

Baseball in Black and White



Baseball has been popular in the U.S. for more than 150 years and many things have changed over that period. Are the following statements about African American baseball players and the Negro League true or false?

1. An African American played semi-professional baseball on a white team shortly after the game became "the national pastime" following the Civil War.

- True False

2. By 1887, about 30 African Americans were playing on minor league teams with whites.

- True False

3. Jackie Robinson was the first African American to play on a professional major league baseball team.

- True False

4. When Brooklyn Dodgers president and general manager Branch Rickey signed Jackie Robinson to play, Robinson had already demonstrated that he was the best player in the Negro Leagues.

- True False

5. Professional baseball's night games, played under lights, first appeared in the Negro Leagues as a way to cope with the heavy scheduling demands of barnstorming play.

- True False

Sources:

Satchel Paige and Jackie Robinson. Courtesy of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum.

<http://teachinghistory.org/history-content/quiz>