a timeline support our understanding of a text?

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2. What three things inspired Jackie Robinson to do great things:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**Unit 2, Module 3**

<b>Standard</b>	<b>RI.5.3: Historical Relationships</b>
<b>LEQ</b>	How can I make _____ between 2 timelines?
<b>Objective</b>	I can make connections between two timelines to align African-American baseball and the history of baseball.
<b>Assignment to Submit</b>	Exit Ticket (Google Form)

**1619**

People kidnapped from Africa are brought to the Virginia colony.

**1787**

The U.S. Constitution does not mention slavery, but it does ban the importation of slaves as of 1808.

**1776**

There are approximately 2 million slaves in the American colonies. After the American Revolution (1775–1783), approximately 55,000 free black people live in what is now the United States.

**1861–65**

The Civil War rages between the Union (the North) and the Confederacy (the South).

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**1863**

President Abraham Lincoln signs the Emancipation Proclamation, which frees slaves in the Confederate states.

**1868**

The Fourteenth Amendment guarantees all people born in the United States, including African Americans, citizenship and equal protection under the law. Native Americans are not included.

**1865**

The Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution makes slavery illegal everywhere in the United States.

**1870**

The Fifteenth Amendment grants all adult male citizens the right to vote.

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**Guided Notes:**

**Timeline:**

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**Chronological:**

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**Gist of Timeline (8-9)**

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**Gist of Timeline (25)**

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**1845**

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The Cincinnati Red Stockings become the first openly salaried team and are considered the first professional team.

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The first major league, the National League, is formed in New York City.

**1882**

There are now two rival major baseball leagues in existence: the National League and the American Association. Neither league has any black players.

**1884**

Moses Fleetwood Walker from Ohio becomes the first black major leaguer when his team, the Toledo Blue Stockings, of the Northwestern League, joins the American Association.

**1887**

White players complain that they don't want to play alongside black players. Baseball owners vote not to offer any further major league contracts to black players.

**1920**

The first national all-black league is formed.





Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Week 20 Day 5 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

BCCS Boys

MIT/Stanford

**Do Now**

1. How were the two timelines in Promises to Keep the same?

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2. How were the two timelines in Promises to Keep different?

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**Unit 2, Module 3**

<b>Standard</b>	<b>RI.5.3: Historical Relationships</b>
<b>LEQ</b>	How can I evaluate a person's _____ ?
<b>Objective</b>	I can explain the reasons and _____ that I identify to support Sharon Robinson's opinion.
<b>Assignment to Submit</b>	Exit Ticket (Google Form)



*Branch Rickey fought for what he believed in.*

With the country delicately balanced toward change and baseball under pressure to set the pace, someone within the executive ranks of baseball had to commit to breaking the color barrier. A couple of baseball owners had tried to be pioneers before 1945, but were unsuccessful. Then, with exquisite timing, Branch Rickey, president and general manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers, stepped forward. He was just the man for the job.

Wesley Branch Rickey was born December 20, 1881, in Stockdale, Ohio. He played baseball as a young boy in the Ohio countryside. Rickey attended Ohio Wesleyan University. Summers, he helped support himself by playing semipro baseball.

Even as a young man, Branch Rickey had strong values and firm beliefs. For example, while a student at Ohio Wesleyan, he began playing Major League Baseball for the Cincinnati Reds (1905). He refused to play games on Sundays because it was against his religious principles. Rickey was released from the team for taking this stand. From that point on, he had a clause written into all of his baseball contracts stating that he did not have to report to the ballpark on Sundays.

After Rickey graduated from Ohio Wesleyan, he went to law school, worked as an athletic director and baseball coach, and played big league ball for the St. Louis Browns (1906) and the New York Highlanders (1907). In his spare time, he lectured against legalizing alcohol. Rickey went on to manage the St. Louis Browns and Cardinals, the Brooklyn Dodgers, and the Pittsburgh Pirates.

In 1942, Branch Rickey was named president of the Brooklyn Dodgers. A year later, he went to the board members of the Dodger club and told them that he wanted to recruit players from Negro League teams. The board wasn't surprised. Rickey was well-known for bold moves. During World War II, he replaced seasoned

ballplayers who were off fighting in Europe with boys as young as 15. In the 1930s, Rickey built baseball's farm system, which today is called the minor leagues.

When Rickey first proposed integrated baseball, the commissioner of baseball at the time, Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis, was firmly against it. Landis died on November 24, 1944, and the new commissioner, A. B. (Happy) Chandler, took the opposite position and said, "I don't believe in barring Negroes from baseball just because they are Negroes." Branch Rickey agreed.

There were two basic reasons why Branch Rickey wanted to break baseball's color line. First, he deeply believed in equality and thought it was unfair to keep black ballplayers out of the major leagues. Second, he wanted to build the strongest team that would win games and excite the fans. Rickey knew that the talent pool in the Negro Leagues was too tempting for a smart businessman to ignore.

Branch Rickey took a year preparing to bring black ballplayers into the major leagues. He knew that success depended on finding the man who'd be right on and *off* the field.

Rickey studied the field using scouts to explore the pool of players. There were many Negro League players who were well-known and proven professional baseball players. Players such as Satchel Paige and Josh Gibson certainly headed the list provided by Mr. Rickey's scouts.

Branch Rickey studied the reports, listened to his scouts, and talked with black sportswriters. They universally agreed my father not only had the ability to play on a major league level, but was the right man to pioneer the integration of Major League Baseball.

