

TOI GLOSSARY
(Updated October 2024)
Words and their definitions used in
Program Components, Bullets and Explanations for TOI

Abstraction	An idea that develops by looking at or thinking about a number of different things
Accent	A special emphasis given to a particular note in a set of musical notes
Aesthetic	relating to the enjoyment or study of beauty, or showing great beauty
Ambiance	The character and atmosphere of a place (mood) Also – vibe, climate, tone, feel
Appropriation	Use of pre-existing objects or images with little or no transformation applied to them Eg Andy Warhol – soup cans
Articulation	Articulation in dance means the ability of the dancer to move certain parts of their body in a clear and fluid way. Articulation can be expressed through joint articulation, dynamics, and gestures. Articulation helps the dancer to communicate a desired intent or emotion
Axes	Prescribed Theme (PT), Choreographic Process (CP), Prescribed Gesture (PG) defined each season and to be demonstrated in the Choreographic Exercise
Balancing	Even distribution of weight enabling you to remain upright and steady
Blending	<i>transitive verb</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to combine or associate so that the separate constituents or the line of demarcation cannot be distinguished • to prepare by thoroughly intermingling different varieties or grades <i>intransitive verb</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to mingle intimately or unobtrusively • to combine into an integrated whole to produce a harmonious effect
Choreographic Elements	Jumping/Spinning/Lifting/Sliding/Hydroblading/Twizzling Movements Eg Tap Toe, Split, Stag, Mazurka, Assisted Jumps
Clarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the quality of being clear • the quality of being easily understood • the state of having a full, detailed, and orderly mental grasp of something • the quality of being easily seen or heard
Collapsing	The release of tension where gravity takes over is a collapsed movement. This can be achieved through any part of the body in varying tempos. A collapsed movement is a downward action that is often followed by a recovery upwards. Emotions evoked include being helpless, overwhelmed and determination.
Consistency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • agreement or harmony of parts or features to one another or a whole • ability to be asserted together without contradiction • condition of adhering together
Dance Moves	Isolated, defined, and organized sequences of movement
Dynamics	Dynamics refer to the way you dance. It is the variety in texture. The smoothness or sharpness of a movement and the various gradations of tempo and tension
Ensemble	a group producing a single effect: such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • concerted music of two or more parts • the musicians engaged in the performance of a musical ensemble a group of supporting players, singers, or dancers Pairs, groups or clumps

Expanded Skating Vocabulary using a medium of movement beyond gliding	Use of the blade and ice as a medium of movement which includes the glide plus all other available blade and ice moves. See below
Finesse	Great skill or style
Flow	Flow of movement refers to how the skaters move through the program and how adjacent vignettes all work together seamlessly.
Free Skating Elements	Jumps, Spins, Lifts, Step Sequences, Blocks, Circles, Intersections, Lines, Wheels, Travelling Elements, Twizzles
Free Skating Movements	Edges, Turns, Steps, Spreadeagles, Hops, Spirals, Attitudes, Lunges, Ina Bauers, Teapots, Hydroblading, Choreographic sequences. Sliding, Gliding, Spinning, Lifting, Twizzling Movements Also other undefined movements which jump, spin, lift, twizzle or slide using any and all parts of the body, boot and blade.
Dance	Dance is the art of expressive movement; captivating the fusion of movement, music and expression, where the body becomes a canvas for artistic communication. Whether it's ballet, modern dance, or folk traditions, the essence lies in the graceful interplay of motion and emotion. It involves the rhythmic motion of the body, often accompanied by music, within a defined space. Dancers use movement to convey ideas, emotions, and energy, or simply to revel in the joy of physical expression.
Harmony	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the combination of simultaneous musical notes in a chord • the structure of music with respect to the composition and progression of chords • the science of the structure, relation, and progression of chords • pleasing arrangement of parts: CONGRUENCE, AGREEMENT, ACCORD • an interweaving of different accounts into a single narrative
Holds	Physical connection between skaters by any means including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand and arm holds • Dance holds • Using costume and props
Language	A system of communication used by humans – spoken, signed or in written form.
Magic Moment of Theatre	Described as a “gasp” moment that is often “unscripted” but could be scripted and very effective in its realisation.
Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diverse tempo • Different spatial levels • Different quality of energy • Variety of body parts in movement • Three-dimensional body movement • Use of ice space
Musical Ambience	The creation of a mood or feeling associated with a particular place, person or thing, ie the creation of a musical atmosphere.
Musical Form	<i>Form</i> refers to the largest shape of the composition. Form in music is the result of the interaction of the four structural elements - sound, harmony, melody and rhythm.
Musical Phrase	A unit of musical meter that has a complete musical sense of its own.
Non-locomotor or axial movement	These are movements that occur in one spot, such as bending, stretching, swinging, rising, falling, shaking, turning, rocking, tipping, suspending, swaying and twisting.
Nuance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A subtle distinction or variation

