

# Black History Month

## JACKIE ROBINSON



### BREAKING THE COLOR BARRIER:

In 1947, Jackie joined the Brooklyn Dodgers, becoming the first African American to play in Major League Baseball. Despite facing racial abuse, including death threats, he remained focused on his game, inspiring others on playing Jackie was

### JACKIE ROBINSON

January 31, 1918, in Cairo, Georgia, Jackie was the youngest of five children. His family shortly after his birth, and his siblings to move to Pasadena, where he developed a passion for watching his older brothers excel.

participated in various sports, football, baseball, tennis, and swimming. On the field, he faced racism, where he played alongside white players, treated as a second-class citizen off the field.

### COLLEGE YEARS AT UCLA:

Jackie continued his athletic journey at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), earning varsity letters in track, baseball, football, and basketball. He even won the NCAA Championship in the long jump, showcasing his versatility in sports.

### MILITARY SERVICE DURING WORLD WAR II:

With the outbreak of World War II, Jackie's baseball career was cut short as he joined the military. Despite facing discrimination, he served in the 761st Central Postal Directory, earning a honorable discharge in 1946.

### MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL JOURNEY

Jackie joined Branch Rickey and joined the Brooklyn Dodgers, a team in the Negro League. Branch Rickey, the general manager for the Brooklyn Dodgers, was determined to integrate Major League Baseball, even in the minor leagues but maintained his position as the league's MVP award.



best  
at  
Puns,  
-Star  
League

Five For Chock Full Of  
The African American  
the NAACP until 1947,  
causes.

Friends beyond sports,  
in baseball, paving the  
American players. In 1942,  
in American inducted  
me, and the Dodgers  
72.

For civil rights and  
issues. He  
moves depicting his  
ber 24, 1972, but his  
Jackie Robinson  
a wife Rachel,  
19 people through  
programs.

### JACKIE ROBINSON

Comprehension Questions

#### CHOOSE THE RIGHT ANSWER.

Jackie Robinson born?  
City  
rgia  
California  
Connecticut

Jackie Robinson's role in the 761st Central Postal Directory during World War II?

vice officer

Jackie Robinson join before integration in baseball?

Major League  
Baseball League  
American League  
National Baseball League

What was Branch Rickey's role in Jackie Robinson's career?

General manager  
of the team  
pre

In which year did Jackie Robinson become the first African American to play in Major League Baseball?

**NO-REP & EDITABLE**

**READING COMPREHENSION**



## JACKIE ROBINSON

Born on January 31, 1919, in Cairo, Georgia, Jackie Robinson was the youngest of five children. His father left the family shortly after his birth, leaving Jackie and his siblings to move to Pasadena, California, where he developed a passion for sports while watching his older brothers excel.

### HIGH SCHOOL:

Growing up, Jackie participated in various sports, including track, football, baseball, tennis, and basketball. Despite excelling on the field, he faced racism in high school, where he played alongside white teammates but was treated as a second-class citizen off the field.



### COLLEGE YEARS AT UCLA:

Jackie continued his athletic career at the University of California, where he earned varsity letters in football and basketball, and a Championship in sportsmanship in sports.

### MILITARY SERVICE WORLD WAR II

With the outbreak of World War II, Jackie's professional football career was cut short. He was drafted into the army. Despite facing segregation, he served in the 761st Central Postal Directory, leaving with an honorable discharge in 1946.

### PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL JOURNEY

In 1946, Jackie married Rachel Isum and joined the Kansas City Monarchs, a team in the Negro Baseball League. Branch Rickey, the general manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers, approached Jackie, aiming to integrate baseball. Jackie faced racism even in the minor leagues, but he persevered, winning the league's MVP award.



### BREAKING THE COLOR BARRIER:

In 1947, Jackie joined the Brooklyn Dodgers, becoming the first African American to play in Major League Baseball. Despite facing racial abuse, including death threats, he remained steadfast and focused on playing baseball. The Dodgers won the pennant, and Jackie was named Rookie of the Year.

### JACKIE'S BASEBALL LEGACY:

Jackie Robinson went on to become one of the best baseball players in the major leagues, boasting a career batting average of .31. He hit 137 home runs, had 107 stolen bases, and was named to the All-Star Team six times. In 1949, he earned the National League MVP title.

