



In the movie 'Moneyball', Billy Beane, the team manager (played by Brad Pitt), becomes fed up and frustrated with his baseball team constantly losing games. After another bad loss, he overheard his team having fun in the locker room (video was provided).

Your challenge is to write this moment in the movie as if you were writing it for a novel. You may write the entire scene, or start from a particular moment in the scene. Either way, it should be roughly 450 words long. The winning entry will not only be able to vividly describe the scene and the actions that take place in the clip, but be able to let the reader feel the emotion and mood in the scene.

They will also get a sense of the backstory and built up frustration in Billy, the coach.

Remember to make every sentence count for something. Be descriptive, but choose your words carefully and mix up your sentence lengths for effect.

YEAR 6 WINNER: India Mollison

The music was only slightly audible through the well bolted door, but the cheers of the excitable baseball players were unmissable, their jeering and shouting filling the blank, lifeless corridor with noise. Billy stopped by the entrance of the locker room, pausing to listen to the commotion happening inside. Two nagging news interviewers shuffled to the side and twisted the handle for Billy. "How do you feel about your team's-" He left their questions unanswered and shoved the door open. At first, no one noticed the infuriated manager standing by the door. To give them a first taste of his displeasure, he picked up a baseball bat from the shelving on the wall. He smashed it into the stereo, focusing his rage on the battered speakers. The music stopped. The room fell mute. Slowly, heads turned toward the corner of the room as the fun and the noise ceased. Billy raised his baseball bat and brandished it at the silent players.

"Get down," he ordered icily. The team member stepped down from the coffee table he was standing on. "Is losing fun?" Billy muttered, just loud enough for the players to hear. They stayed silent. "Is losing FUN?" He repeated. "N-no" replied the dumbfounded player, evidently realising how ridiculous he looked, with his belt undone, celebrating a lost game. "What are you havin' fun for?" Billy countered. Letting his statement sink in for a few seconds, he suddenly hurled his baseball bat across the room, maddened by the obnoxiousness of his team. A metallic clatter by the shelves sounded angrily as it knocked over an old trophy. The players remained expressionless, but you could see the fear and defiance in their eyes.

Billy raised his hand as if to object. He lingered until the room was deathly silent once more. He waited, his anger turning into rage. Somehow, the silence was loud. For what seemed like an eternity, the room was sullen and noiseless. Billy lowered his hand, now satisfied. "That's what losing sounds like." He muttered breathlessly, delivering his last worded blow.

The manager studied the faces of the players. Some looked defiant, others disappointed in themselves. As his eyes met theirs, blistering rage danced like flames in his pupils. His team had been too naive to understand him after other losses. Now they did. He had shown them exactly what he thought of their sloppy efforts to please him.

Billy began to walk out, but hovered by the door. For a last display of his disdain with the players and consequences unconsidered, he shoved his hands toward the fragile water cooler. They met it perfectly, and as if it had been rehearsed one hundred times, it was tossed harshly to the ground. Ice and water splashed across the floor, and every panicked eye in the room met Billy's. The now satisfied manager exited the room with no other snarky, enraged comments. He slammed the door behind him. He wasn't going to look back. His goal was complete.



In the movie 'Spacejam', Michael Jordan has a chance to win a game against 'The Monsters' at the last second. If they win, they avoid becoming slaves to the monsters in their evil world (video was provided).

Your challenge is to write this moment in the movie as if you were writing it for a novel. You may write the entire scene, or start from a particular moment in the scene. Either way, it should be roughly 450 words long. The winning entry will not only be able to vividly describe the scene and the actions that take place in the clip, but be able to let the reader feel the emotion and mood in the scene. They will also get a sense of the backstory so we

know how big of a moment this is. Remember to make every sentence count for something. Be descriptive, but choose your words carefully and mix up your sentence lengths for effect.

YEAR 5 WINNER: Hadi Kazmi

In the Looney Tune world, as the clock wound down, Michael Jordan was fighting an intense battle against the Monstars. It was a war worth fighting, a victory, and Jordan and his Tune Squad teammates buy their freedom, refraining from becoming a monster's slave. Prior to this moment, Michael had trained using all his effort. Jordan was laser focussed. After a gruelling battle, Michael's team was one point behind. This was a point they needed to earn.

As he received the ball, Michael dribbled up the court filled with monsters while he thought of his next move. One of the Monstars' intimidating beasts, envisioning that he could take on Michael without knowing his skill, exclaimed "you're mine!" and waddled up to try and tackle Jordan. However, the monster's attempt failed immensely. Jordan kept running over the monster's enormous, clawed hands, using them like a catapult, springing him further into the air. Michael really made it look easy. The deserving monster was left suffering on the floor, struggling to get back up. 'What... How?' the confused monster protested. His facial expressions had changed drastically. Jordan remained emotionless, as if he was used to his own greatness.

