

Read the article. Think about the key details you would choose to retell the important information.

Leading the Way

In 1865, the 13th Amendment to the Constitution made slavery illegal in the United States. Amendments in 1866 and 1869 protected the rights of all citizens. This did not mean that African Americans were treated fairly. Many southern states passed laws to segregate, or keep apart, African Americans from whites.

African Americans were prevented from playing on all-white Major League Baseball teams. They had to play in the separate Negro National League. In 1947, Jackie Robinson became the first African American to join a modern, white Major League Baseball team.

A talented all-around athlete, Jackie earned awards in four sports in one college season: track and field, football, basketball, and baseball. He knew playing in the white baseball league would not be easy.



An angry crowd spat on and booed Jackie when he took the field with his white Brooklyn Dodgers teammates. Players from the other team shouted at him. He received hate mail and death threats. Even some of Jackie's teammates didn't want him there.

The best way Jackie knew to fight prejudice was to play better than anyone else. He stayed focused on baseball and chose not to fight back.

Jackie played Major League Baseball for ten years. During that time, he won many awards. He was elected into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1962. He was admired not only for his great skill as a baseball player, but also for the bravery, patience, and self-control he showed when others treated him unfairly and cruelly.

Many books have been written about Jackie Robinson and his accomplishments. Other African Americans were able to play on the Major League Baseball, Basketball, and Football teams after Jackie. He broke the color barrier for all people of color.

Use details from the article to fill in the details in this retelling.

Jackie Robinson was a great **1** player. He was the first **2** to play in the white major leagues. He broke the color **3**. He made it possible for people of all **4** to play on the same teams.

Even though Jackie was a great **5**, it was not easy for him to play on a **6** team. Even some teammates didn't want him there. The crowd spat and **7** at him when he was on the field. He received hate **8** and death threats.

Jackie showed **9** when he was treated **10**. He didn't **11** back. Instead, he played his best. He won many **12** and earned respect. He was not only a great athlete, but also a brave and inspiring man.

Tip

To locate **key words and phrases**, you can scan an article that you've already read instead of rereading the entire article.



A	B	C	D	E	F
white	African American	skin colors	baseball	barrier	self-control
awards	mail	booed	unfairly	athlete	fight
G	H	I	J	K	L

Objective: Identify key ideas and key details in informational text (description, sequence, cause and effect); research a topic for more information.