### LEGACY BEYOND BASEBALL

After retiring in 1957, Jackie worked as an executive for Chock Full O'Nuts and contributed to the establishment of the African American-owned Freedom Bank. He served on the board of the NAACP until 1987, leaving a lasting impact on civil rights and social causes.



Jackie Robinson's legacy extends beyond sports. He broke the color barrier in baseball, paving the way for future African American players. In 1962, he became the first African American inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame, and the Dodgers retired his number, 42, in 1972.

Jackie was a vocal advocate for civil rights and various social and political causes. His contributions led to several movies depicting his life. He passed away on October 24, 1972, but his legacy lives on through the Jackie Robinson Foundation, established by his wife Rachel, dedicated to supporting young people through scholarships and mentoring programs.



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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# JACKIE ROBINSON

## Comprehension Questions

**DIRECTIONS: CHOOSE THE RIGHT ANSWER.**

**I. Where was Jackie Robinson born?**

- New York City
- Cairo, Georgia
- Pasadena, California
- Stamford, Connecticut

**2. What was Jackie Robinson's role in the 761st Tank Battalion during World War II?**

- Pilot
- Medic
- Tank driver
- Intelligence officer

**3. Which league did Jackie Robinson join before integrating Major League Baseball?**

- National League
- Negro Baseball League
- American League
- Canadian League

## Answers Key

### MCQ ANSWERS:

- Cairo, Georgia
- Tank driver
- Negro Baseball League
- General manager
- 1947
- St
- 1947
- Coffee company executive
- 1947
- Honoring Jackie's life and work through scholarships and mentoring programs

### EXPLANATION QUESTIONS:

**1. Describe Jackie Robinson's early exposure to sports. How did his family background influence his interest in athletics?**

Jackie Robinson's early exposure to sports was influenced by watching his older brothers excel. His brother Mack, was a track star, and Jackie participated in various sports, including track, football, baseball, tennis, and basketball.

**2. Detail Jackie Robinson's college years at UCLA. Which sports did he excel in, and what significant achievement did he attain during his college athletic career?**

At UCLA, Jackie excelled in track, baseball, football, and basketball. He won the NCAA Championship in the long jump, becoming the first athlete of UCLA to earn varsity letters in all four sports.

**3. Explain the challenges and racism Jackie Robinson faced during his time in the military. How did he respond to segregation, and what led to his departure with an honorable discharge?**

Jackie Robinson faced racism in the military, where he joined the 761st Tank Battalion, composed of African American soldiers. He faced trouble for refusing to move to the back of an army bus but left with an honorable discharge in 1945.

**4. Discuss the circumstances that led Jackie Robinson to join the Brooklyn Dodgers. How did Branch Rickey approach him, and what challenges did Robinson face upon entering Major League Baseball?**

Branch Rickey, the general manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers,

c. 400

d. 500

Robinson retire from baseball?

What role did Jackie Robinson play post-retirement?

What did he do after his executive employer?

Which league did Jackie Robinson induct into the Baseball Hall of Fame?

- 1962
- 1980

What was the primary focus of the Jackie Robinson Foundation?

What did the foundation do? (e.g., wildlife conservation, space exploration, Jackie's life and work through scholarships and grants, fighting for environmental sustainability)

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

How did Jackie Robinson's early exposure to sports. How did his family background influence his interest in athletics?

What was Jackie Robinson's college years at UCLA. Which sports did he excel in, and what significant achievement did he attain during his college athletic career?

Explain the challenges and racism Jackie Robinson faced during his time in the military. How did he respond to segregation, and what led to his departure with an honorable discharge?

Detail Jackie Robinson's college years at UCLA. Which sports did he excel in, and what significant achievement did he attain during his college athletic career?

Discuss the circumstances that led Jackie Robinson to join the Brooklyn Dodgers. How did Branch Rickey approach him, and what challenges did Robinson face upon entering Major League Baseball?

Discuss Jackie Robinson's legacy beyond baseball. What were his contributions to civil rights and social causes post-retirement? How was he recognized through the Jackie Robinson Foundation?

Jackie Robinson's baseball

Jackie Robinson was the first African

Jackie Robinson's average in the

## MCQ'S & QUESTIONS

## ANSWER KEY INCLUDED

**READY TO PRINT**

**NO-PREP !**

**JUST PRINT AND GO!**



**EASY EDITING**

**EDITABLE**

**\*FONTS ARE EMBEDDED FOR CONVENIENCE**

