

**CBSE TEST PAPER-03**  
**Class 12 English Core (Deep Water)**

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**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. How did the instructor make Douglas learn swimming?
2. Why did Douglas say that the instructor was finished but he didn't?
3. What did President Roosevelt say about fear?
4. How did he make sure to overcome the terror that gripped him whenever he went into water?
5. How did Douglas ensure that he has conquered the fear of water?
6. How and when did the terror of water grip Douglas?
7. When did Douglas decide to learn swimming? What options were available to him? Which one he opt for and why?
8. "At last I felt released - free to walk the trails and climb the peaks and to brush aside fear." Explain.
9. Most of us are very nervous to begin with until gradually we overcome our fears and perform well. Narrate a story to elaborate the statement.
10. Why does Douglas as an adult recount a childhood experience of terror and his conquering of it? What larger meaning does he draw from his experience?

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**Answers**

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1. The instructor made Douglas remain in water for several weeks and then put a belt around his waist and tied a rope with it. The rope went through a pulley to an overhead cable whose other end was held by the instructor. He then made him inhale with his head in water and exhale with his head out of water.
2. Douglas said that the instructor was finished but he wasn't because the instructor had completed his instructions and made him learn the nuances of swimming. However, the terror of water still remained in his heart and thus he said he wasn't finished.
3. President Roosevelt said that we shouldn't fear but we should fear the fear itself thereby telling us not to be fearful but be afraid of the fear and fight it as long as we can do.
4. He learnt swimming through an instructor to make sure to overcome the terror that gripped him whenever he went into water. Whenever he was alone in the pool he would swim the length up and down. When tiny vestiges of the old terror return, he would frown at it.
5. Douglas ensured that he has conquered the fear of water by going from Tieton to Conrad Meadows and up the Conrad Creek Trail to Meade Glacier, where he stripped, dived into the lake, and swam across to the other shore and back.
6. The terror of water gripped Douglas when he was four and went to a beach with his father where a wave knocked him down and swept over him. At the YMCA pool another misadventure happened when he was ten or eleven.
7. Douglas decided to learn swimming when he was ten or eleven years old. He had options to swim either in the Yakima River or in the YMCA pool at Yakima. The Yakima River was dangerous and had drowned many. So, he chose the YMCA pool which was considered safe.
8. "At last I felt released - free to walk the trails and climb the peaks and to brush aside fear." Douglas wants to tell the people that when you conquer some fear or terror that has gripped you for ages, you feel as if you have achieved something unthinkable. When he overcame the fear of terrorizing force of water that had gripped him when he was four he knew that there was nothing that he couldn't achieve. He was then free to walk the trails, climb the peaks and conquer his fear.

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9. Most of us are very nervous to begin with until gradually we overcome our fears and perform well. I know a boy of class twelve who could hardly recite a sentence of English without making mistakes. In his entire schooling he had not dared to read aloud. When I met him, he was hesitant to read lessons aloud but when he was given the confidence that no one is listening, and no one is going to scold him for his mistakes, he started reciting his lessons and within a period of four months with regular practice, he was able not only recite properly but also understand the lessons and score over ninety percent marks in English.
10. Douglas had two childhood experiences of terror. One at the California beach when the waves knocked him down and swept over him. He was terror stricken. At the other occasion he was thrown into the deep end of the YMCA pool by a big bruiser of a boy. A stark terror overpowered and gripped him. It followed and haunted him wherever he went. He realised that his joys of fishing, canoeing, boating and swimming had ruined. Keeping in view its severe consequences, he engaged an instructor who trained him in swimming and Douglas was able to conquer his fear.

This experience had a deeper meaning for Douglas. Because he had experienced both the sensation of dying and the terror that the fear of it can produce, he learnt the will to live in great intensity. This experience can only be realised by those who had faced to conquer it. This exactly happened with Douglas. He knew: In death, there is peace., there is terror only in the fear of death.” Thus one can estimate what matters is the will to live. As Roosevelt said “All we have to fear is fear itself.” So will to live is great and it can take man to touch the highest peaks of life.