

"A Boy Among Men"

(perspective of a batboy)
by Lawson Inada

Don't be deceived
By the smiles.
These are tough,
Strong men
Wise to the ways
Of strategies
And survival

Don't be deceived
By the smiles.
These are the men
Who could handle
Crates and shovels,
Who could handle
Heat.

Don't be deceived
By the smiles.
These are the men

Who could shoulder
History,
Who could shoulder
Responsibility

Don't be deceived
By the smiles.
These are the men
Of serious
Spirit,
Of serious
Dignity.

Don't be deceived
By the smiles,
These are the men
Who could give
And take
As good as any,
On a level field.

Don't be deceived
By the smiles.
These are the men
Of grace
And skill,
Of power
And will,
Who could stride
From the shadows
Of barracks
And guardtowers
Just to play
A little ball—
Smiling!

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Paraphrase Chart Quote 1

"Baseball Behind Barbed Wire"

Name _____
 Name _____

"It was a great disappointment to myself and the members of the Butte baseball team when we learned of the cancellation of our return game. I sincerely hope that we may meet once again not as a team perhaps but as a single member of Uncle Sam and fight together for one principle."

—Kenichi Zenimura,
 Letter to Coach Hank Slagle, Tucson Badgers

<p>Notes Jot down your first impressions. What is the quote dealing with? What facts can be determined at first glance?</p>	<p>Our Paraphrase Write 1–2 complete sentences explaining the main ideas or points of the quote <i>in your own words</i>.</p>
<p>Our Thoughts What feelings, predictions or conclusions were you able to draw from the quote? Were there any surprises? What was the most important knowledge that you gained from this quote?</p>	
<p>Teacher's Comments</p>	

Adapted by J. Kuropatkin from <http://www.volusia.k12.fl.us/CURRICULUM/SocialStudy/WebPage/GraphicOrganizersWebPage/index.htm> (accessed September 3, 2009)

Paraphrase Chart Quote 2

“Baseball Behind Barbed Wire”

Name _____
 Name _____

“As for the possibility of canceling our game we had never given it a minutes thought till we arrived home and started hearing from some of these so called 100% Americans. I sincerely hope it won't be too long till we are all thinking straight again and can live together in a true democracy that we Americans of all races have created.”
 —Coach Hank Slagle, Tucson Badgers,
 Response to Coach Kenichi Zenimura, Butte Eagles

<p>Notes Jot down your first impressions. What is the quote dealing with? What facts can be determined at first glance?</p>	<p>Our Paraphrase Write 1–2 complete sentences explaining the main ideas or points of the quote <i>in your own words</i>.</p>
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Worksheet

“Baseball Behind Barbed Wire”

<http://www.kold.com/Global/story.asp?S=5605750> (accessed September 5, 2009)

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Name _____

Date _____ Period _____

Directions: Read the KOLD news article, “Baseball Behind Barbed Wire,” then answer the following questions in COMPLETE SENTENCES.

1. How many Americans of Japanese ancestry were imprisoned by Executive Order 9066? _____
2. Kenichi Zenimura “took the initiative.” What does that mean? _____

3. How did the post game watermelon feast affect the Tucson players? _____

4. The Tucson team didn’t get a chance to make up for their extra-inning loss. Why not? _____

5. What might have been *other* reasons that the Butte team didn’t get to play in Tucson? _____

6. How does the reader know that the reunion meant a lot to the players? _____

Directions: Substitute a synonym for the underlined word in each sentence below.

7. The game was a testament to both Zenimura and Slagle’s management.

8. However, due to what was deemed by the Tucson community as “security precautions” the game was never played.

9. It was a breaking of racial and cultural boundaries and a true example of sportsmanship and camaraderie.

Adapted by J. Kuropatkin from <http://www.volusia.k12.fl.us/CURRICULUM/SocialStdy/WebPage/GraphicOrganizersWebPage/index.htm> (accessed September 3, 2009)