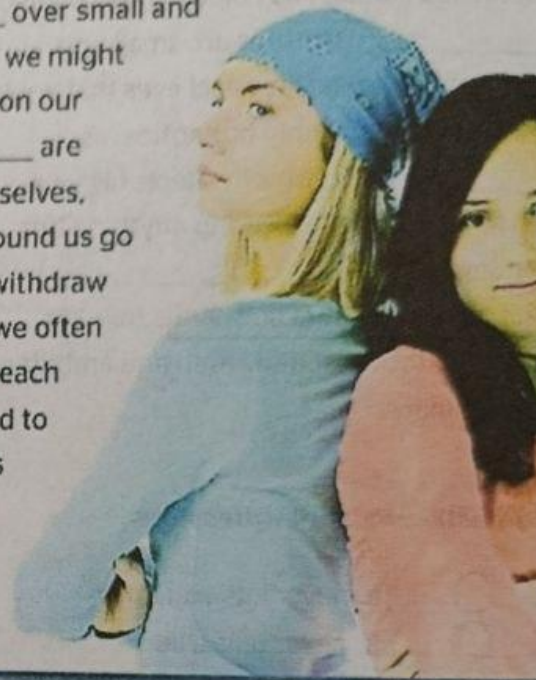


A. Read the text and decide which answer, a, b, c or d best fits each blank.

Through thick and thin

We have many different kinds of relationships: at school with our teachers and classmates, at work with our (1) _____, at home with our families and socially with our friends. No two relationships are identical and some of them develop into "love - hate relationships." Take friendship, for example. At times we may get along very well with our friends, but at other times we (2) _____ over small and unimportant things, which sometimes leads to bigger problems. Or we might be (3) _____ of one of our classmates or a sibling, and that can poison our relationship with them. It is said that these kinds of negative (4) _____ are actually linked to self-esteem. When we are on good terms with ourselves, we feel optimistic about things, and our relationships with those around us go from strength to strength. But often, at the first sign of trouble, we withdraw and become (5) _____. It can be difficult to stop this happening as we often have no control over our feelings, but we must be able to (6) _____ each other through difficulties. For relationships to be successful, we need to (7) _____ each other. Trying to be positive when times are difficult is one of the best ways for a relationship to stand the (8) _____ of time. So next time you fall out with a friend, your parents or a co-worker, keep this advice in mind!



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|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1. a. spouses | b. colleagues | c. headteachers | d. pals |
| 2. a. quarrel | b. confide | c. contribute | d. swap |
| 3. a. generous | b. miserable | c. jealous | d. nosy |
| 4. a. achievements | b. emotions | c. distinctions | d. accomplishments |
| 5. a. extrovert | b. good-natured | c. reserved | d. delighted |
| 6. a. bombard | b. inspire | c. complement | d. support |
| 7. a. keep up | b. get along | c. stand by | d. let down |
| 8. a. test | b. tune | c. match | d. taste |