

Name _____

Mickey Mantle: The Baseball Legend

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Mickey Mantle's three American League Most Valuable Player (MVP) awards are significant because they reflect his consistent excellence and impact on the sport. Winning the award multiple times places him in an elite category of players who made a substantial difference to their teams and the game.
2. Mickey Mantle's switch-hitting ability made him unique and valuable in baseball because it allowed him to bat from both sides of the plate, making it challenging for pitchers to strategize against him. This versatility made him a formidable offensive threat.
3. The "M&M Boys" home run race in 1961 had a significant impact on Mickey Mantle's legacy and the sport of baseball by capturing the imagination of fans and revitalizing interest in the game. It showcased Mantle's incredible hitting abilities and contributed to the enduring popularity of baseball.
4. Mickey Mantle's name and legacy continue to be celebrated in the world of baseball today because of his extraordinary talent, numerous awards, and his role as an enduring symbol of the New York Yankees' rich history. His contributions to the Mickey Mantle Foundation also ensure that his legacy lives on by supporting important causes in medical research and youth development.

