Limitless (2011)

* **Watch this document from the beginning to 24 seconds. Identify its nature and describe what you see and hear.**

A trailer featuring Bradley Cooper.

A man, long, disheveled hair. Carelessly crosses the street. Smoking a cigarette, then drinking alcohol in a bar. He is self-conscious of his looks and gives his job as an excuse: he is a writer. Writer’s block: a computer with a blank page in front of him. He’s girlfriend tells him to move to another activity.

Lying on a couch smoking pot; his apartment is a mess.

One day he meets someone he knows / a friend on the street.

See that guy? That's me. My excuse for looking like this? I'm a writer. Eddie, maybe it's time to let the writing go. But just in case you think nothing ever happened to me.

Eddie Morra. Hey, tell me about this book well how much have you written now? I want more.

* **Watch from 23 to 42 seconds. Explain what happens with his friend. Try to focus on the dialogue to understand what his friend is offering.**

His friend wants to help him and gives him a pill / tablet in a small plastic bag. He explains this is safe. FDA = Food and Drug Administration. A legal drug, a medicine.

Visualisation of the brain, with what is supposed to be the effect of the pill on it.

Then Eddie pops the pill into his mouth.

Well I suppose I can help you with that, you know how they say that we can only access 20% of our brain? This lets you access all of it. They've had clinical trials and it's FDA approved.

Alright just out of curiosity and that's all.

* **Watch from 42 seconds to 1’31. List all the changes in his life.**

I was blind but now I see. “It can solve any problem.”

A tablet a day and I was limitless. I now had cultural appetites. (Van Gogh painting at a museum).

Since when do you speak Italian?

I finished my book in 4 days. I'd like to renegotiate my advance.

Math became useful.

(He seems to start working in the Stock Exchange, he becomes a trader and makes a fortune). From 12,000 to 2.3 million in 10 days.

I'm baffled by this guy.

Drives a sports car.

So, Eddie Morra, you do know you're a freak, what's your secret? Medication.

“It can unlock your potential.”

Your powers are a gift from God or whoever the hell wrote your life’s good.

I'll open up a line of credit for you. You'll be wanting a few toys. Flies private.

How many of us ever know what it is to become the perfect version of ourselves?

Buys a luxury house.

* **Is this realistic? What do you think of this situation?**

Reality check, then together let’s try to think of the drawbacks / limits of such pills.

Addiction, financial cost, but also potential side effects.

* **Watch the end of the trailer and explain what’s happening to him (+ list details) to confirm what we have mentioned before.**

“But once the world is yours”

Everything I have, I want to share with you. He starts taking risks: jumps from a cliff.

“Everyone wants a piece.”

What you doing hun, you think somebody's watching? Someone stalks him.

My brain is skipping time. I have no memory of the last 4 days.

Your powers are not earned. You're careless with those powers. Have you asked yourself what you're going to do when you run out? He opens a bag and there is nothing in it. He seems to have run out of pills. You'll die.

There's no scenario in which you'd lead this life where you don't work for me. No scenario? I see every scenario, I see 50 scenarios, that's what it does, Carl. It puts me 50 moves ahead of you.

Guns, knives, car chasing him. He seems to have fallen out with Carl (Robert de Niro), who might be providing the pills.

Worth the risk what would you do?

He finds himself on top of a building, about to jump off.

* **Conclusion: what is the topic of this document?**

Smart drugs and their effects on people. This is also, to some degree, about transhumanism. Can science and technology help us exceed our human limitations?