Study the definitions of the words. Then do the exercises that follow.

**bounty**

*boun’ té*

*n.* 1. A payment made as a reward, especially one made by the authorities. The town offered a $25 *bounty* for each predatory animal that was killed.

2. That which is given freely, by nature or a generous person. The people of Nova Scotia lived off the *bounty* of the sea.

**bountiful** *adj.* (boun’ tî fəl) Plentiful.

Farmers attributed the *bountiful* harvest to adequate rainfall throughout the growing season.

**camouflage**

*kam’ a flazh*

*n.* 1. The hiding of something as a result of its appearance. The green color of a praying mantis is its natural means of *camouflage*.

2. Something used as a cover or disguise. Netting covered with leafy branches provided *camouflage* for the trucks.

*v.* To hide or conceal, especially by disguising the appearance of. Octopuses *camouflage* themselves by changing color to match their background.

**ebb**

*eb*

*v.* 1. To recede, fall back, or pull away from. The rocks near the shore were exposed as the tide *ebbed*.

2. To fall to a lower level or weaker state; to dwindle. The patient’s strength had *ebbed* to the point where getting out of bed was an effort.

*n.* The passing to a lower level or weaker state. Just when the shipwrecked sailors’ hopes of rescue were at their lowest *ebb*, they saw a ship approaching the island.

**forage**

*fór’ ij*

*v.* To search for food or supplies. We *foraged* in the forest for firewood.

*n.* Food such as hay or grain for farm animals. I supplement the horses’ *forage* with carrots and apples.

**harass**

*ha ras’*

*v.* 1. To trouble or annoy by attacking repeatedly. Swarms of mosquitoes *harassed* us as we left the tent.

2. To cause to become worried or weary. The store owners were *harassed* by the rapid increase in shoplifting.
• Complement is a noun and a verb. Compliment (with an i) is also a noun and a verb, but these two words have quite different meanings. A compliment is a remark that expresses praise, approval, or admiration. To compliment someone is to make such a remark.

• We sometimes refer to a person’s profession, occupation, or chosen way of life as a calling. (Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg has combined the callings of motherhood and the law.) Calling and vocation are synonyms, and this is no surprise because vocation comes from the Latin vocare, which means “to call.” The prefix a- means “away from,” and an avocation is a hobby or pastime, something done “away from” one’s work or calling.
**insulate**  
*inˈsə lāt*  
*v.* To cover with a material that keeps electricity, heat, or sound from escaping. The builder used fiberglass to **insulate** the walls.

**insulation**  
*n.* Material that is used to insulate. Their down provides geese with **insulation** against the cold.

**lethargic**  
*le tharˈi k*  
*adj.* Slow moving; sleepy or tired. Extreme heat often makes people **lethargic**.

**lethargy**  
*n.* (lethˈə rē) A state of laziness, tiredness, or of not caring. Despite repeated pep talks from the coach, a **lethargy** had settled over the team.

**maneuver**  
*ma nōˈvər*  
*n.* 1. A planned military movement. A frontal attack on a well-defended position is not a **maneuver** I would recommend.

2. A skillful move or clever trick. Sacrificing her bishop early in the chess game turned out to be an effective **maneuver**.

*v.* 1. To perform military movements with. General Lee **maneuvered** his forces so skillfully that the outcome of the battle was never in doubt.

2. To move or manage in a skillful way. The tugboats **maneuvered** the ship into position alongside the dock.

**mottled**  
*mätˈəld*  
*adj.* Marked with different colored patches or blotches. The granite had a **mottled** pink and gray appearance.

**murky**  
*murkˈē*  
*adj.* Dark; gloomy. I gazed over the side of the boat into the **murky** depths of the harbor.

**proximity**  
*präk simˈə tē*  
*n.* The state of being close or next to; nearness. The lawyers looked for an office with **proximity** to the courthouse.

**replenish**  
*ré plenˈish*  
*v.* To fill up again. We **replenished** our water bottles at a little stream.

**sleek**  
*slēk*  
*adj.* 1. Smooth and glossy. The dog’s coat was **sleek** from daily brushing.

2. Having slender, graceful lines. The **sleek** ocean liner was a beautiful sight.

**wary**  
*werˈē*  
*adj.* On one’s guard; watchful; suspicious. She advised me to be **wary** of the advertisement’s claims.
v. 1. To cause to stop depending on a mother’s milk for nourishment. Puppies are **weaned** at six weeks.
2. To detach from something one has grown accustomed to. The cafeteria menu replaced doughnuts with a medley of fruits in an attempt to **wean** students away from sweets.