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A subtle quality: NICETY • Sensibility to, awareness of, or ability to express delicate shadings (as of meaning, feeling, or value) 								
Oneness	See Unity								
Palpable	Plain to see or comprehend A feeling or atmosphere so intense as to seem to be almost tangible.								
Percussing	A sharp and aggressive movement that is short, sharp, vigorous and explosive; starting and stopping abruptly. A sudden contraction of the muscles is momentarily suspended until it is followed by a rebound action. Percussive movement conveys energy or aggression.								
Predominance	Having superior strength, influence, or authority: PREVAILING Being most frequent or common								
Proportion	The correct or most attractive relationship between the size of different parts of the same thing or between one thing and another								
Pulling	Executing force to cause object to move towards one's body								
Pushing	Applying force against an object or person to move it away for one's body.								
Quality	A distinctive attribute or characteristic possessed by someone or something, evaluated by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Technical skill: The choreographers'/skaters' ability to use the medium effectively and create a visually appealing piece. 2. Originality: The work's uniqueness and creativity. 3. Emotional impact: The work's ability to evoke emotions in the viewer. 4. Conceptual depth: The work's ability to convey a message or idea. 								
Readability	Able to be read easily, ie LEGIBLE Interesting to read Translated to use in skating as clear and obvious								
Repertoire	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The stock of songs, plays, operas, readings, or other pieces that a player or company is prepared to perform. 2. The range or number of skills, aptitudes, or special accomplishments of a particular person or group. 								
Seamless	Happening without any sudden changes, interruption, or difficulty								
Skating Vocabulary	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Edges</td> <td>Inside and Outside</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Turns</td> <td>Three turn, Bracket, Rocker, Counter, Twizzle, Loop</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Steps</td> <td>Mohawk, Choctaw, Chasse, Progressive (Run), Cross Roll</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Directions</td> <td>Forwards, Backwards, Sideways and Diagonally Left and Right Clockwise and Anticlockwise Up and Down High, Middle and Low</td> </tr> </table>	Edges	Inside and Outside	Turns	Three turn, Bracket, Rocker, Counter, Twizzle, Loop	Steps	Mohawk, Choctaw, Chasse, Progressive (Run), Cross Roll	Directions	Forwards, Backwards, Sideways and Diagonally Left and Right Clockwise and Anticlockwise Up and Down High, Middle and Low
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Sound effects	Artificially created or enhanced sounds used to emphasize artistic or other content of the program. <u>May</u> imitate sounds in natural or manmade environments, human speech, voice or musical instruments.								
Sound environment also Soundscape	Includes all the sounds that the audience hears during a program, including music, sound effects, voice or props that generate noise as well as moments of silence. Defines the overall atmosphere of the program and helps to tell the story.								

Subtle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • delicate, elusive • difficult to understand or perceive: OBSCURE • clever and indirect: disguised in purpose • having or involving keen perception or insight • highly skilful: EXPERT • cunningly made or contrived: INGENIOUS
Subtlety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the quality of being subtle • a small but important detail
Suspending	Suspended movement is expressed when two opposing forces are even. It is the moment after a strong expenditure of energy is exerted from the ground and the dancer is suspended at the peak of a jump before succumbing to gravity and returning to the ground. This exhibits a sense of ecstasy and anticipation. Uses the moment of suspension before a movement gives way to gravity and falls away.
Sustaining	Sustained movement is smooth and even. It is a continual release of energy that requires maximum control. This evokes a sense of calmness, restraint and suspense. Requires smooth uninterrupted flow of movement. There is no start, pause or stop. The movement is flowing at the same tempo. This type of movement requires a great deal of control.
Swaying	Movement above an axis Shifting weight from one side to the other side smoothly.
Swinging	Movement below an axis; side to side or forward and back, like a pendulum. Joy takes flight. Arms arc through space, tracing arcs of laughter. Swinging dancers evoke childhood playgrounds, where freedom knows no bounds. The most natural movement quality. A swing begins with a slight impulse, a giving away to gravity along the path of an arc and a momentary pause before repetition. Emotions conveyed through swinging is freedom. This type of movement creates the feeling of happiness
TOI Unit of Movement	Feature – Movement – Feature The whole program is one flow of continuous movement
Unity (also Oneness)	The quality of having the ideas and examples in a skating program which clearly related to the topic and to each other.
Vignette	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a short descriptive literary sketch • a brief incident or scene (as in a play or movie) • A subdivision of an act of a play which is brief but powerful. It could be a scene or a brief incident which expresses the typical characteristics of something or someone.
Vibratory/ Shaking movement –	Very similar to percussive movements but this is performed smaller, it can be seen as quivering or shaking. Quick reoccurring repetitive movements produces a vibratory quality. spurts of percussive energy spurts are used in a proximate range. This communicates fear and rage.
Vocabulary	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The body of words used in a particular language: "a comparison of the vocabularies of different languages". 2. A range of artistic or stylistic forms, techniques, or movements as relevant to ice skating

Medium of skating movement beyond gliding	
Description of	
Bending	Moving the muscles around a joint to go from a straight position into a curved position.
Dragging	A slow, deliberate pull—like a magnet drawing the dancer across the stage. The weight of emotion anchors them, yet they move forward, leaving a trail of longing and determination.
Lifting or Raising	Elevating a part of the body, usually for the arms and legs
Ripping	Raw energy bursts forth. Fabric tears, revealing vulnerability. A dancer sheds layers, exposing their essence. It's a rebellion against conformity, a reminder that beauty lies in imperfection.
Scratching	Sharp, deliberate movements etch patterns in the air. Fingertips trace invisible lines, punctuating the music. The dancer becomes a human graffiti artist, leaving marks that linger long after the performance ends.
Skidding	Imagine a dancer gliding across the floor, their feet barely touching the surface, leaving a trace of movement like a skater on ice. The friction between sole and stage creates a delicate tension, a dance of control and release.
Sliding	Fluidity takes centre stage. Feet glide effortlessly, as if the floor were a mirror reflecting their grace. Sliding dancers evoke whispers of silk and moonlight, their bodies merging with the music.
Stabbing	Precision meets passion. Sharp movements punctuate the air, like a blade slicing through silence. The dancer becomes a warrior, fierce and unyielding.
Stomping	Earth meets rhythm. Feet pound the ground, creating percussive beats. Each stomp reverberates through bones and floorboards, a primal call to dance with abandon.
Stretching or Extending	Straightening or extending any part of the body from the joints.
Turning or Rotating	Circular movement of the body including the base, around an axis
Twisting	Rotating a body part while the base stays stationary