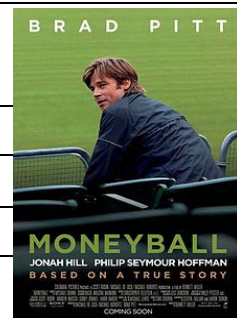


## Movies & Languages 2012-2013

### *Moneyball*

**About the movie** (subtitled version)

DIRECTOR	Bennett Miller
YEAR / COUNTRY	2011 / USA
GENRE	Drama
ACTORS	Brad Pitt, Jonah Hill, Robin Wright, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Chris Pratt.



#### PLOT

*Moneyball* is a film based on Michael Lewis's book of the same name, an account of the Oakland Athletics baseball team's 2002 season and their general manager Billy Beane's attempts to assemble a competitive team. In the film, Beane and his nerdy assistant GM Peter Brand, faced with an unfavorable financial situation, take an unconventional, sophisticated sabermetric approach towards scouting and analyzing players and wind up winning 20 consecutive games, an American League record.

Although *Moneyball* might seem to be just another film about a baseball team, it is not. It is a film about management, innovation and risk taking.

The film was featured at the Toronto International Film Festival in 2011, where it received positive reviews. It was nominated for six Academy Awards including Best Actor and Best Picture.

Enjoy!

#### LANGUAGE

Standard American English, some slang and profanity.

#### 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:

*'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

<b>Sabermetrics:</b> the specialized analysis of the sport of baseball through objective evidence, especially baseball statistics, that measure in-game activity	<b>Pilfering the henhouse:</b> recruiting and buying baseball players developed from another team's "farm system"
<b>Being gutted:</b> being exploited, taken advantage of	<b>Cagey about this:</b> intelligent, clever, shrewd
<b>Google-boy:</b> expert in IT	<b>Hats off to him:</b> congratulations to him
<b>Cut the crap!:</b> don't say nonsense!	<b>I don't give a rat's ass:</b> I don't really care
<b>You played me:</b> you manipulated me	<b>Let's move on:</b> let's change
<b>Guys having hair on their ass:</b> guys having courage and fortitude	<b>Leave it on:</b> don't turn off the television
<b>Fortune cookie wisdom:</b> proverbial wisdom, unscientific	<b>Coming here on a dime:</b> coming here at low expense
<b>To mingle with:</b> to mix or get involved with	<b>Drafted in the first round:</b> one of the first selected in terms of recruiting new players
<b>My bar is here:</b> this is my objective	<b>Having deeper pockets:</b> having more financial resources
<b>To boo:</b> to deride, express disapproval	