Still, Rickey's decision was not an easy one. So what was it that really swayed him? What convinced him to take the risk with Jackie Robinson?



Branch Rickey studied the Negro League players to build baseball's farm system. Photo: Kenesaw Mountain Landis. Photo: Kenesaw Mountain Landis. Photo: Kenesaw Mountain Landis.

### A Branch Grows in Brooklyn



**Branch Rickey flourishes in Newark, where plans the Negro League, and is the father of major league's profitable farm system.**

By TIM CONNOR

When Branch Rickey, an early member of the Newark League, began to build his farm system, he was not only a pioneer in baseball, but also a pioneer in business. Rickey's farm system was the first to provide a steady flow of talent to the major leagues. Rickey's farm system was the first to provide a steady flow of talent to the major leagues. Rickey's farm system was the first to provide a steady flow of talent to the major leagues.

Rickey was a pioneer in baseball. He was the first to provide a steady flow of talent to the major leagues. Rickey's farm system was the first to provide a steady flow of talent to the major leagues. Rickey's farm system was the first to provide a steady flow of talent to the major leagues. Rickey's farm system was the first to provide a steady flow of talent to the major leagues. Rickey's farm system was the first to provide a steady flow of talent to the major leagues.

Look magazine, one of the leading magazines of its time, profiled Branch Rickey.

## Why My Father?

**O**n August 28, 1945, my father, who was playing baseball for the Negro Leagues' Kansas City Monarchs, met Branch Rickey to discuss playing for the Dodgers. There are many reports, but few eyewitnesses to this historic meeting, which took place at Branch Rickey's office in Brooklyn, New York.

Rickey knew all about my father's extraordinary athletic ability and that he'd successfully played on integrated teams in college. What he didn't know much about was what kind of person my dad was. So, before Rickey set up a face-to-face meeting, he called out to California to speak with people who knew my dad. He learned that Dad had been raised in a religious home by a mother whose values matched Rickey's own. He heard that Dad was a serious guy who didn't drink. He also heard that Dad was an aggressive competitor with a fiery temper. Rickey must have liked Dad's strong personality, but I'm sure he wondered how pressure would affect his playing. Nonetheless, he sent his scout, Clyde Sukeforth, out with instructions to bring Jackie Robinson to Brooklyn.

According to newspapers, magazines,

books, and movies, Branch Rickey and my dad eyed each other cautiously during the warm-up discussion. Rickey launched into a series of questions that were less about baseball and more about character. "Did he have a girl?" the Dodgers' president wanted to know. Dad looked Rickey straight in the eye and explained that he was engaged and hoped to marry when he had a job.

Satisfied that my father would have a supportive partner, Rickey went on to talk about the need for my dad to hold back his anger, control his impulse to strike back, and play extraordinary ball in spite of fear. My father listened carefully. He felt excited, scared, and thrilled by the opportunity to play in the big leagues.

Rickey jumped into a monologue where he quickly shifted roles from that of a racist fan to a spiteful teammate. He taunted my dad with angry, mean insults.

My father leaned forward, hands fisted, feet planted firmly on the floor. I can only imagine the thoughts that must have run through his mind. This was more than just a chance to play in the majors. It was a chance to avenge the racism of his boyhood, to help right injustice.

Rickey was offering my father a terrific opportunity and tremendous responsibility. Dad was prepared athletically. He had the support of a loving woman and a steadfast mother. He'd matured over the years. He had his faith. But would he hold back his anger for the sake of the mission?

The role-playing ceased. My father eased back in his chair, unclenched his hands, and met Branch Rickey's steely gaze with confidence and determination. Rickey asked if he could stand the pressure. Would he control his temper against verbal and even physical attacks?

Dad didn't respond immediately. The same question was on his mind. He wasn't used to backing down when attacked.

Rickey made it clear to my father that the first three years would be critical. For the sake of racial equality, he'd have to adopt a nonviolent approach to change.

My father agreed.

Branch Rickey knew he'd chosen the right man. He knew that Dad had both the self-control and the courage to succeed. He and my father shook hands on a verbal agreement. "The Noble Experiment" began.

## Baseball's First Negro

The Dodgers sign Jackie Robinson—first breach in game's racial barrier

John Bennett's Jackie Robinson, 35-year-old former Army lieutenant and star football player at UCLA (University of California) in Los Angeles, recently became the first Negro player in the history of organized baseball.

A Brooklyn, Robinson was signed to an experimental contract by Branch W. Rickey, president of the Brooklyn Dodgers, and started to report next February to that club's principal minor-league affiliate, the Montreal Royals of the International League. Before the 1945 season, it was believed that Robinson may be in the Dodgers line-up as their regular shortstop.

In signing Robinson, and several other Negro stars since then, the Dodgers estimated a \$10,000, three-year spending search under Rickey's direction throughout the United States and Latin America. They came up with baseball's first colored player to the effect of a problem of that long-closed and other major-league teams were expected to follow their lead.

The real purpose behind the quest for Robinson and the other Negro stars was intended to help poverty. Until a month ago, even Brooklyn teams believed that some colored players in stock the Brown Dodgers, an A-D-league team Rickey had projected. (Continued on next page)



Robinson's speed, as Chicago infielder Edgar Cooper looked from, earned UCLA to undrafted 1939 award after 70 in his college football career.



