

**HERE COMES THE BOOM (2012)**  
**COMPREHENSIVE ESSAY QUESTIONS**

1. Early in the film, we are introduced to former collegiate wrestler and 42-year-old veteran Massachusetts biology teacher Scott Voss. Provide a minimum of three references throughout the introduction of the film, which supports the belief that Voss' deep-seated passion for instruction has since elapsed.
2. How does the senior instructional leader or Principal Becher's attitude and overall outlook towards education as well as student learning permeate throughout the building?
3. Synonymous with countless publically funded secondary educational institutions of learning across the nation, significant budget cutbacks at Wilkinson High School have seriously jeopardized the continuation of its illustrious music program coupled with Marty's position. Explain the symbolism of an aging educator bringing a new child into this world at a time in which his career is potentially concluding prematurely.
4. Friedrich Nietzsche said, "*Without music, life would be a mistake.*" How is this quote either supported or negated throughout the duration of the film? Explain your reasoning.
5. Why do you believe collaborative writers Allen Loeb and Kevin James elected to portray an educator competing in mixed martial arts as a primary means of deriving income as opposed to an alternate source of raising funds more appropriate for a traditional educator? What message do you believe Loeb and James wanted to convey in regards to accomplishment when faced with the initial perception of an insurmountable obstacle?
6. Flora Edwards once said, "*In helping others, we shall help ourselves, for whatever good we give out completes the circle and comes back to us.*" How does "*Here Comes The Boom*" accurately illustrate this belief? Explain your reasoning with specific references from the film.
7. What character do you identify with the most? Explain your reasoning while citing a clear relationship between your personal endeavors with that of the film.
8. Malia De La Cruz introduces Niko to a method of retaining complicated material via music with which he is already familiar. What similar ways have you resorted to in committing perplexing material to memory?
9. Comparable to all educators in the profession, Voss encounters a disgruntled parent with varying perspectives as it pertains to student learning. How does Voss use this initial unpleasant ordeal as a teachable moment coupled with a character building opportunity of all participants present.
10. What positive changes might one attribute to Voss' character as he rekindles his passion for instruction?
11. What reasons does Niko possess in harboring any jealousy towards Voss upon receipt of an invitation to compete professionally for the Ultimate Fighting Championship?
12. Assistant principal Elkins, the school administrator singlehandedly entrusted with maintaining the musical program restoration funds ultimately betrays Voss as well as the community of students he is charged with protecting. In what ways do the unethical actions of Elkins motivate Voss and his support network to proceed with the admirable mission at hand?
13. What other characters and in what capacity has Voss encouraged them to pursue their dreams? Explain.
14. What significance or deeper meaning does acquiring United States citizenship have in the film? Explain.
15. Provide an alternate title and support your reasoning with a detailed explanation for your selection.
16. William Arthur Ward once said, "*The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires.*" Marty conveys a similar message to Voss regarding inspiration at a rather pivotal yet poignant moment towards the conclusion of the film. Identify a teacher who has inspired you either directly or indirectly over the course of your academic career. What admirable characteristics did this particular individual exhibit that mirrored or contradicted Voss? Please be advised that incorporating my name in your response, Kyle H. or D. Mongillo, will neither possess a positive impact upon your score on this assignment nor the overall course. Explain your reasoning.

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