

# Common word combinations exercise

Fill in the blanks with appropriate prepositions or adverb particles. Each question is followed by three suggested answers. Choose the most appropriate one.

1. . I despair ..... reforming  
that fellow.

about  
of  
off

2. Never deviate ..... the path  
of truth.

off  
with  
from

3. This plan radically differs  
..... the earlier one.

with  
from  
to

4. I am diffident ..... passing

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the TOEFL this time.

of  
about  
for

5. I entirely disagree ..... you  
on this point.

to  
with  
on

6. You are a disgrace ..... your  
whole family.

for  
to  
with

7. I wish to dispose ..... my  
old car.

with  
of  
off

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8. I tried to dissuade him .....  
following such a course of action.

with  
from  
of

9. His father is disgusted .....  
him for his addiction to gambling.

to  
with  
at

10. Although this is similar to the other one, it is  
quite distinct ..... it.

with  
from  
to

## Answers

1. I despair of reforming that fellow.

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2. Never deviate from the path of truth.
3. This plan radically differs from the earlier one.
4. I am diffident about passing the TOEFL this time.
5. I entirely disagree with you on this point.
6. You are a disgrace to your whole family.
7. I wish to dispose of my old car.
8. I tried to dissuade him from following such a course of action.
9. His father is disgusted with him for his addiction to gambling.
10. Although this is similar to the other one, it is quite distinct from it.