**Slumdog Millionaire (2008)**

Directors: Danny Boyle, Loveleen Tandan

Writers: Simon Beaufoy (screenplay), Vikas Swarup (novel—*Q & A*)

The story of Jamal Malik, an 18 year-old orphan from the slums of Mumbai, who is about to experience the biggest day of his life. With the whole nation watching, he is just one question away from winning a staggering 20 million rupees on India's ["Kaun Banega Crorepati?"](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0250875/) (2000) (Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?) But when the show breaks for the night, police arrest him on suspicion of cheating; how could a street kid know so much? Desperate to prove his innocence, Jamal tells the story of his life in the slum where he and his brother grew up, of their adventures together on the road, of vicious encounters with local gangs, and of Latika, the girl he loved and lost. Each chapter of his story reveals the key to the answer to one of the game show's questions. Each chapter of Jamal's increasingly layered story reveals where he learned the answers to the show's seemingly impossible quizzes. But one question remains a mystery: what is this young man with no apparent desire for riches really doing on the game show? When the new day dawns and Jamal returns to answer the final question, the Inspector and sixty million viewers are about to find out. At the heart of its storytelling lies the question of how anyone comes to know the things they know about life and love. *Written by* [*Fox Searchlight Pictures*](http://www.imdb.com/search/title?plot_author=Fox%20Searchlight%20Pictures&view=simple&sort=alpha)*.*

*Taken from IMDb http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1010048/plotsummary?ref\_=tt\_stry\_pl*

**A little additional info:**

***It is written / It was written***: (arab.: maktoob) The phrase refers to the belief that everything that is happening has been prescribed by Allah in the “Book of Decrees”. (Quran 57:22: “No calamity befalls on the earth or in yourselves but is inscribed in the Book of Decrees (Al-Lauh Al-Mahfûth), before We bring it into existence. Verily, that is easy for Allâh.”) People use the phrase to imply that they were predestined to have something happen to them. From: http://www.agkino.de/britfilms/6/archiv/StudyGuide-SlumdogMillionaire.pdf

**Characters:**

Jamal Malik

Jamal is call center assistant in Mumbai who is suspected of cheating on the TV-show “Who wants to be a millionaire”.

Salim

Jamal´s older brother. He works for Javed Khan, a gangster boss.

Latika

A girl Jamal and Salim met when they were street children in the Dahravi slum. She now lives with Javed Khan.

Maman

A cruel gangster who sends children to beg on the street.

Sergeant Srinivas

The police inspector who interrogates Jamal.

Prem Kumar

The host of the popular quiz show “Who wants to be a Millionaire?”.

Amitabh Bachchan

One of the most popular stars of Bollywood cinema

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Questions (use point form answers):

1. What led to their mother’s death?

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2. Give 5 specific situations were poverty negatively impacted them as street children (and other street children).

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3. Think of all the different jobs the Jamal, Salim and Latika take on to make a living. What possibilities do the three have to overcome their poverty? Which do they choose and why?

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