



Read about Lee Trevino. Then do the exercises.

Lee Trevino was born in Dallas, Texas in 1939. He lived in a little four-room house across from the golf course at the Glen Lakes Country Club. He lived there with his mother, two sisters, and their grandfather.

The Trevinos didn't have an easy life. There was no light in the house. They couldn't afford electricity. There was no plumbing either. It was hard enough for Grandpa to give them food and clothes!

Little Lee Trevino spent most of his free time watching the golfers across the street. Sometimes he'd take an old stick. He'd stand just like the golfers across the street did with their golf clubs. Then he'd swing at the "ball." He'd swing just like the golfers did across the street. Thwack! Trouble was, Lee could only afford to swing at make-believe golf balls.

When he was old enough, Lee went to work at the country club. He got to see how golf was played close up. He watched the best players carefully. He wanted to remember what made them winners!

Lee Trevino signed up for service in the Marines when he was only 17. In the Marines he started to play golf and was soon invited to play in military tournaments.

After the service Lee became a professional golfer. By 1968 he was able to enter his first United States Open Golf Tournament. He played in the tournaments almost every year after that.

"They didn't expect Lee to be as good at the game as he was. He was hardly known when he first came on the tour," one golfer said. "And then he wins the thing in 1971!"

The "thing" was the U.S. Open. In the same year he also won the British Open. By now he had his own little cheering section. They were called Lee's Fleas.

Lee Trevino became a world-class golfer. He won several Professional Golfers' Association Championships and many other tournaments over the years. Today, he's still winning!

Lee Trevino never forgot how hard it was for the little boy with the stick growing up poor in Dallas. After each win, Trevino donates some of his prize money to good causes.

Write your answers.

1. Lee Trevino first learned about the basics of golf by watching others play. What is the basic idea in the game of golf?

2. What are some words about golfing that would not be heard in a discussion of baseball?

3. Some country clubs did not welcome Lee Trevino and black players on their courses or in their clubhouses. Why?

4. Lee's grandfather came to Texas from Mexico. What problems did he probably face once he got to the U.S.?

- ~~X~~ Go to the library. Find out what the last tournament was that Lee Trevino won.

- ~~X~~ Draw a picture of Lee's Fleas. Put yourself in the picture.

