

Name _____

Baseball Legends: Iconic Players Who Shaped the Sport

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. I would choose to meet Jackie Robinson because he broke barriers and paved the way for future generations of Black athletes. I would ask him about the challenges he faced and the lessons he learned during his historic journey in baseball.
2. Babe Ruth's trade from the Boston Red Sox to the New York Yankees transformed the Yankees into a powerhouse team and marked the beginning of their dynasty. It also shifted the balance of power in baseball, making the Yankees one of the most successful franchises in the history of the sport.
3. Jackie Robinson's breaking of the color barrier in Major League Baseball was a significant moment in the civil rights movement. It challenged racial segregation and discrimination, inspiring change not only in sports but also in society as a whole. It showed that talent and character were not determined by one's race.
4. In his farewell speech, Lou Gehrig meant that despite his illness and the challenges he faced, he considered himself lucky to have had the opportunity to play baseball and lead a fulfilling life. He expressed gratitude for the support of his fans and teammates.

