

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.

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