On a practice team, he and Fred Coyle (right) were baseball's first Negro players.



Formerly 35-year-old Jackie Robinson is highlighted, well-known, recognized, and ready to help his team.

On October 23, 1945, two months after meeting Branch Rickey, my father flew to Montreal to sign his contract with the Montreal Royals, the Dodgers' farm team, for a bonus of \$3,500 and a salary of \$600 a month. At a news conference, the Montreal Royals announced to the world that baseball's invisible color line had been broken.



The three-hour meeting between my dad (l.) and Branch Rickey (r.) is legendary.

**Author's Opinion (WHAT the author believes):**

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<b>Reason (WHY the author believes an opinion):</b>	
<b>Evidence (facts, details, information):</b>	
<b>Evidence:</b>	
<b>Evidence:</b>	



Name \_\_\_\_\_

# 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Modified ELA Remote Learning Packet

## Week 21



Dear Educator,

My signature is proof that I have reviewed my scholar's work and supported him to the best of my ability to complete all assignments.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Parents please note that all academic packets are also available on our website at [www.brighterchoice.org](http://www.brighterchoice.org) under the heading "Remote Learning." All academic packet assignments are mandatory and must be completed by all scholars.





Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Week 21 Day 1 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

BCCS Boys

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### Module 3a Unit 2 Mid-Module Assessment

**Directions:** Read the following article closely. You will be GRADED on your close-reading evidence. Answer the questions that follow based on the article.

#### “Courage on the Field”

By Marc Stewart

In April 1947, Jackie Robinson played his first game for the Brooklyn Dodgers. Baseball—and America—would never be the same again.

Fifty years ago, on July 23, 1962, more than 10,000 people gathered at the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York. They had come to witness a historic event. Jackie Robinson was about to become the first African-American to be inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Only 15 years earlier, few people would have dreamed that Robinson—or any black man—would receive such an honor.

#### The Color Barrier

When Robinson began his baseball career in the 1940s, discrimination was a part of everyday life for most African-Americans. In many parts of the United States, black people couldn’t attend the same schools or eat in the same restaurants as white people.

Professional baseball was also segregated. An unwritten rule had barred African-Americans from the major leagues since the 1880s. Instead, black ballplayers had to play under poor conditions and for low pay in the Negro Leagues.

Branch Rickey, the president of the Brooklyn (now Los Angeles) Dodgers, wanted to change that. But he knew it would take a special player to break baseball’s color barrier. That player would need more than talent. He’d also need the courage not to fight back when faced with racism on and off the field. The man Rickey picked was Jackie Robinson.

## Keeping His Cool

The 28-year-old Robinson made history when he stepped onto the field for Brooklyn on April 15, 1947. No big-league player had ever faced the challenges that he did in his first season. He received death threats from racist fans. Players on other teams shouted racial insults at him. On road trips, he often wasn't allowed to stay in the same hotels as his white teammates. Those teammates didn't offer Robinson much support. Some of them didn't like the idea of playing alongside a black man.

Through it all, Robinson never lost his cool. He knew there was too much at stake. "I had to fight hard against loneliness, abuse, and the knowledge that any mistake I made would be magnified because I was the only black man out there," he later wrote in his autobiography.

Despite all the challenges, Robinson proved he was every bit as good as the white players. By the end of the season, he had won over his teammates—and countless new fans. Robinson led the Dodgers in hits, runs, and stolen bases in 1947. He was also named baseball's very first Rookie of the Year.

## Changing the Game

Robinson opened baseball's doors to more black players. In 1948, slugging catcher Roy Campanella joined the Dodgers. He was followed in 1949 by pitching ace Don Newcombe. All three helped Brooklyn win its one and only World Series, in 1955. Because of Robinson, more teams signed black players, who finally got a chance to show all of America what they could do. Robinson retired from baseball after the 1956 season.

During his career, African-Americans had made many important gains in the struggle for equality. Many leaders credited Robinson with playing a key role in the civil rights movement. Martin Luther King Jr. called him "a legend in his own time."

Robinson's impact on the sports world is still felt today. "I wouldn't be playing if it wasn't for Jackie Robinson," New York Yankees All-Star Derek Jeter told reporters in 2010. "He stands for a lot more than just baseball."

### Did you provide the following evidence?

\_\_\_\_ **Topic & Main Idea**

\_\_\_\_ **Supporting Evidence Annotations**

**Close-Reading Score:** \_\_\_\_/2

1. The start of Jackie Robinson's career in Major League Baseball was
  - a. easy and fun
  - b. difficult and a challenge
  - c. in Chicago
  - d. full of friends and family
  
2. According to the passage, the author's **opinion** about Jackie Robinson is that he
  - a. played professional baseball in New York
  - b. suffered many struggles during his time in Major League Baseball
  - c. was an inspirational person
  - d. worked with Branch Rickey
  
3. All of the following are **reasons** that the author gives to support his opinion from NUMBER 2, **EXCEPT**
  - a. Jackie Robinson had more than talent.
  - b. Jackie Robinson was able to keep his cool.
  - c. Jackie Robinson was courageous.
  - d. Jackie Robinson forged a partnership with Branch Rickey.

4. In the sentence “Despite all the challenges, Robinson proved he was every bit as good as the white players,” what does the word *despite* mean? Support your response with 1 piece of text evidence.