**Finding Meanings**

Choose two phrases to form a sentence that correctly uses a word from Word List 16. Write each sentence in the space provided.

1. (a) it is clear and straightforward.  
   (b) If something is murky,  
   (c) If something is mottled,  
   (d) it is not very clear.

2. (a) bring them up to a needed level.  
   (b) To camouflage supplies is to  
   (c) save them for future use.  
   (d) To replenish supplies is to

3. (a) A mottled coat is one  
   (b) with blotches of different colors.  
   (c) thick enough to keep out the cold.  
   (d) A sleek coat is one

4. (a) Camouflage is  
   (b) the act of concealment.  
   (c) a state of inactivity.  
   (d) Insulation is

5. (a) A wary child is one who  
   (b) A lethargic child is one who  
   (c) is lacking in self-confidence.  
   (d) is watchful and suspicious.

6. (a) Forage is used to  
   (b) replace what has been used up.  
   (c) keep heat from escaping.  
   (d) Insulation is used to
7. (a) slender and graceful.  
   (b) A lethargic animal is one that is  
   (c) A sleek animal is one that is  
   (d) obedient and easily trained.

8. (a) Proximity is  
   (b) Bounty is  
   (c) that which is given freely.  
   (d) that which has been lost.

9. (a) To maneuver is to  
   (b) recede.  
   (c) pass the time aimlessly.  
   (d) To ebb is to

10. (a) quickness of movement.  
    (b) Forage is  
    (c) grass or grain that farm animals eat.  
    (d) Proximity is

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**16B Just the Right Word**

Improve each of the following sentences by crossing out the bold phrase and replacing it with a word (or a form of the word) from Word List 16.

1. In order to save energy, the hot-water tank had been **covered with a material that kept heat from escaping**.

2. The baby was **stopped from depending on its mother’s milk** at six months.

3. My **slow-moving and sleepy** condition is caused by the medicine I’m taking for my flu.

4. Siamese cats have **smooth and glossy** coats.

5. The **planned military movement** was carried out promptly and swiftly.

6. The landlord began to **do annoying things to make trouble for** me when I refused to move out.
7. How close it is to public transportation can be an important factor in choosing a home.

8. After three days, the floodwaters started to sink to a low level.

9. Raccoons like to go searching for something to eat in the garbage cans.

10. The troops in the jungle disguised the appearance of themselves by wearing jackets with splotches of brown and green colors.

16c Applying Meanings

Circle the letter or letters of each correct answer. A question may have more than one correct answer.

1. Which places are in proximity to the United States?
   (a) Mexico       (c) Turkey
   (b) Tibet       (d) Canada

2. Which of the following could be replenished?
   (a) a dwindling supply       (c) an emptied glass
   (b) water bottles           (d) hunger

3. Which of the following are signs of lethargy?
   (a) an exuberant manner       (c) frequent naps
   (b) daydreaming              (d) strenuous exercise

4. On which of the following might there be a bounty?
   (a) an outlaw       (c) a pet rabbit
   (b) a mythical animal (d) a rattlesnake

5. Which of the following might be used to camouflage a car?
   (a) leafy branches       (c) green and brown paint
   (b) tinted windows       (d) whitewall tires

6. Which of the following can ebb?
   (a) the tide       (c) floodwaters
   (b) a person's hopes (d) interest in a project
7. Which of the following animals could be called **sleek**?
   (a) a dolphin                                (c) a turtle
   (b) a greyhound                              (d) a camel

8. Which of the following can be **maneuvered**?
   (a) test results                             (c) a boat
   (b) a spacecraft                             (d) an army

