

# Breaking Barriers Essay Organizer



**I**n baseball, you have to follow bases as you run. Likewise, when you write an essay, each step is important to make sure what you write is effective. Follow these four steps to make sure you're off to a good start.

## Start Here

### 1 CHOOSE YOUR TOPIC

Brainstorm some ideas of barriers in your life. Choose one that you overcame, or are overcoming, by using one of Jackie Robinson's Nine Values.

HOME  
PLATE

### 4 WRITE YOUR TOPIC SENTENCES

Use the details from your outline to help you. Try writing practice sentences to get to the topic sentence you want. Now you're ready to **begin writing your essay!**

FIRST  
BASE

THIRD  
BASE

### 2 WRITE OUT YOUR MAIN IDEAS

Make sure they relate to your topic.

SECOND  
BASE

### 3 CREATE AN OUTLINE

Remember that each main idea needs details to support it. Use the outline to help keep you on track as you write your essay.



**Enter the 2019 Contest!** Each year, April 15 marks the anniversary of Jackie Robinson breaking the color barrier in baseball in 1947. Honoring this important event, the Breaking Barriers Essay Contest is a chance for students in grades 4–9 to share their personal stories and how they use Jackie Robinson's Nine Values to face their own barriers.

For information on how to submit your essay, ask your teacher or visit [scholastic.com/breakingbarriers/kids](http://scholastic.com/breakingbarriers/kids).

## Jackie Robinson's Nine Values

Citizenship • Commitment • Courage • Determination • Excellence • Integrity • Justice • Persistence • Teamwork