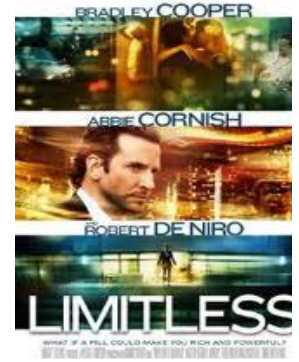


Movies & Languages 2012-2013

Limitless

About the movie (subtitled version)

| | |
|----------------|---|
| DIRECTOR | Neil Burger |
| YEAR / COUNTRY | 2011 / USA |
| GENRE | Mystery/ Sci-Fi/ Thriller |
| ACTORS | Bradley Cooper, Robert De Niro, Abbie Cornish, Anna Friel |



PLOT

What if just by taking a pill you could become super-intelligent, rich and powerful beyond your wildest dreams? This is what happens to Eddie Morra, an aspiring author who suffers from writer's block. Through an old friend he gets introduced to NZT, a revolutionary new pharmaceutical that allows him to reach his full potential. Soon he conquers Wall Street by transforming a small stake into millions. His accomplishments are noticed by mega-mogul Van Loon, who invites him to help broker the largest merger in corporate history. Eddie's fame also brings him to the attention of people willing to do anything to get their hands on his supply of NZT. With his life in danger and the drug's side effects becoming slowly apparent Eddie soon becomes the chief suspect in a police murder investigation along with becoming a target for Russian homicidal gangsters.

Although not winning any major cinematic awards, **Limitless** was a success at the box-office and received generally positive reviews from film critics.

LANGUAGE

Standard American English, some Russian, some Italian.

GRAMMAR

Reported Speech

We often tell people what other people have said. This is called reported or indirect speech. We very rarely try to report the exact words that someone actually says. Usually we give the general meaning with a summary.

When the verb tense changes, it "moves back" in time. Examples:

'I work for IBM': she said she worked for IBM

'I'm working for IBM': she said was working for IBM

'I've worked for IBM': she said she had worked for IBM

'I've been working for IBM': she said she had been working for IBM

'I worked for IBM': she said she had worked for IBM

'I had worked for IBM': she said she had worked for IBM

'I'm going to work for IBM': she said she was going to work for IBM

'I can/will/may work for IBM': she said she could/would/might work for IBM

There is no change for *must*, *might*, *could*, *should*, *would*.

Note well that if the actual words were in the past simple (*worked*), the reported speech can change or stay the same.

Note well that there is no change for the past perfect (*had worked*).

VOCABULARY

| | |
|--|---|
| Four digit I.Q.: very intelligent | Torch it: burn it |
| 800 dollars a pop: 800 dollars each | Something doesn't jell here: something doesn't make sense |
| Stick it out: insist on continuing something | Squeeze (noun): slang for girlfriend or female companion |
| A sideline: a secondary job, not your main occupation | Anal retentive: someone who is very neat, clean, and tidy |
| Upping the dose: increasing the dosage | Mogul: important, rich and powerful businessman |
| Jacked in: well connected to something | Nest egg: a sum of saved money, put aside for a particular purpose |
| Victim of foul play: victim of a criminal act | Sniffing out: investigating |