

# Opposites exercise

Complete the following sentences using a word opposite in meaning to the underlined word.

1. Coffee is a stimulant while opium is a

.....

retardant

sedative

pacifier

2. The peacock is beautiful, but the ostrich is

.....

ugly

plain

clumsy

dirty

3. The tiger is carnivorous whereas the cow is

.....

viviparous

omnivorous

herbivorous

4. The like poles of a magnet ..... while

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unlike poles attract.

detest  
rival  
repel  
disgust

5. Love is a virtue while hatred is a .....

wise  
vise  
vice

6. The road ascends to the top of the hill and then  
..... to the plain on the other side.

condescends  
concedes  
descends

7. These rules are too rigid. We need more  
..... ones.

lucid  
timid  
flexible

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8. Kindness is admired, but cruelty is

.....

wicked  
despised  
disgusted

9. Some parts are separable from the whole and some are .....

inseparable  
unseparable  
inseparable

10. We should not oppose or ..... a government blindly.

approve  
support  
join  
disapprove

## Answers

1. Coffee is a stimulant while opium is a sedative.

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2. The peacock is beautiful, but the ostrich is ugly.
3. The tiger is carnivorous whereas the cow is herbivorous.
4. The like poles of a magnet repel while unlike poles attract.
5. Love is a virtue while hatred is a vice.
6. The road ascends to the top of the hill and then descends to the plain on the other side.
7. These rules are too rigid. We need more flexible ones.
8. Kindness is admired, but cruelty is despised.
9. Some parts are separable from the whole and some are inseparable.
10. We should not oppose or support a government blindly.