

CBSE TEST PAPER-02
Class 12 English Core (Deep Water)

General Instructions:-

- All questions are compulsory.
 - Question No.1 to 7 carries 3 marks each.
 - Question No. 8 to 10 carries 6 marks each.
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1. What was the childhood fear of the writer that he wanted to get rid off when he thought of going to YMCA pool in Yakima?
2. What did the instructor first ask Douglas to do to learn swimming?
3. What was the aversion initially? When did it start?
4. What was the 'misadventure' that the writer had at YMCA pool?
5. Douglas made three attempts to come out of water. Was he successful?
6. How was the author saved when he was drowning in the pool?
7. What two things Douglas disliked doing? Which one did he have to do and why?
8. Author said that he was still not out of wits while drowning. What plan(s) did he make to save himself?
9. 'It ruined my fishing trips; deprived me of the joy of canoeing, boating, and swimming'. Explain.
10. "All we have to fear is fear itself." - Discuss.

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Answers

1. When he thought of going to YMCA pool in Yakima he wanted to get rid of his childhood fear. When was about four, he went to beach with his father where the waves knocked him down and swept over him. He was terrorized by the overpowering force of water.
2. The instructor first asked Douglas to go into water and practice for about four to five days. He then put a belt around him with a rope attached to the belt that went through a pulley running on an overhead cable. He held on to the end of the rope, and he went back and forth across the pool for several weeks.
3. The aversion initially was that of water. He was terrorized by the powerful force of water. It started when he was about four and went to beach with his father where he was knocked down by powerful waves.
4. The misadventure that the writer had at YMCA pool was the incident of drowning. He was thrown into the deep end of the pool by a bruiser boy. He didn't know swimming at all. Though he tried to save himself, he failed and was saved by the people.
5. Douglas made three attempts to come out of water. He wasn't successful. He reasoned that when his feet touch the floor of the pool, he will give a push and jump up like a cork. Though he managed to do that, but the force of water above didn't allow him to come to surface.
6. The author tried his level best to come out of water and paddle to the side to hold rope and save himself. He tried the procedure thrice but failed. He went into oblivion or we can say he became unconscious and was saved by the people around.
7. Two things that Douglas hated were - he hated to walk naked into the pool and show his thin legs and he feared going in alone. So, he sat on the side of the pool to wait for others. But he had to go inside the water as no one can learn swimming without going into the water.
8. Author said that he was still not out of wits while drowning. He was able to think and wanted to save himself. He knew that when we push ourselves against the floor, we are pushed back with an equal force and spring in the air. He planned the same trick and thought that when he went down to the floor of the pool, he would push against it and bob up like a cork. However, the force of water pushed him down and didn't allow him to

come to surface. He tried this trick thrice but wasn't successful.

9. 'It ruined my fishing trips; deprived me of the joy of canoeing, boating, and swimming'. It was the fear of water and the terror of the overpowering force of water ruined his trips. When he was a boy of four, he went to a beach with his father. He was holding his father's hand when a powerful wave knocked him down and swept over him. This incident created a terror in his heart. Another incident was at the YMCA swimming pool when he was ducked into the pool and was about to drown. Though he was saved finally, but the terror remained, and it spoiled all his fishing, canoeing and boating trips.
10. William O. Douglas' 'Deep Water' justifies President Roosevelt's assertion that - "All we have to fear, is fear itself." Douglas' aversion to water began with his mother's warnings about the Yakima river and a childhood sea holiday where he first experienced the power of the water. It was followed by a 'misadventure' at the YMCA pool, where a bully pushed him into the water nearly drowning him. This incident turned the fear into a phobia. However, a determined Douglas decided to challenge this weakness. With the help of an instructor, and using a pulley connected by a belt to his waist, he re-learned how to swim in a pool. He learned to dip his head, exhale underwater and inhale on resurfacing. Even after the trainer declared success, Douglas tested his skill in treacherous and unfamiliar waters till his phobia vanished completely. Thereafter, William O. Douglas realized that once the 'fear of fear' disappeared, true success awaited.