

Name \_\_\_\_\_

W-1 Structures of Language  
W-9 Conventions  
R-2, R-3 Vocabulary

Directions: Write sentences for the two new active verbs you put inside the megaphone.

## Vivid Verbs 2

Vague, dull verbs bog down writing—and bore readers. Vivid verbs add vim, vigor, vitality, and verve!

*Okay*: The fans talk about their champion.

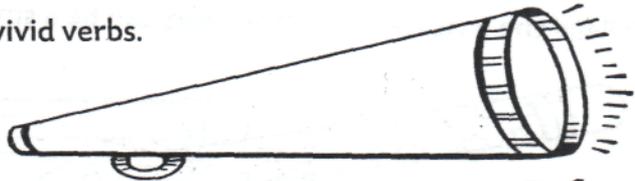
*Better*: The fans boast about their champion.



Each sentence uses a plain verb. Write two more vivid verbs in the megaphone.

**HINT**: Picture each situation to visualize more vivid verbs.

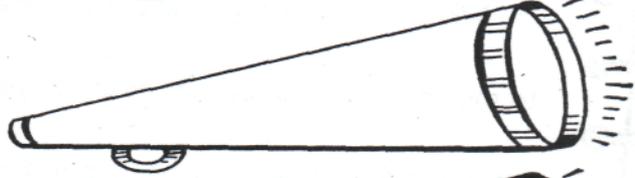
1. The runners run to the finish line.



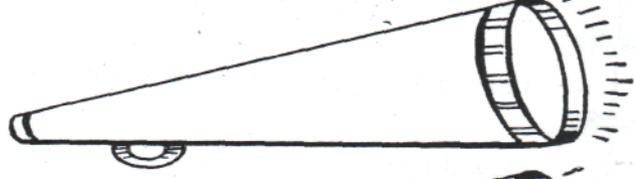
2. Marcus looks at the scoreboard.



3. He thinks about what his coach said.



4. He feels his heart go inside his chest.



5. At last, the starting horn sounds.



6. Marcus moves as fast as he can.



7. Sports reporters take notes for their stories.



## Vivid Verbs 3

*The good news:* The passage below has no errors!

*The bad news:* It's full of bland, lifeless verbs... yawn... YAWN...



Read the passage.

- Identify all 20 verbs—circle them, underline them, or use a highlighter pen.
- Replace at least ten of the duller, most overused verbs with vivid, more vibrant ones.
- Reread the passage. Feel free to change other words to spice it up.

**HINT:** Read the passage aloud. Your ears can be a smart judge of good language.

An illustration of a spiral-bound notepad with three writing instruments resting on top: a highlighter, a pencil, and a pen. The notepad is open to a page with the following text.

Here's to Ears!

When did you last think about your ears? Most people give little thought to their ears, unless they hurt. Your ears have two major functions. First, they get sound. Sound can bring you pleasure—just think of music, jokes, conversations, purring, or calm ocean waves. Your ears bring you vital, life-saving news. How do you act at a friend's shout, a fire alarm, or a crack of thunder?

Your ears also keep you steady as you move. They do this with the help of the tiny inner ear. The inner ear is inside your head. One of its major parts looks like a little snail shell, or *cochlea*. The cochlea has thousands of tiny hairs. These hairs move as sound waves come into the ear. The movements make signals go to your brain. Your brain uses the data for balance.