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5. One reason the author uses to support his opinion is *Jackie Robinson would have to face many challenges*. Identify which of the following statements is NOT *evidence*:
- a. Players on other teams shouted racial insults at him.
  - b. He received death threats from racist fans.
  - c. Many leaders credited Robinson with playing a key role in the civil rights movement.
  - d. Those teammates didn’t offer Robinson much support.





Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Week 21 Day 2 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Do Now**

**1. Why did Branch Rickey choose Jackie Robinson?**

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**2. What were the Negro Leagues?**

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**Unit 2, Module 3**

<b>Standard</b>	<b>RI.5.2: Determine the main idea of an informational text using key details.</b>
<b>LEQ</b>	<b>How can I _____ more about the Negro Leagues?</b>
<b>Objective</b>	<b>I can _____ a team in the Negro Leagues and complete a slide to share what I learned.</b>
<b>Assignment to Submit</b>	<b>Google Slide</b>



## ABOUT THE NEGRO LEAGUES



Josh Gibson, Homestead Grays, 1929

## STUDENT REPRODUCIBLE

Before Jackie Robinson joined the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947, breaking baseball's "color barrier," he had played for the Kansas City Monarchs of the Negro Leagues. Since the 19th century, black- and brown-skinned ballplayers were banned from Major League Baseball. A few players, such as Moses "Fleetwood" Walker and John W. "Bud" Fowler had played on white teams in the 1880s, but they were the exception.

By 1890, racism and "Jim Crow" laws promoted segregation between African-Americans and whites. Baseball team owners made a "gentleman's agreement" not to hire any African-Americans. Many black players formed their own teams. The teams would travel around the country playing "pickup" games with any team that would play with them. By the 1900s, African-Americans had formed their own baseball leagues.

In 1910, Andrew "Rube" Foster, a former player and manager, became owner of the all-black Chicago American Giants. In 1920, he helped organize the

Negro National League. Determined to be successful, he controlled all the operations from equipment to scheduling to selling tickets. Soon other rival leagues formed across the country, and many became the pride of black communities. Another team, the Newark Eagles, was managed by Effa Manley, wife of owner Abe Manley. Tough-minded and shrewd, she was committed to her players and kept the team operating from 1936 to 1948. Effa Manley was the first woman inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 2006.

Life in the Negro Leagues was not easy. Teams struggled to make a profit. Players had to travel long distances, often in broken-down buses. They were paid very little, sometimes only \$100 a month. White ballplayers made three to four times more in the Major Leagues. Black players were not allowed to go to restaurants or hotels that served white customers. Gas stations closed their restrooms to them. But the players did not let these challenges stop them. They played for the love of the game and were determined to do their best.

Negro League players showed great teamwork and worked hard to impress the crowds. They developed an exciting style of play that was fast and daring. Players often stole bases and made opposing



The 1935 Pittsburgh Crawfords of the Negro Leagues pose for a photo in front of their team bus.

Photos (top and bottom): © National Baseball Hall of Fame Library/MLB Photos via Getty Images.

pitchers nervous with intimidating talk. Before games they warmed up with an exercise called shadow ball. Players would throw and hit an imaginary ball, making close plays and diving catches. To many spectators, it looked like they were using a real ball.

There were many excellent players in the Negro Leagues. Leroy Satchel Paige was a natural athlete who was primarily a pitcher. During his career he had 300 shutouts and played 2,500 games. Josh Gibson was



Satchel Paige (left) and Buck O'Neil (above), both of the Kansas City Monarchs.

a great hitter with 900 career home runs. He could hit a ball more than 575 feet. Both Paige and Gibson were later inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame. Buck O'Neil had a great career with the Kansas City Monarchs. He later became the first African-American to coach a Major League team, the Chicago Cubs. After he retired from baseball, he helped

found the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City, Missouri.

The Negro League teams survived through the Great Depression and World War II. After Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier by joining the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947, Major League Baseball began to allow black players to join their teams. Many Negro League teams lost their star players and went out of business. But their legacy lives on—there are 35 players who played in the Negro Leagues inducted in the National Baseball Hall of Fame.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Week 21 Day 3 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Do Now**

**1. What is the best way to learn about history?**

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**Unit 2, Module 3**

<b>Standard</b>	<b>RI.5.8: Use of reasons and evidence to support points.</b>
<b>LEQ</b>	<b>How do _____ sources help support our comprehension of the text?</b>
<b>Objective</b>	<b>I can analyze _____ from Jackie Robinson to his wife.</b>
<b>Assignment to Submit</b>	<b>Google Form</b>

**Guided Notes:**

	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Examples</b>
<b>Primary Source</b>		
<b>Secondary Source</b>		

**Think/Write/Share**

**How did the primary sources give me a better understanding of Jackie's experiences?**

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## Play Ball!

**F**our months after Dad signed with the Montreal Royals, my parents got married. The Reverend Karl Downs performed the ceremony on February 10, 1946, at the Independent Church of Christ in Los Angeles. My mother's mother, Zellee Isum, was thrilled to plan the entire wedding right down to selecting Mom's china, silver, and crystal. It was wartime, so materials were hard to find. Still, Zellee insisted that my mother wear a satin dress. So, Mom went to Saks Fifth Avenue and found a prewar satin sample wedding dress that had a long train. Dad matched Mom's elegance in a sharp pair of formal wear as they pledged a lifetime of love and shared dreams.



