

Part 1

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

KINTSUGI

Meaning “joining with gold”, this centuries-old art is more than an aesthetic. For the Japanese, it’s part of a (1) _____ philosophy of embracing the beauty of human flaws.

Most people don’t purposefully shatter their cherished pieces of pottery, but that isn’t always the case in Japanese culture. Adorning broken ceramics with a lacquer mixed with powdered gold is part (2) _____ a more than 500-year-old Japanese tradition that highlights imperfections (3) _____ than hiding them. This not only teaches calm when a cherished piece of pottery breaks; it is a 4) _____ of the beauty of human fragility as well.

In a world that so often 5) _____ youth, perfection and excess, 6) _____ the old and battered may seem strange. But the 15th-Century practice of kintsugi, meaning “to join with gold”, is a reminder to stay optimistic when things 7) _____ and to celebrate the flaws and missteps of life.

The kintsugi technique is an extension of the Japanese 8) _____ of wabi-sabi, which sees beauty in the incomplete and value in simplicity.

Excerpt taken from the article *Kintsugi: Japan’s ancient art of embracing imperfection* by Terushi Sho, posted on the BBC’s website on the 8th of January 2021.

1	A broad	B broader	C broaded	D broadening
2	A of	B on	C off	D across
3	A instead	B rather	C opposite	D contrary
4	A recording	B revival	C reminder	D remembrance
5	A dismisses	B confronts	C hates	D prizes
6	A embracing	B hugging	C paying	D discriminating
7	A fall off	B fall up	C fall apart	D fall down
8	A play	B custom	C concern	D philosophy