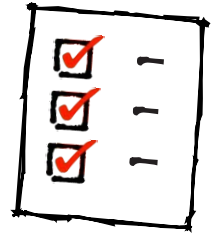


Name:

Day Two

Viadimir's Way

Part 1: Tricky phrases and words



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

- Some say he had the strongest arm in baseball
- he became a great athlete by believing in his own style of play
- People criticized his wild swings
- A common baseball joke is that Guerrero's strike zone
- Guerrero's batting was unusual in another way
- and then he rubbed it on his hands before batting

- Vladimir **VLAD** | ih | meer
- Guerrero guh | **RAY** | roh
- individual in | dih | **VIH** | joo | ul
- criticized **KRIH** | tih | seyezd
- announcer uh | **NOWN** | sur
- unusual un | **YOO** | zhoo | ul
- cockiness **KAH** | kee | nuss
- selfishness **SELL** | fish | niss
- unique yoo | **NEEK**



Decoding practice:

Circle the base words in the longer words below. Remember, a base word shows the core meaning of a longer word. The base word includes no word endings or prefixes. The first one has been done for you.

hit**ter**

strongest

sticky

unusual

selfishness



Day Two Vladimir's Way

// one minute

Part 2: Last read

WPM _____

Vladimir Guerrero was a unique player in the world of major league baseball. He was a confident hitter, a lightning-fast base stealer, and a strong right fielder. Some say he had the strongest arm in baseball. Guerrero is a true individual; he became a great athlete by believing in his own style of play.

When Guerrero was a young player, he often struck out. Most baseball players only swing at pitches inside the strike zone. Guerrero swung at pitches that were far outside. People criticized his wild swings. In his best years, he swung at pitches far outside the strike zone. However, he often turned those wild pitches into home runs. A common baseball joke is that Guerrero's strike zone was bigger than everyone else's. An announcer once joked, "Guerrero's strike zone starts when he gets out of bed in the morning."

Guerrero's batting was unusual in another way. He didn't wear batting gloves. He says he developed tough hands as a boy in the Dominican Republic, helping his grandfather tend cows. For a better grip on the bat, he smeared dark, sticky pine tar on his helmet, and then he rubbed it on his hands before batting.

Guerrero's attitude was as unusual as his batting style. "He doesn't act like a superstar," said a teammate. "He has no cockiness or selfishness. He's so down to earth it's crazy. And this guy is a *super star*."

Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

Coaches often tell baseball players to wait for a good pitch. Why do you think Guerrero swung at balls outside of the strike zone?

Check in about what your partner thinks.

- My partner thinks Guerrero was smart to swing at any ball he can hit.
- My partner thinks Guerrero should have waited for the good pitches.

What reason does your partner give?