30

*My parents believed that marriage was the most important and fulfilling commitment that adults could make. Together, they reached for this ideal.*

Eighteen days later, my parents began the long trek across the country so that Dad could report to the Royals' training camp in Daytona Beach, Florida. Branch Rickey had broken his own rule about not having wives at spring training and had invited my mother to join Dad.

When Dad and Mom arrived in New Orleans, they were forced to give up their seats on the plane. Then they were bumped from the next two flights. To add to the humiliation, they quickly discovered that because they were now in the heart of the South, they couldn't eat in the coffee shop. Luckily, Mallie, a southerner, had anticipated trouble and had packed my parents a lunch. Twelve hours later, Mom and Dad flew from New Orleans to Pensacola, where they took a segregated bus to Daytona Beach, Florida. It was a rough start . . . and shades of things to come.

My father joined black pitcher Johnny Wright and 200 white players for the Royals' practice. Eager newspaper reporters from New York, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, Montreal, and Brooklyn fired questions at the two black men. "What are you going to do if the pitchers start throwing at you?" "Duck," Dad joked. "Would you like to play for the Dodgers? Do you think you're good enough to play with Brooklyn now?" Dad answered confidently. He told the reporters that he'd played with white players before and was sure he'd make it through the minor leagues and on to the Brooklyn Dodgers team.

After practice, the white players went to the Mayfair Hotel. My parents, Johnny Wright, and black sportswriters Billy Rowe and Wendell Smith, were housed in the black community, either in a motel or a private home. They ate their meals in black restaurants. Through it all, Mom and Dad were inseparable.



*Dad fields questions from reporter Wendell Smith (l.) during spring training.*



*Dad and Mom board a bus, heading for the Montreal Royals spring training in Daytona, Florida.*



Netherland Plaza  
Cincinnati

Darling,

The game starts at eight. I did  
so much want to meet you at the  
airport but time does not permit it. I  
love you so very much and knowing I  
am to see you tonight makes things  
a lot better. Harold will leave a  
ticket for you or you can sit with  
[redacted] that met you at the airport.  
[redacted] they know you  
is home called the



The day after they arrived, the Royals traveled south to Sanford, Florida for a week of spring training. As it turned out, Sanford was less welcoming than Daytona Beach. A few days into the training, Wendell Smith and Billy Rowe rushed my parents and Johnny Wright out of town because of threatened violence. Dejected, Dad said he wondered if the same thing would happen in the next town.

The Royals moved their practice back to Daytona Beach and had no further problems until they played games in Jacksonville and De Land, Florida. The Royals front office finally had to switch their remaining games back to Daytona Beach. During games, proud black fans crowded into the Jim Crow, or segregated, section of the stands while curious white fans filled in the remaining seats. On the field, the Royals' black players and white players worked as a team. When the game ended, they returned to their separate worlds.

After a successful spring training, the integrated Montreal Royals took to the field at Roosevelt Stadium in Jersey City, New Jersey, for the start of the 1946 season. Opening day was April 14, 1946. There were 35,000 excited fans in attendance. Because school was closed, there were a lot of kids in the stands. It was a clear, sunny, brisk day, more a football kind of day than baseball. Vendors sold coffee to help keep the crowd warm. The mood was electric as the mayor paraded on the field with celebrities and players for the singing of "The Star-Spangled Banner." Dad hit a home run in the third inning with two men on; singled three times; and stole two bases. Montreal won the game, 14 to 1. The fans mobbed Dad afterward, asking for autographs and wishing him well.

After the Jersey City opener, the Royals headed to Montreal, Canada. My parents were pleasantly surprised by the warmth and friendliness shown to them by the French Canadians.



*Dad said he got a kick out of hearing the announcers at Montreal's stadium call his name out in French. He said it helped him escape the pressure of being Jackie Robinson. For that split second, he imagined himself to be just the new Montreal second baseman.*

NOTE  
WE HAVE ALREADY  
GOT RID  
OF SEVERAL  
LIKE YOU  
ONE WAS FOUND IN RIVER  
JUST RECENTLY

*Threatening letters were mailed to our home—but so were baskets of fan mail!*

ROBINSON  
WE ARE GOING  
TO KILL YOU  
IF YOU ATTEMPT  
TO ENTER A  
BALL GAME AT  
GROSLEY FIELD  
THE TRAVELERS

The Royals had different experiences in each city they played. Syracuse, New York, was worse than Sanford, Florida. During one game, while my father stood in the batter's box, a Syracuse player tossed a black cat toward him yelling, "Hey Jackie, there's your cousin clowning on the field." Years later, Dad told me he had been furious, but that he had responded by smacking the ball for a double. A few moments later a base hit sent him home with the winning run. As Dad rounded third base he shouted to the players on the Syracuse bench, "I guess that relative of mine is happy now, isn't he?"

In Baltimore, Maryland, the Royals learned there had been letters and calls threatening violence and a boycott if my father appeared on the field. The Montreal Royals played as scheduled. There were 3,415 people at the first game of the series. The small crowd was tense and angry. But as the Montreal and Baltimore series continued, the audience's mood changed. My father stole home during one game; the fans gave him a standing ovation.

Dad was big news when he got some big news himself: Mom announced she was pregnant. Dad was on the road, but Mom couldn't wait for him to come home. She called Dad, thrilled to report that they were going to have their first baby! Dad was so sure his firstborn would be a boy that he later wrote back a joyous letter adding that he would make his son proud of him.

