

► Use the Vocabulary Words to complete the paragraph.

entrusted **plodded** **assured** **bountiful** **destiny** **diligence**

Many centuries ago, a young maid was (1) _____ with a baby prince. She was an excellent caretaker and watched over the baby with great (2) _____. She knew that by taking proper care of the prince, she was

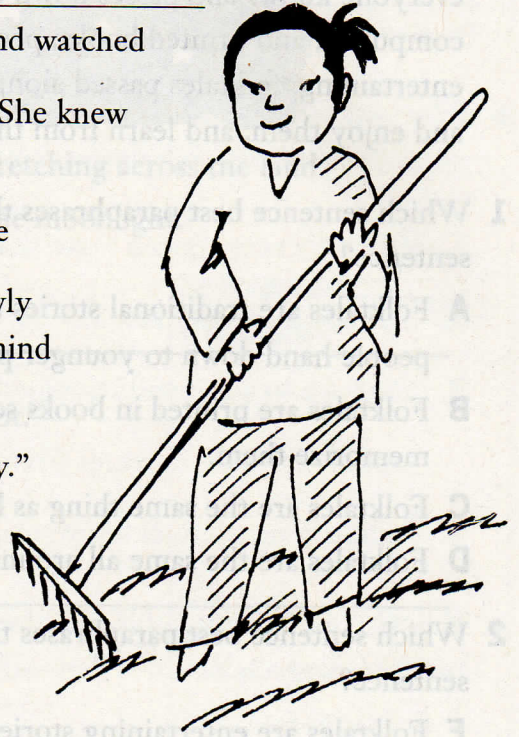
(3) _____ a comfortable life. But one

day she was tired and (4) _____ slowly behind the prince. A masked figure jumped from behind a pillar, snatched the child, and called out, "It is my

(5) _____ to destroy the royal family."

The maid wailed, "We will pay you whatever you ask. Just return the prince. We will give you anything—even our crops, which have been

(6) _____ this year!" So the mysterious man returned the prince and ran off, hoping that he would be given the royal family's crops.



► Write the Vocabulary Word that means the opposite of each underlined word.

7. One year the crop was small and sparse, but the next year it was _____.

8. One year the workers raced through the fields, but the next year they _____.



Write three synonyms for the word *plodded*. Then use each synonym in a sentence.