**Introduction**

Baseball is a bat-and-ball game played between two teams of nine players on a diamond-shaped field. The goal of the game is to score more runs than the other team. A run is scored when a player on the offensive team completes a circuit of the four bases on the field. Baseball, often known as America’s pastime, has a rich history that intertwines with the cultural fabric of the United States and has impacted many other parts of the world.

**Three things about baseball history are;**

1. The origins of baseball can be traced back to older bat-and-ball games such as cricket and rounders. Although the exact origins of the game are often disputed, it is widely accepted that the modern version of baseball began to take shape in the northeastern United States during the 19th century. The first officially recorded baseball game was played in 1846 in Hoboken, New Jersey, between the New York Nine and the Knickerbockers. The Knickerbockers also introduced the Knickerbocker Rules, which were some of the first formalized rules of the game. Baseball’s cultural significance grew as it became a symbol of national identity. During the Civil War, soldiers from different states played baseball to pass the time, and as they returned home, they took their love of the game with them, spreading its popularity. By the turn of the 20th century, baseball was deeply entrenched in American culture, celebrated in literature, music, and theater. It was seen as a democratic sport, where people from all walks of life could come together to enjoy the game.
2. One of the most pivotal moments in baseball history was the breaking of the color barrier by Jackie Robinson in 1947. Before Robinson’s entry into Major League Baseball (MLB), African American players were restricted to the Negro Leagues due to racial segregation. Robinson’s signing with the Brooklyn Dodgers and his successful career paved the way for the integration of the sport, leading to a more diverse and inclusive game that welcomed talent from various racial and ethnic backgrounds.
3. The era of free agency, beginning with the landmark case of Curt Flood in 1970 and culminating with the Seitz decision in 1975, transformed the business of baseball. Before free agency, players were bound to their teams indefinitely under the reserve clause. The advent of free agency allowed players to negotiate their contracts and move between teams, creating a more competitive market for their talents and dramatically increasing player salaries.

**The aspect that I think should be addressed to ensure the continued growth and health of baseball is;**

Globalization of the sport.

Efforts to globalize baseball—such as the World Baseball Classic—can expand its reach, bringing in new fans and players from around the world, enriching the diversity of talent, and growing the sport’s international fan base.

In conclusion, baseball’s rich history is a tapestry woven with threads of innovation, cultural significance, social progress, and economic transformation. Fostering the globalization of the sport is an essential step toward ensuring that baseball continues to evolve and captivate future generations.