

Name:

## Day One

# The Hard Luck Mets

### Part 1: Silent read

➔ Can the Mets shake off their losing ways? Read silently.

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 flummox the world of baseball, the Mets upset the Baltimore Orioles in the World Series. The underdogs had beaten the powerhouse. The 1969 team was called the “Miracle Mets.”

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

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

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

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

Source: “Los Mets,” *New York Magazine*, March 7, 2005.



# Day One

// one minute

## The Hard Luck Mets

### Part 2: First timed read

WPM \_\_\_\_\_

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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

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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
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### Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

What kind of team is the Mets?

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Why are the Mets sometimes called Los Mets?

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## Day One

# The Hard Luck Mets

### Part 4: Phrase-cued reading

- Read the passage **out loud** in phrases to your partner.
- Pause at each / mark for a phrase.
- Also pause at each // mark that shows the end of a sentence.

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 flummox the world of baseball, / the Mets upset the Baltimore Orioles / in the World Series. // The underdogs had beaten the powerhouse. // The 1969 team was called the “Miracle Mets.” //

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I read the passage in phrases out loud to my partner.