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### 16D Word Study

Each group of four words contains either two synonyms or two antonyms. Circle that pair. Then circle the S if they are synonyms or the A if they are antonyms.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. wary</td>
<td>bountiful</td>
<td>eerie</td>
<td>trusting</td>
<td>S</td>
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<td>2. murky</td>
<td>lush</td>
<td>clear</td>
<td>aware</td>
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<td>3. scanty</td>
<td>sleek</td>
<td>bountiful</td>
<td>cloudy</td>
<td>S</td>
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<td>4. proximity</td>
<td>disguise</td>
<td>camouflage</td>
<td>movement</td>
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<td>5. wavy</td>
<td>blotchy</td>
<td>mottled</td>
<td>lethargic</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. annoy</td>
<td>ebb</td>
<td>harass</td>
<td>arrange</td>
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<td>7. energetic</td>
<td>sleek</td>
<td>lethargic</td>
<td>unsure</td>
<td>S</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. forage</td>
<td>rise</td>
<td>ebb</td>
<td>zest</td>
<td>S</td>
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<td>9. replenish</td>
<td>wean</td>
<td>detach</td>
<td>oblige</td>
<td>S</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. movement</td>
<td>insulation</td>
<td>maneuver</td>
<td>reaction</td>
<td>S</td>
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Read the passage. Then answer the questions that follow it.

**Harbor Seals**

Because they live in close **proximity** to the shore, harbor seals are a familiar sight along the New England coast. You may have to look closely to see them because their coloring provides them with a good **camouflage**; their gray and black **mottled** coats are hard to see against the seaweed-covered rocks on which they spend much of their time. During the winter months, they inhabit the waters around Cape Cod and along the Massachusetts shoreline. Their dense fur and thick layer of blubber keep them so well **insulated** that in summer they seek the colder waters of Maine and the Atlantic provinces of Canada.

Harbor seals are equally at home on land and in the water. As the tide **ebb**, they climb onto rocks along the shoreline. They return to the water at high tide to **forage** for crabs, fish, and squid. Harbor seals may seem **lethargic** as they lie basking in the sun, but actually they are **replenishing** their blood supply with fresh oxygen. Whether hunting for food or escaping from sharks and killer whales, harbor seals burn up oxygen rapidly when they are in the water.

Because of their **sleek** bodies and powerful rear flippers, harbor seals can swim up to fifteen miles an hour. They can also **maneuver** swiftly. They use their front flippers to brake and steer. Their excellent eyesight is necessary for survival. Harbor seals must watch for predators in the **murky** New England waters. Healthy harbor seals that stay out of harm's way can live for thirty years.

An adult harbor seal weighs over 200 pounds and eats up to twenty pounds of fish a day. This makes the seals unpopular with those who fish for a living. In fact, seals were so unpopular in the 1800s that the state of Maine offered a **bounty** of five dollars for every harbor seal killed. Then the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 made harbor seals a protected species. The Act was updated in 1994. It is now against the law to kill, capture, or **harass** them in any way.

Female harbor seals give birth in late May and early June. Newborn pups weigh about twenty pounds. They feed on their mother's milk until they are **weaned** at six to eight weeks. Within hours of being born, they are able to swim and are completely at home in the water. Young seals stay close to their
mothers. The mothers keep a wary eye on them until they are able to take care of themselves.

Some seals who ran into problems can be seen by visitors to the New England Aquarium in Boston. Sick or injured seals that could not survive in the wild are brought there for medical treatment. They are kept in a holding tank outside the building. Once restored to health, the harbor seals are released into the ocean to enjoy its limitless freedom but also to face whatever dangers lurk there.

- Answer each of the following questions in the form of a sentence. If a question does not contain a vocabulary word from the lesson’s word list, use one in your answer. Use each word only once.

1. Why are harbor seals unlikely to be spotted in midocean?

2. What happens to the tide when it reaches the high-water mark?

3. Are harbor seals lethargic in the water?

4. Which single word describes both the body shape and coat of the harbor seal?

5. What is the meaning of camouflage as it is used in the passage?

6. Why do you need sharp eyes to see harbor seals basking on the rocks?
7. What is the meaning of **bounty** as it is used in the passage?

8. Why are harbor seals sometimes difficult to spot in the water?

9. Why do harbor seals spend so much time lying in the sun?

10. How does the passage show that seals are good mothers?

11. Why is it difficult for predators to catch harbor seals?

12. What is the purpose of the harbor seal's thick layer of blubber?

13. How do mature harbor seals obtain the nourishment they need?

14. How does the law protect harbor seals?

15. What is the meaning of **wean** as it is used in the passage?