

THE DEEP WATER

1. Read the passage given below and answer the question that follow:

Trying to scare me, eh? Well, here's to you! Look! And off I'd go for another length of the pool.

i. Who is the speaker of these words?

- A. William O. Douglas
- B. William's mother
- C. William's swimming instructor
- D. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

ii. Whom is 'He' talking to?

- A. His mother
- B. His best friend
- C. His swimming instructor
- D. His old terror of water.

iii. What was the speaker scared of?

- A. The terror of water (Aquaphobia)
- B. The fear of heights (Acrophobia)
- C. The terror of fire (Pyrophobia)
- D. The fear of a closed place (Claustrophobia)

iv. What does 'going for another length of the pool' reflect about the speaker?

- A. He was determined
- B. He was fearful
- C. He was thinking
- D. All of these

2. Read the passage given below and answer the question that follow:

On each trip across the pool a bit of panic seized me. Each time the instructor relaxed his hold on the rope and I went under, some of the old terror returned and my legs froze. It was three months before the tension began to slack. Then he taught me to put my face under water and

exhale, and to raise my nose and inhale, I repeated the exercise hundreds of times. Bit by bit I shed part of the panic that seized me when my head went under water.

i. These lines reflect narrator's _____

- A. Determination
- B. Apathy
- C. Confidence
- D. Both 'A' and 'C'

ii. The narrator joined the pool and took help of in instructor to

- A. to learn swimming
- B. To free himself from the fear of water
- C. to become a swimming coach
- D. Both 'A' and 'B'

iii. What was the lesson narrator learn from his experience?

- A. He has to surrender before fear
- B. He must fight back and come victorious
- C. He should learn to live with this fear.
- D. None of these

iv. Find word from the passage that mean to 'remove' or 'subside'.

- A. Slack
- B. Control
- C. Collect
- D. Seized

3. Tick the right answer from the options given below:

i. The is the theme of the story, 'Deep Water?'

- A. Fear of height (Acrophobia) and authors struggle to free himself from it
- B. Fear of some closed place (Claustrophobia) and authors struggle to free himself from it.
- C. Fear from water (Aquaphobia) and authors struggle to free himself from it.
- D. Fear from fire (Pyrophobia) and authors struggle to free himself from it.

ii. What is the meaning of 'Stroke' in the following lines:

“I swam the crawl, breast stroke, side stroke, and back stroke. Only once did the terror return.”

- A. Different ways of sitting
- B. Different ways of swimming
- C. Different ways of Talking
- D. Different ways of Speaking

iii. What lesson did Douglas learn from this experience:

- A. If we surrender before fear it get the better of us; if we fight back we can come victorious.
- B. Fear is natural phenomenon and we can do very little against it.
- C. Both ‘A’ and ‘B’
- D. ‘B’ but not ‘A’

iv. Initially Douglas was a little shy to get into the pool

- A. Due to being fearful of water
- B. Because he had thin and skinny legs
- C. Because the pool was too deep.
- D. Because he wanted other boys to come and join him.

v. Infer the meaning of ‘Treacherous’ in the following lines:

“The Yakima River was treacherous. Mother continually warned against it.”

- A. Honest
- B. Deceptive
- C. Smooth
- D. Not dangerous

vi. What does the author mean when he says, “I crossed the oblivion, and the curtain of life fell.”

- A. He Came back to his senses.
- B. He went unconscious
- C. He crossed the frontier of a country
- D. He went into someone else field

vii. To check his real strength of swimming, Douglas decided to swim between....

- A. San Juan Island and Hilton Head
- B. Mount Desert Island and Florida

- C. Golden Island and Rocky Island
- D. Trigs island and Stamp Island

4. Answer any five out of the following questions in about 30 words:

- i. How did Douglas develop an aversion to water?
- ii. What did Douglas plan while he was drowning?
- iii. Mention any two long term consequences of the drowning incident?
- iv. What does Douglas mean when he says “the instructor was finished but I was not”.
- v. What was Douglas’ mother warned him about and why?
- vi. What does the author want to mean when he refers Roosevelt said, 'All we have to fear is fear.'

5. Answer the following questions between 125 to 150 words:

- i. What was the haunting fear that besieged Douglas for many days after the misadventure at the pool? What measures did he take to overcome this fear?
- ii. If we surrender ourselves to our fear, they overpower us; if we face them, they fade away’ do you agree? Why? Why not? Discuss with reference to the lesson ‘deep water”.