Dad made good on that promise. During his one season with Montreal, he won the batting championship with a .349 average, scored 113 runs, ranked second in the league in stolen bases, and was voted Most Valuable Player in the International League. The Montreal Royals won the pennant and the Little League World Series. Today, the 1946 Royals are regarded as one of the greatest teams in the history of minor league baseball.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Week 21 Day 4 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Do Now**

1. What is the difference between a primary and a secondary source?

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2. It is better to get our information from a primary source because...

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**Unit 2, Module 3**

<b>Standard</b>	<b>RI.5.3: Historical Relationships</b>
<b>LEQ</b>	How can primary sources help support our _____ of the text?
<b>Objective</b>	I can analyze _____ from Jackie Robinson to his wife.
<b>Assignment to Submit</b>	Exit Ticket (Google Form)



*Mom holds my brother, Jackie Jr., while Dad shares in the parenting.*



*When he was on base, Dad studied the outfield. He knew exactly what had to happen in order for him to successfully steal a base.*

Mom left Montreal in her eighth month of pregnancy to return to Los Angeles to await the birth of their first child. Dad joined her as soon as the season ended. True to his prediction they had a boy. Jack Roosevelt, Jr., was born November 18, 1946. He was a gorgeous baby with a head full of curly black hair.

Mom and Dad stayed on the West Coast surrounded by family and friends until Dad had to report for the Royals' spring training. Despite my father's successes in 1946, however, it looked as though yet another Major League Baseball season would start without a black player on any team's roster.

Then, on April 10, 1947, less than a week before the official opening of baseball season, the Brooklyn Dodgers played the Montreal Royals in the last game of the exhibition season. Dad hit into a double play in the sixth inning. Right after that play, a history-making announcement was made: The Brooklyn Dodgers had purchased my dad's contract from the Montreal Royals! Dad trotted back to the dugout. Fans and teammates cheered. Jackie Robinson was going to the majors . . . Jim Crow was going down!

Five days later, Dad played his first major league game at Ebbets Field, the Dodgers' stadium in Brooklyn, New York. An exuberant crowd watched the Dodgers beat the Boston Braves, 5-3. My father played first base and went hitless that game, but later that week belted out his first major league home run when the Dodgers played the New York Giants at the Polo Grounds.

While Dad's teammates grew to appreciate his contribution to the team, they ignored him off the field. For the first couple of months with the Dodgers, Dad stayed to himself or with one of the black sportswriters. He said he felt the loneliness most when the team traveled. By June, however, things had changed. The team warmed up to my father. On train rides, they invited him to join in their card games. Eventually, Dad felt comfortable joking around with the other players.



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*Dad used to say that it didn't matter if somebody resents you. It only mattered if you could make him respect you. Two months into his first major league season, my father's skill gained him the respect of his teammates and the fans. That's my dad, number 42, with Dodgers captain Pee Wee Reese, number 1.*

e BROOKLYN

AFFILIATED CLUBS



Dodgers

SPRING TRAINING CAMP

DODGERTOWN, VERO BEACH, FLORIDA

My Darling,

I miss you very much and am glad when another day passes so I can be with you. I am sure you know how much I love you and that my love is stronger today than it ever has been. I know that it will continue to improve and we will have many more years of happiness ahead.

I guess by now you have had a chance to read about my weight and I am sure this year is going to be a real good one. I feel better than I have felt for some time and am working very hard to get into the best possible shape I can get into. The day made me feel very good as I was hitting well and moving better than I have for a long time. As a matter of fact I believe I have a couple more years left barring accidents. We have

been working pretty hard and I am sure everything will work out for the best. Bandy is a good ball player my dear but he'll have to sit on the bench and wait for an opening. I was very surprised to hit the ball so well today so I guess that as soon as I really get in shape I'll hit better. There really isn't anything more to write about. The newspapermen seem to sense my feelings as I have told them my only aim is to get into the best possible shape and let my work talk the rest. They stay clear of me and I am very happy for that. It makes my promise that much easier and even if it were hard I would be careful.

I love you Darling so much. Kiss the children for me and tell them how much I love them. Be sweet my Darling I know being away is tough but it only makes my love that much stronger. I keep wanting to hear your voice but keep fighting my self away from the phone. I love you and want to talk with you but am sure you understand.

Yours always  
Jack

Here's how my mother remembered those early major league years: "During Jack's baseball career I attended every home game. I wanted to be with him and to experience his world. After games, I talked about how it felt to sit in the stands and hear fans yell at my husband. Jack talked about how hard it was to hold back his anger. Together, we fought off pessimism and despair.

"We worked hard to keep our fighting spirits alive and alert. We laughed and cried together. Most importantly, Jack was neither a victim nor a martyr as some have characterized him. We had many triumphs and victories to celebrate during his lifetime."



