

Lesson 12: Action Verbs

LEARN

- Every sentence has a subject and a predicate. The **verb** is the main word in the predicate.
- Often the verb is a word that shows an action. An **action verb** tells what the subject does or did.

Subject	Predicate
The skier	zooms down the slope.
Her bright, blue skis	flashed in the sunlight.



PRACTICE

A Read each sentence, and look at the predicate in *boldface*. Write the action verb in the predicate.

- The Olympic skiers **gather at the ski slope**.
- They **wear bright, colorful outfits**.
- A fan **cheers for his favorite athlete**.
- Many flags **wave in the breeze**.
- Alpine skiers **race down steep mountain slopes**.
- One skier **moves at a speed of 70 miles per hour**.
- The cross-country skier **travels many kilometers**.
- He **glides across the hilly landscape**.
- Ski jumpers **leap long distances through the air**.
- Somehow they **land on their skis**.


- gather _____
- wear _____
- cheers _____
- wave _____
- race _____
- moves _____
- travels _____
- glides _____
- leap _____
- land _____

B Draw a line between the subject and the predicate of each sentence. Then write the action verb. The first one is done for you.

1. Many fans|watch the figure skaters. watch
2. The skaters|perform their routines well. perform
3. One athlete|traces a figure 8 on the ice. traces
4. She|spins in the air. spins
5. The three judges|score the events. score
6. Couples|skate as pairs. skate
7. They|choose the music for these events. choose
8. Some pairs|design their own costumes. design
9. The male skater|lifts his partner high in the air. lifts
10. The audience|claps loudly. claps
11. Ice dancers|move quickly and gracefully. move
12. The skaters|competed in a separate set of events. competed
13. They|danced to different kinds of music. danced
14. Judges|graded their artistic skills. graded
15. The excited ice dancers|waited for their scores. waited



C Write an action verb to complete each sentence. Choose an action verb from the box, or use an action verb of your own.

Remember 
The **verb** is the main word in the predicate. The verb often shows an action.

change cheer covers enter lean
look produces protect push reach
sharpen signals sit swing wear

Answers may vary. Suggested answers are given.

1. Speed skaters wear tight, lightweight uniforms.
2. They sharpen their skates before each race.
3. Some of these skaters reach speeds of 48 kilometers per hour.
4. Helmets protect their heads in case of falls.
5. Skating fans enter the stadium for the big race.
6. Skaters lean forward during the wait for the start.
7. Their eyes look straight ahead.
8. The official signals the start of the race.
9. Speed skaters push hard on their skates with each stroke.
10. They swing one arm back and forth.
11. A smooth flowing motion produces the best skating rhythm.
12. The racers change lanes during a race.
13. Each athlete covers the same distance that way.
14. The fans sit on the edge of their seats.
15. They cheer the exhausted winner.





WRITE



D Read each subject for a sentence. Write a predicate to complete the sentence. Begin each predicate with an action verb. The first one is done for you.

Answers will vary. Sample answers are given.

1. Our town's winter sports festival _____ *begins today.*

2. Deep snow _____ *covers the ground.*

3. The snow sculptures _____ *sparkle in the sun.*

4. Some children _____ *ride sleds down the hill.*

5. A few cross-country skiers _____ *pass the skaters.*

6. A horse-drawn sleigh _____ *brings our friends to the park.*

7. Three speed skaters _____ *race on the pond.*

8. More snow _____ *falls during the day.*

9. Some workers _____ *clear the paths in the park.*

10. Two ice dancers _____ *perform for a crowd.*

11. A brave ski jumper _____ *flies through the air.*

12. A skater _____ *gives us a lesson.*

13. A fluffy white dog _____ *plays in the snow.*

14. All the children _____ *throw snowballs.*

15. Two hockey teams _____ *play a short game.*

Proofreading Checklist

Did you add a predicate to complete each sentence?