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Core Verb and Preposition Combinations

Medium | B1 | Intermediate | B2 | Upper Intermediate | Gerund | Past tense | Preposition | Present tense | Questions | Sentence | Verb | Simple tense | Collocations

1. Help the ambitious science student explain her highly unusual experiment to her skeptical professor by choosing the correct prepositions.

"Professor, I must insist _____ conducting this experiment with the radioactive hamsters. My entire thesis depends _____ their ability to run in the wheel at light speed. I know you object _____ the potential danger, but I believe _____ my safety protocols!"

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

A) in
B) on
C) to

Blank 2

A) from
B) of
C) on

Blank 3

A) against
B) to
C) at

Blank 4

A) on
B) in
C) about

2. Complete the roommate's rather specific list of household rules.

My eccentric new roommate insists _____ organizing the kitchen spice rack alphabetically by their Latin botanical names.

Select one.

A) to
B) in
C) on
D) about

3. Complete the detective's frustrating interrogation transcript by selecting the correct preposition for each verb.

"Are you going to apologize _____ stealing the mayor's prized garden gnome? The witnesses said you didn't even succeed _____ hiding it! Your alibi consists entirely _____ watching paint dry, and frankly, I don't approve _____ your attitude."

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

A) to
B) for
C) about

Blank 2

A) at
B) in
C) with

Blank 3

A) with
B) from
C) of

Blank 4

- **A)** with
- **B)** of
- **C)** for

4. Complete the aspiring supervillain's annual performance review by matching the correct prepositions to their verbs.

Employee: Henchman #42
Reviewer: Dr. Chaos

"As a professional minion, you rely too heavily _____ dramatic monologues instead of actual lasers. Your evil plans mostly consist _____ stealing office supplies from the hero's headquarters. You cannot blame the superhero _____ your own mistakes, nor can you prevent me _____ firing you if you don't step up your game!"

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** of
- **B)** for
- **C)** from
- **D)** on

Blank 2

- **A)** on
- **B)** for
- **C)** from
- **D)** of

Blank 3

- **A)** on
- **B)** of
- **C)** from
- **D)** for

Blank 4

- **A)** on
- **B)** of
- **C)** for
- **D)** from

5. Complete the local newspaper's dramatic report. Select ALL the phrases that grammatically and logically fit the blank.

After the Great Bakery Disaster of 2023, the town mayor had to _____ the sticky situation.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** apologize for
- **B)** deal with
- **C)** confess about
- **D)** recover of

6. Help the eccentric roommate complete their dramatic email by choosing the correct preposition for each blank.

Dear Alex,

I must apologize _____ the sudden invasion of plastic garden gnomes in our living room. I know you strongly object _____ having lawn ornaments indoors. However, I insist _____ keeping them here, as I have finally succeeded _____ training them to guard the TV remote from the cat.

Yours truly,
Sam

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** in
- **B)** on
- **C)** to
- **D)** for

Blank 2

- **A)** in
- **B)** on
- **C)** for
- **D)** to

Blank 3

- **A)** in
- **B)** for
- **C)** to
- **D)** on

Blank 4

- **A)** on
- **B)** for
- **C)** to
- **D)** in

7. Help the stressed teaching assistant finish her email to the department head. Select ALL the options that correctly complete the sentence.

The eccentric professor _____ bringing a live iguana to every lecture.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** insists on
- **B)** believes in
- **C)** approves on
- **D)** objects about

8. Finish the narrator's dramatic retelling of Professor Plum's latest experiment.

After fifty failed attempts and three minor explosions, the professor finally succeeded _____ building a toaster that doesn't burn the bread.

Select one.

- **A)** at
- **B)** to
- **C)** with
- **D)** in

9. Read this excerpt from the Superhero Academy's training manual. Select ALL the sentences that use the correct verb-preposition combinations.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** You must concentrate on controlling your laser vision before lunch.
- **B)** Many novices succeed in flying only after they stop worrying about gravity.
- **C)** Please refrain of using telepathy during written exams.
- **D)** The instructors apologize at the accidental teleportations yesterday.

10. Help the local journalist complete her notes on the bizarre town hall meeting.

The mayor strongly objects _____ the proposal to paint the historic clock tower neon pink.

Select one.

- **A)** to
- **B)** against
- **C)** at
- **D)** for