

Bobby Baseball

By Robert Smith

Robert Ebenezer Ellis (Sneezer, Bobby Baseball) – main character; 10; likes baseball and writing; has a bad temper; pitcher/second base; B-level player; #9

Sammy Ellis – Bobby's older brother; 14; thick eyeglasses; former catcher

Charles Ellis (Chuck) – Bobby's father; played 2nd base in the St. Louis Cardinals farm system; sells insurance; coaches Bobby's team

Molly Herr– Bobby's mother; English teacher; loves to read; good Scrabble player

Albert Herr – Bobby's grandfather; St. Louis Cardinals fan; lives with Bobby's family

Jason Moss (Jumpin') – Bobby's best friend; tall, freckles; lives down the street; left handed; plays 1st base; loves music; B-player; #7

Ned Robbins (Jelly Belly) – catcher; overweight

Jimmy Rossillo – starting catcher; tough kid who gets in trouble at school

Jane DeMuth (Mouth) – 2nd base; right handed; small; talks a lot; bunts well; #11

Freddie Miller – center; becomes pitcher; #3; throws hard

Nancy Moriarty – backup outfielder; Mouth's friend; not a skilled player

Jack Ulman – back up first

Sean Gardner (Gardy) – #43

Mike Lum – 3rd

Tony Gomez – shortstop; #14

Roger Tucker – backup 2nd

Karl Peters (KP) – infielder; #23

Mike Marder– left; #34

Bill Alston– right

Mike Lum – 3rd

Miss DeBoer– Bobby's teacher; complains that Bobby only writes about baseball

Jack Sheridan – coach of the Rangers; Dad's friend; usually has good teams

Baseball Book– notebook in which Bobby writes his thoughts about baseball

Learning League– 7-9 year old beginning baseball; T-ball/coach pitch

Mustang League– must be 10 to play in this league

Hawks– Mustang League team that Bobby plays on and his dad coaches

Haiti – Major League baseballs are made here

Jane Austen – Bobby's mother's favorite author

Kids Club– formerly Boys Club; runs the baseball program

Schenley Park– location of the baseball fields

Savage Towels– Jason's favorite music group

Hawks 17, Jays 8 (Bobby pitched entire game)

Hawks 16, Lions 7 (Bobby pitched entire game)

Hawks 12+?, Tigers 5 (Freddie pitched last two innings)

Hawks 3, Bankers 10 (Bobby taken out in 2nd inning)

Hawks 3, Rangers 4 (Freddie pitched entire game)

Final Record: 6-4

Bobby's season batting average: .083 (2 hits)

1. When they were younger, how did Bobby hurt Sammy?
 - a. Broke Sammy's nose with a baseball
 - b. Bit Sammy's hand.**
 - c. Scratched Sammy's face.
2. What is Bobby's great ambition at the beginning of the book?
 - a. Play for his father on the Hawk's.
 - b. Pitch a no hitter.
 - c. Become a major league pitcher.**
3. Why did Sammy stop playing baseball?
 - a. He didn't like playing catcher.
 - b. His eyesight was not good enough to play.**
 - c. He couldn't get along with his father when he played.
4. What is Bobby's worse fault?
 - a. He doesn't have much self-confidence.
 - b. He loses his temper too easily.**
 - c. He doesn't try hard enough.
5. What kind of books does Grandpa like to read?
 - a. Books about baseball.
 - b. Westerns**
 - c. Historical books.
6. What does Grandpa read to the family every day from the newspaper?
 - a. A fact for the day.**
 - b. The baseball box scores.
 - c. The national headlines.
7. What upsets Bobby's dad the most when he is coaching baseball players?
 - a. Players who come late to practice.
 - b. Players who strike out.
 - c. Players who make mental mistakes.**
8. How much was the deposit on the Mustang League uniforms?
 - a. \$20
 - b. \$25**
 - c. \$30
9. What was Bobby's job at Mustang League registration?
 - a. Write down the players nicknames.
 - b. Keep track of the pens.**
 - c. Pass out the uniforms.
10. What does Jason want Bobby to ask his father?
 - a. He wants to play first base.
 - b. He wants to be on the Hawks.**
 - c. He wants to be a pitcher.
11. Besides being best friends, why else does Bobby want Jason on the Hawks?
 - a. Jason hits a lot of home runs.
 - b. Jason helps Bobby keep his temper.**

- c. Jason brings the best snacks to practice.
12. What kind of movie does Bobby NOT like?
 - a. **Horror movies with a lot of blood.**
 - b. Romantic movies.
 - c. Movies based on true stories.
 13. Which game does Mom always win?
 - a. Monopoly
 - b. Poker
 - c. **Scrabble**
 14. What code do the coaches assign to the players?
 - a. They rate the players on a scale from 1 to 10.
 - b. **They rate all the players as A, B or C.**
 - c. They rate all the players with 0 to 4 stars.
 15. How do the coaches use the ratings?
 - a. They use the ratings to decide who gets to play in the all-star game.
 - b. **They use the ratings to try to make the teams even.**
 - c. They use the ratings to decide who gets to move up to the Pony League.
 16. Why is Jason rated as a B player?
 - a. He runs too slowly.
 - b. He drops the ball too often.
 - c. **He strikes out too often.**
 17. What does Bobby rub into his glove?
 - a. Olive oil.
 - b. **Neat's foot oil.**
 - c. Grease.
 18. What does Grandpa do when he can't sleep?
 - a. **Pitches an imaginary game.**
 - b. Counts sheep.
 - c. Reads Westerns.
 19. What does Bobby do in front of the mirror in his bedroom?
 - a. Flexes his muscles.
 - b. **Pitches imaginary games.**
 - c. Combs his hair.
 20. How many players on the Hawks hadn't played in the Learning Leagues?
 - a. 1 player
 - b. **2 players**
 - c. 3 players
 21. What was the first question Mouth asked the coach?
 - a. Where is the bathroom?
 - b. Where is right field?
 - c. **What does benched mean?**
 22. What did Coach correct about the way Mouth threw the ball?
 - a. She threw the ball underhand.
 - b. **She threw off the wrong foot.**
 - c. She didn't throw the ball hard enough.
 23. What do the Hawks do to warm-up before practice starts?