**Writing: How does this letter help support my comprehension of this chapter?**

**P:**

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**E:**

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**E:**

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**L:**

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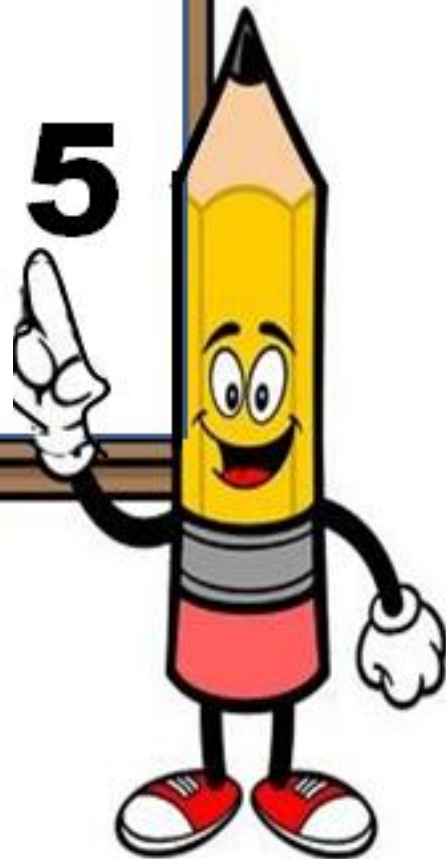
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# Day # 5

February SPA



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Week 21 Day 5 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

BCCS Boys

MIT/Stanford

### February SPA

**Directions:** Closely read the following passages and answer the questions that follow. Submit the corresponding Google Form with your answers.

## Excerpt from *The Brooklyn Bridge: New York's Graceful Connection*

by Vicki Weiner



- 1 John Roebling was a native of Germany. After studying engineering at his country's finest technical school, he came to the United States. It was 1831. Roebling was twenty-five years old. He wanted to put his skills and education to work. He and a group of fellow Germans purchased a large plot of land in Pennsylvania. The group built houses, stores, and churches on the land. They called their new farming town Saxonburg.
- 2 Roebling found the farmer's life too quiet, though. He told his son, Washington, that he longed to "employ science to useful purpose." In the early 1840s, Roebling got his first chance to do just that. He knew a new type of rope called wire cable was being used in Europe. It was made from iron wires. These wires were twisted together to form a long strand. Roebling made the first iron wire cable in the United States.

- 3 At first, people doubted that Roebling's cable could work better than rope. Once they tested it, though, they were amazed. The iron cable was thinner, stronger, and longer lasting than ordinary rope. Soon, delighted business owners were snatching up Roebling's iron cables. They used the cables to haul heavy loads over Pennsylvania's Allegheny Mountains.
- 4 Roebling's cable helped him create the modern suspension bridge. A suspension bridge spans a wide body of water. Ancient bridges were held up by rope made from hemp. Today's bridges are held up by thick metal cables. The cables are attached to two strong towers, made of stone, steel, or iron. These towers hold the bridge in place. The roadway is suspended, or held up, by the cable.
- 5 In 1861 the American Civil War began. John's son, Washington, served in the Union Army. He even fought in the battle at Gettysburg. As a colonel, he built temporary suspension bridges using his father's ideas. Washington soon became his father's chief engineer.
- 6 Together, father and son built many suspension bridges. One of their most famous works was built in Cincinnati, Ohio. The Cincinnati Bridge spanned the Ohio River. At the time, in 1872, it was the largest suspension bridge ever seen. It was a triumph of engineering skills. Yet both father and son knew that harder work lay ahead. John Roebling never rested. He was an ambitious, driven man. Once he got an idea for a new bridge, he never forgot it.
- 7 John Roebling first presented his plan for the Brooklyn Bridge in 1867. His idea pleased many. Others thought Roebling's bridge seemed unnecessary. New Yorkers didn't go frequently to Brooklyn. To them, the project was a waste of money. On the other hand, Brooklyn's residents were in favor of a bridge. Brooklyn was growing fast as a city. Its residents needed an easier way to travel to New York for work, school, shopping, and entertainment.
- 8 Public opinion was divided. However, the terrible winter of 1866-67 swayed many city leaders' minds. Icy conditions along the East River froze ferry service for days on end. This convinced Brooklyn's mayor that the city couldn't continue to grow without a bridge. Meanwhile, New Yorkers were warming to the idea, too. They knew that Brooklyn was booming. Still, it remained a cheaper and less crowded city than New York. It would be wonderful to have easy access to Brooklyn's charms. On April 16, 1867, New York's legislature created the New York Bridge Company. The company would be dedicated to Roebling's dream—constructing a bridge over the East River. John Roebling was asked to be the bridge's designer.

- 9 Excitement about the bridge swelled. It was going to be unlike any structure seen before. Its length would measure 1,596 feet (486 m) from tower to tower. This would make it one-and-a-half times longer than the Cincinnati Bridge. The Brooklyn Bridge's towers would feature 117-foot-high (35.7 m) Gothic arches. Horse and carriage riders would use outer lanes across the span. Trains would travel across the bridge's inner lanes. A special walkway, called a promenade, would be built above the roadways. Pedestrians, or people walking, would stroll across the promenade and be treated to magnificent views of the city.
- 10 Everyone knew the completed bridge would be beautiful. However, many worried it would not be safe. Roebling invited a group of experts to study his plans. These experts were impressed with Roebling's vision. Finally, in 1869, all their questions were answered. The two cities gave their final approvals.

