

Score: 6 of a possible 6

Prompt: A role model is a person you look up to. Before you begin writing, think about someone you look up to. Why do you admire this person? Write a composition in which you explain to your classmates whom you admire and why you admire this person.

Essay:

A Pickle Pete Won't Get Out Of

If you record 3,000 hits in your Major League Baseball career, you are a special player and definitely on your way to the Hall of Fame. In this case, what would happen if you got 4,256 hits (Berman 56)? For Pete Rose, being the all-time hit leader in the MLB didn't get him to Cooperstown. In fact, "In 1989 Pete was banned from baseball" (Berman 57). Why was Rose banned? "While manager of the Reds, he placed bets on baseball games" (Berman 57). If Rose knew his consequences, which were missing out on baseball, he may have not made those bets. Pete even said himself, "My life is baseball" (Weinberg). Unfortunately, he can't have anything to do with it now. Rose was a phenomenal

Comment [h1]: Introduction.

player, who had everything going for him, but he messed it all up by betting on the game he loved.

Comment [h2]: Thesis statement (Icaim).

Pete Rose played like every game was his last. "He got tagged with the name, 'Charlie Hustle'" (Berman 55). However, Pete had great skill too. He has the 1963 Rookie of the Year award to prove it (Berman 55). Rose expressed his athleticism at multiple positions. In an autobiography, Pete wrote "I have know made the National League All Star team playing four different positions" (Rose 23). Pete was exceptionally good at hitting; at a point, in his career he did have a 44 game hit streak (Berman 56). "I hold the records , also, for the most singles, doubles, and total hits for switch-hitters in the whole history of Major League Baseball"(Rose 27). Not only could Rose play, but he was an outstanding leader too. Charlie Hustle was the team captain for the Cincinnati Reds (Rose 24). Pete had it all: he was a leader, who hustle and had complete skill set. Don't forget about all the fame and money he had. However, Pete found away to mess all of this up after he let his gambling problem get a little too far. "Rose was known as a huge gambler, often seen at race tracks"

Comment [h3]: First supporting paragraph.

(Weinberg). He should have just focused on baseball and never of gotten into gambling. He didn't need the money, and if he was really addicted, plenty of people would be more than glad to help him. Apparently he didn't want to get any help though.

Many people bet on the Super Bowl or on horse races, but Rose got out of hand. The idea of Rose betting started out as a rumor like all things do. "On April 1, the IRS seized betting slips with Rose's name, writing and prints on them. The next day, it was reported that Rose had bet \$8,000 to \$16,000 daily on baseball games during the 1987 season" (Weinberg). Rose, who was currently retired and coaching the Reds, was in trouble. "August 24, 1989, Thursday, 9 a.m. Giamatti, the commissioner of baseball, steps up to a microphone in New York City. One of the game's greatest players has engaged in a variety of acts which have stained the game, and he must now live with the consequences of those acts" (Weinberg). The whole baseball world was in shock, but none more than Cincinnati. "The city of Cincinnati is in mourning" (Weinberg). Pete was caught and should have confessed, yet he said "Despite what the

Comment [h4]: Second supporting paragraph.

commissioner said today, I didn't bet on baseball" (Weinberg). Those words just dug Pete himself a bigger hole. He was now seen as a gambler and some could say a liar after that comment.

When people think about the whole gambling scandal with Pete Rose, most people just think "Why Pete?" This isn't just because he made a mistake; it was because he was just so outstanding. People would die to be as good as Pete, and he ruined it all. There is no doubt the former Red and Phillie would have had his name on a plaque in the Baseball Hall of Fame. He holds so many records. For example, "I do hold the National League record for the most home-runs hit by a switch-hitter" (Rose 27). He also has tons of awards including a World Series trophy. "I have three silver bats for leading the league in hitting, a couple of golden gloves for fielding, and MVP trophy, and a World Series MVP trophy" (Rose 35). Some say he should be in the Hall of Fame because his outstanding play makes up for the fact that he broke the baseball rules. Pete can't have his number retired, and there can't even be pictures of him at ballparks. Pete now just lives a life away from baseball. He can watch it and play

Comment [h5]: Third supporting paragraph.

recreationally if he wants to. However, he is to have nothing to do with the MLB to this day.

Pete Rose messed up by gambling on baseball, and he was forced to pay the price for it. He would probably fix his past if he could, but he can't. Many want to get Pete back into the game others think he doesn't love the game enough if he bet on it. Whether you like him not, everyone knows he was a fantastic player. He was a hustler and leader too. When Pete gambled on the game as a manager it was all over for him. His legacy lives on in our minds but not involved with anything in the MLB. Pete is most likely thinking he should not have gambled, but thinking about what you should have done isn't good enough.

Comment [h6]: Conclusion.

Holistic Score:

This response demonstrates **advanced** success with the expository writing task. The essay:

- focuses consistently on a clear thesis
- shows effective organization throughout, with smooth transitions
- offers thoughtful, creative ideas
- develops ideas thoroughly, using examples, details, and fully elaborated explanation
- exhibits mature control of written language.