- a. Jumping jacks.
 - b. Jump rope.
 - c. **Run around the field.**
24. Why was Bobby's dad angry with him after the first practice?
- a. **Bobby laughed when his dad was talking to the team.**
 - b. Bobby told everyone he was going to be the pitcher.
 - c. Bobby wouldn't help pick up the equipment after practice.
25. What does Bobby's dad say is the way to win games?
- a. Hitting home runs.
 - b. **Defense.**
 - c. Stealing bases.
26. Which position does Bobby think is the hardest, ugliest job on a baseball team?
- a. Pitcher.
 - b. Center field.
 - c. **Catcher.**
27. What was Sammy in charge of at Hawk practices?
- a. Warming up the team.
 - b. **Practicing with the catchers.**
 - c. Picking up all the equipment.
28. How was Mouth injured during practice?
- a. Jason spiked her sliding into second base.
 - b. **She was hit in the mouth by a ball.**
 - c. Bobby threw a bat and hit her in the head.
29. Why did Sammy play catcher even though he hated it?
- a. **Because his Dad couldn't find anyone to play the position.**
 - b. Because his Dad told him he could be an all-star catcher.
 - c. Because Grandpa used to play catcher.
30. What does Sammy spend his free time doing?
- a. Reading.
 - b. **Using the computer.**
 - c. Playing Scrabble.
31. What is neat's foot oil made from?
- a. Whale blubber.
 - b. Beaver's feet.
 - c. **Cow bones.**
32. What did Bobby's father ask him to write on the clipboard?
- a. **Each player's number and nickname.**
 - b. How many hits each player on the team got.
 - c. The size of each player's shirt.
33. What are the colors on the Hawk's uniform?
- a. Grey with blue stripes.
 - b. Red with grey stripes.
 - c. **Light blue with red stripes.**
34. Why didn't Mouth want the first uniform she was given?
- a. The uniform was too big.
 - b. She didn't want the nickname Mouth printed on the uniform.

- c. She didn't like the number 4.**
35. Which mental mistake did Bobby make in the first intra-squad game?
- He didn't cover first.**
 - He threw the ball to the wrong base.
 - He forgot to tag up.
36. What did Bobby tell his mother he was upset about?
- His brother scored his two hits in the first game as errors.
 - His father yelled at him too much.**
 - His father wouldn't let him pitch the whole game.
37. What disagreement do Bobby and Sammy have about how Sammy scored the first game?
- How many wild pitches he threw.
 - How many hits he gave up.**
 - Who got credit for winning the game.
38. What special batting skill does Mouth develop?
- Mouth can bunt for a hit.**
 - Mouth can hit home runs.
 - Mouth can hit both right and left handed.
39. Why did Bobby get angry during the Tiger's game?
- Jason made an error and they lost the game.
 - Ned dropped the ball and let a run score.
 - Bobby's dad put Freddie in to pitch the last two innings.**
40. What did Bobby do when he was taken out of the Tiger's game?
- Threw the ball over the backstop.
 - Threw his mitt on the ground and kicked the bench.**
 - Quit the team.
41. Why does Freddie have potential as a pitcher?
- He can throw the ball hard, even though he is wild.**
 - He always throws strikes.
 - His father pitched on a college baseball team.
42. What is Bobby's favorite job around the house?
- Walking the dog.
 - Washing the dishes.
 - Working on the lawn.**
43. Why was Bobby confused during the Banker's game?
- The umpire kept calling all his pitches as balls.
 - The other team kept getting hits.**
 - He didn't understand the signals from the catcher.
44. What did Bobby do when his father took him out of the Banker's game?
- Threw the ball over the backstop.**
 - Threw his mitt on the ground and kicked the bench.
 - Quit the team.
45. What is Bobby's punishment for his behavior during the Banker's game?
- He won't be allowed to pitch again.
 - His father benched him.**
 - His father traded him to another team.

46. Why did Bobby quit the Hawks?
- The Hawks started losing all their games.
 - His father told him Freddie would pitch the rest of the games.**
 - His father told him he had to play catcher.
47. Who called Bobby on the phone to try to convince him not to quit?
- Jason and Freddie
 - Mouth and Ned
 - Jason and Mouth**
48. How did Bobby get to the Ranger's game?
- He rode his bike.**
 - His grandpa drove him.
 - He took the bus.
49. Bobby's dad said that the worst thing in the world is _____
- Not obeying your coach.
 - Making mental mistakes.
 - Finding out you aren't as good as you think you are.**
50. What did Bobby decide to do with his baseball book?
- Throw it away.
 - Tear out the baseball pages and use it as a journal.
 - Hide it in the back of his closet.**
51. How long was Bobby benched after he came back from quitting the team?
- The rest of the season.
 - Three games.**
 - All the regular season games.
52. How many home runs did Jason hit?
- He hit one every game.
 - He only hit one.
 - He didn't hit any.**
53. Bobby realized that Mouth was better at _____ than he was.
- Playing second base.**
 - Hitting.
 - Pitching.
54. Where was Ned going over the summer?
- A baseball camp.
 - A camp to lose weight.**
 - His grandparent's cabin.
55. What is Bobby's new dream?
- The first person to walk on Mars.
 - Winning the Nobel Prize in literature.**
 - Becoming a published author.