**1. Which sentence BEST describes a main idea of the article?**

- A. John Roebling and his son formed an uncomfortable working relationship.**
- B. John Roebling was an inspired engineer who designed modern bridges.**
- C. John Roebling came to the United States to build bridges.**
- D. John Roebling was a popular student and successful businessman.**

**2. What does the phrase “snatching up” (paragraph 3) suggest about John Roebling’s iron cables?**

- A. They sold quickly.**
- B. They were inexpensive.**
- C. They lasted a long time.**
- D. They pulled a lot of weight.**

3. Which paragraph does the photo of the Brooklyn bridge BEST support?
- A. paragraph 3
  - B. paragraph 4
  - C. paragraph 7
  - D. paragraph 8
4. Which sentence BEST describes how John Roebling influences his son Washington?
- A. Washington learned why it was important to use science to improve his military skills.
  - B. Washington applied what his father taught him about the different types of iron cables.
  - C. Washington learned the reasons suspension bridges needed to be improved.
  - D. Washington applied what his father taught him and built bridges when he was a soldier.
5. What do paragraphs 7 and 10 MOST contribute to the article?
- A. They introduce different opinions about the bridge.
  - B. The outline the long process involved in planning, paying for, and constructing the bridge.
  - C. The highlight the concerns people had about the appearance of the bridge.
  - D. They describe the disagreements people had about where the bridge should be built.

- 6. What effect did the winter of 1866-67 have on the construction of the Brooklyn Bridge?**
- A. The weather caused people to go to Brooklyn because they thought it was safer there.**
  - B. The weather caused ferry service to stop, making more people decide the bridge was a good idea.**
  - C. The weather made more people go to New York to find work and to shop.**
  - D. The weather made more people want to leave the area, making the mayor decide the bridge was necessary.**
- 7. Which detail from the article would be most important to include in a summary?**
- A. John Roebling graduated from a technical school in Germany.**
  - B. John Roebling bought a large plot of farm land in Pennsylvania.**
  - C. John Roebling had a son who was promoted to colonel in the Civil War.**
  - D. John Roebling made the first iron cable used in the United States.**

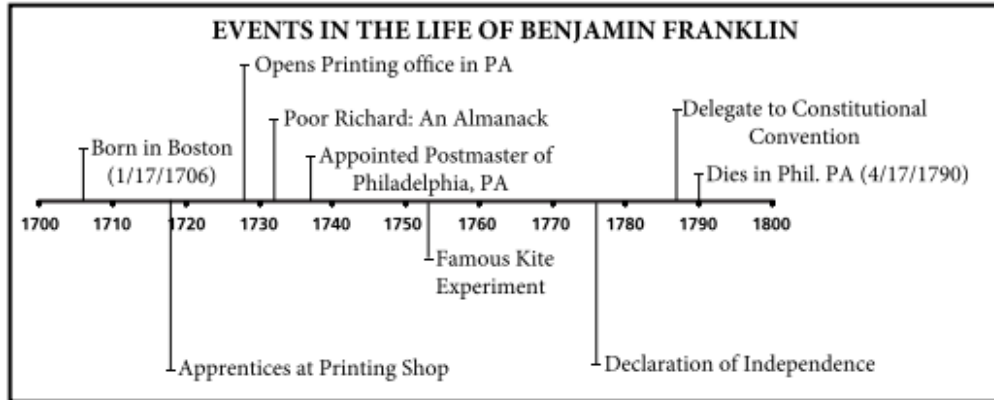
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# Excerpt from *Young Ben Franklin*

by Julie Doyle Durway

- 1 Ben's early childhood was happy. He spent a lot of time playing, swimming, and fishing on the Charles River in Boston. Determined to swim faster, young Ben designed and made paddles for his hands and feet to help him move through the water more easily. Even as a child, Franklin had an inventive mind and a desire to improve himself.
- 2 "From a Child I was fond of Reading," Ben wrote, "and all the little Money that came into my Hands was ever laid out in Books." Although he went to school for only two years, Ben learned about many different subjects by reading books and talking to people who knew more than he did. He looked at the world in a practical way, trying to find solutions for everyday problems.
- 3 When Ben was 10, he left school and began working in his father's soap and candle shop. He spent his days "employed in cutting Wick for the Candles, filling the Dipping Mold . . . attending the Shop, going on errands, etc." Although Ben did not enjoy this experience, it helped him learn the importance of hard work. He also spent time with his father watching other craftsmen at their work. He learned to appreciate good workmanship and creativity.
- 4 After several years, it became clear to Ben's father that his son wasn't happy in the soap and candle shop. Mr. Franklin sent Ben to work with his older brother James, who owned a print shop. Although James was often harsh with his younger brother, Ben enjoyed the printing business. "In a little time I made great Proficiency in the Business, and became a useful Hand to my Brother," he wrote later. Not only did Ben learn all the skills of printing, he also wrote poetry, essays, and articles for his brother's newspaper. Ben's natural ability as a writer developed quickly.
- 5 When Ben worked with his brother, he spent much of his free time reading. "Often I sat up in my Room reading the greatest part of the Night, when the Book was borrow'd in the Evening to be return'd early in the Morning." He also used this time to improve his writing skills. Studying the work of other authors, Ben would try to rewrite their essays in his own words.

- 6 When he was 17, Ben left his brother’s print shop. He moved to Philadelphia and found work as a printer and writer. Eventually, he opened his own print shop. Later, his accomplishments as a scientist and statesman made him one of the most powerful and important men in America. But Ben Franklin never forgot the lessons he learned during his boyhood years.



8. In paragraphs 1 and 2 of “Excerpt from Young Ben Franklin,” how does the author support the idea that Franklin had a curious mind? Use two details from the article to support your response.

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**9. In “Excerpt from Young Ben Franklin,” how does the timeline support a point the author makes in paragraph 6? Use two details from the article to support your response.**

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