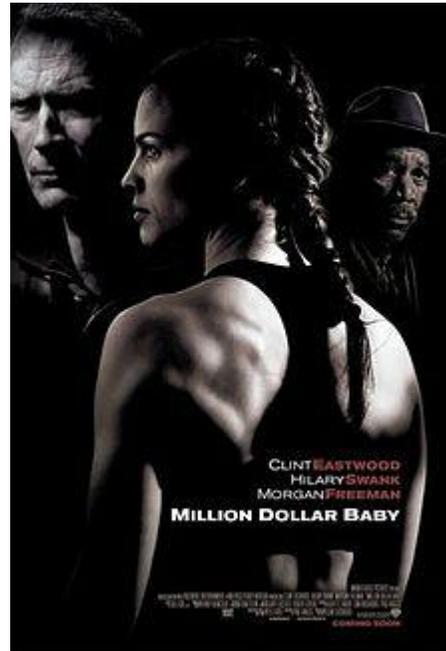


**Directions for your Constructive Response to *Million Dollar Baby***

- After you have read each of the constructed response questions below, select one to answer. The constructed response verbiage is listed below to assist you in this process.
- Responses are graded on quality not quantity, looking for thinking in your writing, and reflection on the article above.
- Use the film *Million Dollar Baby* to explore the characters and storyline in order to provide support for your answers and to properly address the questions.
- You may compose your response in a *Microsoft Word document*.
- Make sure to include your name and hour attached to your work.
- Email your assignment as an attachment or within the email your instructor. Subject line: *Million Dollar Baby* Assignment



**Option One**

How is this movie the same as, or different from, other boxing movies, such as Rocky? Would you describe this as a boxing movie or a movie about a boxer? Do you think Scrap's narration/voice over is an effective method for telling Frankie and Maggie's stories?

**Option Two**

Why is the following quote such a driving force for Maggie? "She grew up knowing one thing: that she was trash." Do you think it is dangerous to be so focused on only one goal as Maggie is? Explain the significance of the emblem on the back of Maggie's boxing robe?

**Option Three**

How does Frankie's rule that a boxer must "protect himself at all times" apply to Big Willie, Scrap, Maggie, and himself? Scrap says, "The most important thing for a fighter to have is heart." Why is this quote important for Maggie, Frankie, and Scrap? Frankie Dunn is a "cut man" atoning for past transgressions trying to heal his pain. What does a cut man do? What is Scrap referring to when he says, "some wounds are too deep and too close to the bone to stop the bleeding"?

**Option Four**

Why is Maggie's statement "trouble comes in my family by the pounds" a good description of her family? How do you feel about her interactions with her family: their reactions to her buying her mother a house, and, their reactions to what happens in Las Vegas?

### **Option Five**

Why do you think the director chooses to have Maggie use the words, “I’m going to be frozen like this for the rest of my life”? Do you think that what her father does for Axel and what she asks Frankie to do for her are humane acts? Why does the priest say: “if you do this thing you’ll be lost, immersed somewhere so deep that you’ll never find yourself again”? What do you think happens to Frankie after the end of the movie?

### **Key Verbs and Tasks used in Constructive Response**

- Analyze - Examining carefully by looking at the different parts of the whole and figuring out how they are related to each other.
- Apply - Using what you have learned to demonstrate show, or relate something.
- Compare - Using examples to show how things are similar.
- Contrast - Using examples to show how things are different.
- Evaluate - Making a judgment backed up with support.
- Infer - Making an educated guess or hypothesizing... reading between the lines.
- Interpret - Explaining a possible meaning of a text
- Paraphrase - Putting the author’s ideas into your own words
- Predict - Using information available to make an educated guess about future events
- Summarize - Presenting the author’s main ideas in a shortened form
- Support - Using specific facts to “back up” your answer, utilize details and examples from the text.
- Synthesize - Combining several ideas and making something new