

Part 1

For sections 1 – 8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C, or D) best fits each gap.

IN PRAISE OF MELANCHOLY

Melancholy is not rage or bitterness; it is a noble species of sadness that arises when we are properly open to the idea that suffering and disappointment are at the **(1)** ____ of the human experience. It is not a **(2)** ____ that needs to be cured; it is a tender-hearted, calm, dispassionate acknowledgment of how much agony we will inevitable have to travel **(3)** ____.

Modern society's mania is to emphasize buoyancy and cheerfulness. It wishes either to medicalize melancholy states — and therefore 'solve' them — or to deny their legitimacy altogether. Yet melancholy springs **(4)** ____ a rightful awareness **(5)** ____ the tragic structure of every life. We can, in melancholy states, understand without fury or sentimentality that no one truly understands anyone else, that loneliness is **(6)** ____ and that every life has its full measure of shame and sorrow. The melancholy know that many of the things we most want are in tragic conflict: to feel secure and yet to be free; to have money and yet not to have to be beholden to others; to be in **(7)** ____ communities and yet not to be **(8)** ____ by the expectations and demands of society.

Excerpt taken from the book *The School of Life: An Emotional Education* by Alain de Botton and The School of Life.

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|---|-------------|------------|---------------|------------|
| 1 | A heart | B edge | C corner | D back |
| 2 | A situation | B issue | C disorder | D problem |
| 3 | A down | B through | C up | D around |
| 4 | A up | B down | C off | D from |
| 5 | A off | B from | C about | D of |
| 6 | A universal | B unique | C exceptional | D weird |
| 7 | A isolated | B separate | C close-knit | D distant |
| 8 | A stopped | B stifled | C prevented | D withheld |