

Watch the episode and fill out the gaps

But wisdom and emotional intelligence seem pretty high on the hierarchy of needs. Does sadness have value on a more basic, _____, maybe even evolutionary level? Scientists think that crying and feeling _____ is what originally helped our ancestors secure social bonds and helped them get the support they needed. Sadness, as opposed to anger or violence, was an expression of _____ that could immediately bring people closer to the suffering person, and this helped both the person and the larger community to _____. Perhaps sadness helped generate the unity we needed to survive, but many have wondered whether the suffering felt by others is anything like the suffering we experience ourselves.

The poet Emily Dickinson wrote, 'I measure every grief I meet with narrow, probing eyes - I wonder if it weighs like mine - Or has an easier size.' And in the 20th century, medical _____, like Arthur Kleinman, gathered evidence from the way people talk about pain to suggest that emotions aren't universal at all, and that culture, particularly the way we use language, can influence how we feel. When we talk about heartbreak, the feeling of brokenness becomes part of our experience, whereas in a culture that talks about a bruised heart, there actually seems to be a different subjective experience. Some contemporary thinkers aren't interested in sadness's subjectivity _____ universality, and would rather use technology to eliminate suffering in all its forms.

David Pearce has suggested that genetic engineering and other _____ processes cannot only alter the way humans experience emotional and physical pain, but that world ecosystems ought to be redesigned so that animals don't suffer in the wild. He calls his project 'paradise engineering'. But is there something sad about a world without sadness? Our cavemen ancestors and favourite poets might not want any part of such a paradise. In fact, the only things about sadness that seem universally agreed upon are that it has been felt by most people throughout time, and that for thousands of years, one of the best ways we have to deal with this difficult emotion is to _____ it, to try to express what feels inexpressible. In the words of Emily Dickinson, "'Hope' is the thing with feathers - that _____ in the soul - And sings the tune without the words - And never stops - at all -'