

Name:



Day Two

The Hard Luck Mets

Part 1: Tricky phrases and words

→ Read these phrases and words **out loud** to your partner.

- The years that followed
- The Mets have continued to work hard
- had a classic Latin style of play
- He reached out to find talented new players
- the Mets have had more great seasons

- Orioles **OR** | ee | uhlz
- Minaya min | **AH** | yuh
- Martinez mar | **TEE** | nez
- Dominican duh | **MIN** | ih | kun
- Beltran bel | **TRAHN**



Decoding practice:

We break words into syllables between double consonants in the middle of words.

- Underline the double consonants
- Draw a line between the double consonants
- Put a short vowel sign [˘] over the first vowel
- Say the word with your partner

The first one is done for you.

l[˘]osses

flummox

classic

bullet

stirrup

batting



Day Two

// one minute

The Hard Luck Mets

Part 2: Last read

WPM _____

The Mets are baseball’s underdogs. They played their first season in 1962. That year, they had the most losses in baseball history—120! The years that followed were grim. Each season, the Mets came in last or second-to-last in the league.

In 1969, something happened to delight the Mets’ loyal fans. In a game that would	58
flummox the world of baseball, the Mets upset the Baltimore Orioles in the World Series.	73
The underdogs had beaten the powerhouse. The 1969 team was called the “Miracle Mets.”	87

The Mets have continued to work hard to put together more great teams. When Omar	102
Minaya became general manager in 2004, he brought a spark. He was baseball’s first	116
Latino general manager. He signed Pedro Martinez, a Dominican pitcher with a fastball	129
like a bullet. He also signed Puerto Rican batting ace Carlos Beltran.	141

Minaya’s Mets had a classic Latin style of play—fast and aggressive. He reached out to	157
find talented new players in Latin America. The team built a Spanish website and	171
sometimes wore jerseys that said “Los Mets.” <i>New York Magazine</i> called the Mets “the	185
new Latin dream team.”	189

Minaya was fired in 2010. However, this was not the end of Los Mets. Many of Minaya’s	206
excellent Latino players remained.	210

Since then, the Mets have had more great seasons. Their fans are among the most loyal in	227
baseball. They chat about big wins and mistakes online. They debate changes in players’	241
uniforms, right down to their stirrup socks. They watch each game with fresh hope.	255

Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

Would you rather root for a team that often wins, or an underdog? Why?

Share your answer with your partner. What did your partner say?
