

BILLY ELLIOT

I. WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER? WHAT DID YOU UNDERSTAND ? CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER.

1. What is the background scene during the credits?
[A] Billy is drinking milk
[B] Billy is jumping on a trampoline
[C] Billy is dancing

2. What does the first scene of the film show?
[A] A CD playing
[B] An LP playing
[C] A cassette playing

3. The next scene shows:
[A] Billy preparing breakfast
[B] Billy preparing tea
[C] Billy preparing dinner

4. What did Billy call his grandmother?
[A] Gran
[B] Grandma
[C] Nana

5. Billy's brother is called:
[A] Johnny
[B] Tim
[C] Tony

6. Billy and his brother
[A] get on well
[B] don't get on well
[C] have fun together

7. When do we see Billy's mum for the first time?
[A] On a photo on the piano
[B] In Billy's bedroom
[C] In a photo album

8. What was the 1984 miners' strike for? They wanted:
[A] Fewer working hours
[B] More money
[C] To prevent the closure* of the pits

9. What did the boxing coach tell Billy when he was knocked down?
[A] "You are a disgrace to the clothes you are wearing, your father and the tradition of the art of boxing!"
[B] "You are a disgrace to your teachers and to your family!"
[C] "You will never make a good boxer."

10. Whose boxing clothes does Billy wear?
[A] His brother's
[B] His friend's
[C] His dad's

11. Why does Billy meet the ballet teacher?
[A] Because he wants to help her
[B] Because he must give her the gymnasium keys
[C] Because he wants to speak to Debbie

12. What is the price of the boxing classes?

[A] 60p

[B] 40p

[C] 50p

13. Where were Billy's boxing gloves when he went for his lessons?

[A] Around his waist

[B] In his bag

[C] Around his neck

14. What happens after his first ballet lesson?

[A] He tells his coach he does not want to box any longer

[B] He pretends he is going to boxing lessons, but he goes to ballet lessons instead

[C] He tells Mrs Wilkinson he will stop ballet lessons

15. How does Mr Elliot hear that his son has stopped boxing?

[A] Mrs Wilkinson tells him

[B] Billy tells him

[C] The boxing coach tells him

16. Why doesn't Billy's dad want his son to do ballet?

[A] Because he thinks it is too expensive

[B] Because he thinks it isn't a hobby for lads

[C] Because he thinks Billy has no talent

17. What is the general stereotype ("cliché") about male ballet dancers?

[A] Ballet dancers are athletes

[B] Ballet dancers are effeminate

[C] Ballet dancers are funny

18. How does Billy face his father's anger?

[A] He accepts what his dad says

[B] He argues with him

[C] He leaves the room

19. What about Billy's grandmother?

[A] She supports Billy

[B] She agrees with Billy's father

[C] She is indifferent, she does not care

20. She likes ballet because:

[A] She was a professional ballet dancer

[B] She could have been a professional ballet dancer

[C] She was a ballet teacher

II. TO SUM UP THE STORY...

1. FIRST, FILL IN THE BLANKS:

A. Do you remember ?

The story takes place in 19....., in the city of The Prime Minister is Billy Elliot is old.

B. Choose from the list :

mining / dead / ballet shoes / lives / strike / boy / picket line / unconventional / father / boxing gloves

It's a story about a young..... who in atown in England. His father and brother are both miners on and they spend most of the day on the

Billy's mother is

Billy discovers he prefers to, to the horror of his

The tension is great between all the characters: the family is very poor and stressed, and Billy's desire is so

2. AND NOW ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS:

- A) There are times when Billy doesn't obey his father: what does he do?
- B) During the course of the movie, Billy's family endures several crises and conflicts. Describe them and describe how the family deals with them.
- C) Does dancing always come easily for Billy? Describe.
- D) What is Mrs Wilkinson's role in the film: what does she want for Billy?
- E) Why did not Billy's father respect his son's desire to dance at the beginning?
- F) What made him change his mind?

III. YOUR OPINION / DISCUSSION:

- 1) Did Billy do the right thing in lying to his father about going to ballet class?
Was there a better way to handle it?
In what circumstances are children justified in defying their parents?
Describe some situations in which a child would be justified in lying to his or her parents.
Describe some situations in which a child would not be justified in lying to his or her parents.
- 2) For Boys: If you wanted to be a ballet dancer how do you think your schoolmates would react? Would that reaction be justified? Would you have the courage to tell your friends at school that you were dancing?
- 3) Should Billy have maintained his friendship with Michael after he realized that Michael was a homosexual?
Can straight men and homosexuals be friends?
- 4) Did you learn anything from this movie? What was it?
- 5) Was there something you didn't understand about the movie?
- 6) What did you like best about the movie? Why?
- 7) Select an action performed by one of the characters in the film and explain why the character took that action. What motivated him or her? What did this motivation have to do with the theme of the film?
- 8) Who was your favorite character in the movie? Why?
- 9) Who was your least favorite character in the movie? Why?
- 10) What would have happened to Billy and what kind of life would he have led, if it had not been for his teacher, Miss Wilkinson?
- 11) When Billy was asked "What does it feel like when you dance?" He answered "It sort of feels good. It starts stiff and that but once I get going, then I like forget everything and I sort of disappear. Like I feel a change in my whole body -- like there's fire in my body. I'm just there -- flyin' like a bird -- like electricity, -- yeah, like electricity." Do you get that type of a feeling from anything that you do?

