**Menese International Schools**

**Language Arts Grade 4**

**Reading Comprehension**

**Mighty Jackie**

1. **What is a biography?**

**It is a real story that tells about a famous person’s life and is written by another person.**

1. **What is the setting and main character in the story?**

**The main character is Jackie Mitchell. The setting is a baseball stadium in Chattanooga, Tennessee in 1931.**

1. **Why were people so surprised to see Jackie Mitchell on the pitcher’s mound?**

**She was just 17, she was a girl, and she was pitching against the Yankees.**

1. **Why did the news reporter say that Jackie would swing “a mean lipstick”?**

**He was making fun of her because she was a girl. He didn’t believe she could really play baseball well.**

1. **How can you describe the reporter from the New York Daily News? Why?**

**He is mean, sarcastic, and nasty because he compared Jackie to a trained seal.**

1. **What can you tell about the kind of person Jackie was?**

**She was independent and courageous because she didn’t listen to all the people who said she shouldn’t play baseball.**

1. **What gave Jackie the confidence that she could succeed as a pitcher?**

**Her father coached her and encouraged her. A real pitcher taught her how to pitch.**

1. **Why do you think the author goes back in time to describe Jackie as a child?**

**To show that she worked hard all her life to be a good baseball player and to show that she had coaching.**

1. **How do you think Jackie felt when Babe Ruth stepped up to the plate?**

**She felt nervous, determined, in control, and confident.**

1. **Compare the way Babe felt after the second strike with the way Jackie felt?**

**Babe Ruth was angry because a girl is making him look bad. Jackie felt calm and confident.**

1. **What happened that stunned the crowd?**

**A girl had struck out Babe Ruth. No one thought that was possible.**

1. **How did Jackie prove that striking out Babe Ruth was not just a fluke?**

**She struck out Lou Gehrig next.**

**Think Critically**

1. **How did Jackie Mitchell become a talented pitcher?**

**Her father told her she could be good at whatever she wanted, as long as she worked hard at it. Dazzy Vance, a real pitcher, taught her how to pitch. She practiced long and hard.**

1. **How does the author show Jackie’s personality? What were her motives for playing against the Yankees?**

**She showed that she was a determined and confident person by describing her efforts to learn how to pitch. She wanted to play against the Yankees because she wanted to prove that baseball was not just for boys.**

1. **Why do you think the fans’ feelings about Jackie changed during the course of the game?**

**At the beginning of the game, the fans were not sure about Jackie’s ability. They were waiting for her to make a mistake. When she succeeded in striking out two great batters, the fans came to respect her.**