Michael Jordan leaped into the air, getting his arm ready for the shot. The world's best basketball player knew that everyone was depending on him. Trying to offer support, his hopeful teammate shouted "Mike, I'm Open..." But then he watched in awe as Michael floated like he had grown a pair of wings. After realising Jordan's phenomenal talent, he added "nevermind." As he noticed that there were only five seconds left, Michael was desperate for this fate-deciding dunk. Everything was going as planned until out of nowhere, Michael Jordan was grabbed at the legs by two monsters at the top of his jump! 'Nooo!' Jordan thought to himself, nearly becoming a defeatist. They pulled Michael down with all their force. He panicked. Jordan was on the verge of giving up, but then he knew the consequences if he didn't get the ball in the hoop. He was determined to finish things off and score the match winning basket.

With two seconds left on the clock, Jordan inhaled some air that evidently had special powers. Suddenly, Michael Jordan, the best basketball player in the history of humanity, finally unleashed his true inner Looney Tune! He stretched his arm, triple its actual length, as if it were made of rubber, bending in the scorching heat of the sun. Overwhelmed by all the camera-flashes at his eyes, he closed them and focussed hard. Jordan's outstretched hand was directly above the hoop and he had one second to finish this job. For anyone other than the master himself, even getting this far would be out of the question. Miraculously, Michael Jordan's hand reached the hoop with less than a second before the victory-deciding siren wailed out loud, echoing around the stadium. Swish. He did it. Michael Jordan had scored the most impossible dunk!

Still processing what had just occurred, Jordan heard the crowd and his team erupt with applause, breaking the nervous silence. Everyone had an explosion of positive emotions; joy, delight, triumph. Jordan, on the other hand, was just relieved to have accomplished his difficult mission. The monsters were stunned, staring in disbelief. Their faces showed a mixture of grief and envy. 'Are my eyes playing foolish tricks on me, or did we just lose?' they all inquired to themselves, as they saw what they described as unfathomable. Finally, the long-lasting battle came to an end. Freedom for all.



In the movie 'Aladdin', a young Aladdin stumbles upon a magical lamp. (video was provided). Your challenge is to write this moment in the movie as if you were writing it for a novel. Your writing begins from the 36 second mark of the clip, the first line has been written for you. You only write up until the 57 second mark. This means the final line in your writing will be the genie's comment "10,000 years can give you such a crick in the neck!"

It should be roughly 450 words long. The winning entry will not only be able to vividly describe the scene and the actions that take place in the clip, but be able to let the reader feel the emotion and mood in the scene. It is a curious, wonderful, magical moment. Try to describe each thing that happens so the reader becomes more and more excited to see what comes out of the lamp. Remember to make every sentence count for something. Be descriptive, but choose your words carefully and mix up your sentence lengths for effect.

YEAR 4 WINNER: Cordelia Miers

With curiosity and caution, Aladdin firmly rubbed the side of the old rusted lamp. The mysterious artefact began to glow a bright red and started hovering a bit above Aladdin's outstretched palm. His eyes were as big as two shining saucers! Meanwhile, Abu, a little brown hairy monkey who was Aladdin's trusty companion, and the extraordinarily patterned magic carpet bounded quickly away to a nearby bouldery rock by the wall of the cavern. They had petrified looks on their faces. Very confused, Aladdin stared at the lamp as it started to make very strange whizzing and popping noises. The lamp began to shake uncontrollably and fireworks started exploding out through the spout of it! A bright, red beam of light burst through as well, as the surprised poor boy tried to hold it still as it shook terribly.

As the carpet scooped up a frightened Abu and dropped down behind one of the many rocks in the dimly lit cavern, blue gas and sparks escaped from the old relic! Abu and the magnificent carpet poked their heads a very small way up to see what was going on in the dark cave. As more bright fireworks and thick red vapour came pouring out of the dusty item, the rocky cave lit up! The thick, billowing blue smoke was spinning, tossing and turning over and over again in the air as it was morphing into a shape! Aladdin stared up at the morphing fumes as it was becoming extremely solid! Aladdin was transfixed. He gaped soundlessly up at the blue smog as a face became clearer on it by the very millisecond! He had no idea at all what on earth was going on.

Soon, the smoke had been fully transmuted, and in its place was a massive half-human that was slightly levitating above the golden lamp, which was lying sideways on the ground not far away. The strange barrel-chested figure was flexing! He had glowing neon blue skin, shiny golden bands around his wrists, and a valuable gold earring through one blue ear. He had a short, curly, black as night goatee, with a tuft of the same dark black hair on his otherwise bald head. His black eyebrows were raised high on his head with yellow teeth and he had four fingers. His pupils were small dark spots on his face and his eyes were crossed. As the smoke faded, Aladdin stepped back, as the figure's booming voice echoed loudly across the extremely obscure cavern, "10,000 years can give you such a crick in the neck!"