**Learning Objective**We are learning how to use a thesaurus to find words that have a similar meaning.

**Challenge 1  
With a friend/talk partner, use a thesaurus to replace each of the bracketed words with a suitable synonym. (If the word you find is unfamiliar to you, use a dictionary to make sure that you use the word correctly.)**

It was the perfect day for diving in the bay of Port Phillip, Australia. The wind was (calm) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the sky was clear. With one last check of her diving equipment, marine biologist Sheree Marris rolled backwards off the boat and into the sea. Having just (spotted) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a dark shadow below the water’s surface, Sheree knew that spider crabs were (gathering) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on the seabed. As she dived down and drew level with the crabs, she was (surrounded) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by a mass of legs and claws. It was a moving carpet that stretched over 100 metres in length. Sheree knew that the crabs had come to this particular spot to grow and (shed) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ their spiny shells. She couldn’t help noticing that many of the crabs had covered their shells with pieces of seaweed, algae and shell fragments.

Just then, the experienced diver witnessed one particular crab (ripping) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ into the flesh of a fellow spider crab. This was the first time Sheree had (observed) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ such cannibalistic behaviour. She also noticed that a large number of crabs had their legs missing. Incredibly, some spider crabs, such as the gigantic Japanese spider crab, have the ability to (regrow) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ new legs.

Soft, freshly-moulted crab is (irresistible) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to predators like the stingray, and it wasn’t long before a fever of rays arrived on the scene and (swooped) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ low over the spider crabs. Sheree was unable to watch the (spectacle) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for long as the oxygen was running low in her diving tank.