



	<b>ENGLISH</b> <b>Deep Water</b>	
<b>Name:</b> _____	<b>Date:</b> _____	<b>Class: XII</b>

Answer the questions in 30-40 words:

Q.1) If you could give the chapter a new title, what would it be? Support your answer with reference to the chapter "Deep Water".

Ans. A potential title for the chapter "Deep Water" could be "Conquering Fear: A Journey of Self-Discovery." This title reflects the central theme of the chapter, as the narrator's experiences in the water lead him to confront and overcome his fear, resulting in personal growth and a deeper understanding of himself.

Q.2) Getting rid of fear is an extremely difficult task. Elucidate with reference to the chapter "Deep Water".

Ans. In the chapter "Deep Water," the narrator's persistent fear of water highlights the immense difficulty of overcoming deep-seated fears. Despite his efforts to confront it, the fear lingers, affecting his daily life and causing anxiety. This illustrates the arduous nature of eliminating fear from one's life.

Q.3) Discuss the significance of the references to the natural world in the chapter "Deep Water".

Ans. The references to the natural world in the chapter "Deep Water" serve to highlight the beauty, tranquility, and vastness of nature. They provide a contrast to the narrator's internal struggle and evoke a sense of peace and harmony. Additionally, they symbolize the potential for personal growth and the healing power of nature.

Q.4) In Deep Water, which qualities of the swimming instructor played a role in helping Douglas overcome his fear?

Ans. The instructor's ability to empathize with Douglas and understand his fear led him to put a belt around Douglas to teach him to swim. This gave Douglas confidence. The instructor's patience was key as day after day, he held on to the rope and walked the length of the pool to help Douglas swim.

Q.5) When Douglas realised that he was sinking, how did he plan to save himself?

Ans: When Douglas realised he was sinking he was frightened out of his wits and it was then that he decided to make a big jump and come up to the surface. He thought of lying flat on water for some time and then to paddle to the edge of the pool.

Q.6) What did Douglas experience as he went down to the bottom of the pool for the first time?

Ans: When Douglas is pushed into the pool, he at once goes to the bottom of the pool. The nine feet deep pool appears like ninety feet to him. He feels a sense of acute uneasiness and as if his lungs are ready to burst. Despite feeling absolutely suffocated he makes desperate efforts for survival.

Q.7) What sort of terror seized Douglas as he went down the water with a yellow glow? How could he feel that he was still alive?

Ans: When Douglas went down the water with a yellow glow it was a nightmarish experience for him. His legs were almost paralysed, his lungs were aching and his head was throbbing. He felt the thumping of his heart and the pounding in his head and these made him realize that he was still alive.



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Q.7)

Why did William Douglas develop aversion to the water when he was three or four years old?

Ans: William Douglas developed an aversion to water when he was three or four years old. He stood at a beach with his father when a wave Swept over him and knocked him down. He was buried under water and became breathless. He was petrified and developed a permanent fear for water.

Q.8) What misadventure did William Douglas experience at the YMCA pool?

Ans: A misadventure at the YMCA pool wherein Douglas was thrown into the deeper end of the pool by a big boy made Douglas afraid of water. He went down into the water three times but failed to come up. Though he was ultimately saved, a terror of water developed in him as his lungs filled with water. His head throbbed and his legs felt paralysed thus making him fear water permanently.

Q.9) Why was Douglas determined to get over his fear of water?

Ans: Douglas was determined to overcome his fear of water because this phobia had ruined his fishing trips. Moreover, he had also never been able to enjoy water sports like canoeing, boating, and swimming. He was determined to get an instructor and learn swimming to get over his fear of water.

Q.10) Why did Douglas go to Lake Wentworth in New Hampshire?

Ans: Douglas went to Lake Wentworth in New Hampshire to test whether he still had any fear of water. After his vigorous swimming practice he was still not very sure if his terror for water had left him. So he wanted to try out his swimming skills at Lake Wentworth. He dived into the lake and only after swimming across the shore and back did he feel certain his terror of water had fled.

Q.11) Which factors led Douglas to decide in favour of YMCA pool?

Ans: When Douglas decided to overcome his childhood fear of water he preferred to go to YMCA swimming pool to learn swimming because it was safe. It was only two or three feet deep at the shallow end; and although it was nine feet at the other end, the drop was quite gradual.

Q.12) Why did Douglas go to Lake Wentworth in New Hampshire? How did he make his terror flee?

Ans: Douglas went to Lake Wentworth in New Hampshire to test whether he still had any fear of water. After his vigorous swimming practice he was still not very sure if his terror for water had left him. So he wanted to try out his swimming skills at Lake Wentworth. He dived into the lake and only after swimming across the shore and back did he feel certain his terror of water had fled.

Q.15) What efforts did Douglas make to get over his fear of water?

Ans: Douglas was determined to get over his fear of water. He engaged a professional instructor who understood the intensity of his fear and decided to not just teach him how to swim but 'build' a swimmer out of him slowly and steadily.

Q.16) Which two frightening experiences did Douglas have in water in his childhood?

Ans: Douglas' first frightening experience in water was when he was three or four years old. He was knocked down by waves while surfing at California beach. He had been terror-struck at that time. Years later, his experience at the YMCA pool revived unpleasant memories when an eighteen year old boy had hurled Douglas into the deep end of the pool. Both these experiences led Douglas to develop a fear of water.

Q.17) How did the instructor turn Douglas into a swimmer?

Ans: To 'build a swimmer' out of Douglas, the instructor began his training with extreme caution. He attached a rope to a belt and put it around Douglas. The rope went through a pulley that ran on an overhead cable. Supported by the cable, they went to and fro in the pool and practiced for weeks



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together. The instructor taught Douglas to put his face underwater and exhale and to raise his nose and inhale. He then taught him to kick in water for many weeks. Finally after seven months, the instructor told him to swim the length of the pool and Douglas' persistent fear started fading.

Q.18) How did Douglas make sure that he conquered the old terror?

Ans: Douglas went to Lake Wentworth in New Hampshire to test whether he still had any fear of water. After his vigorous swimming practice he was still not very sure if his terror for water had left him. So he wanted to try out his swimming skills at Lake Wentworth. He dived into the lake and only after swimming across the shore and back did he feel certain his terror of water had fled.

Q.19) How did William Douglas's aversion to water begin?

Ans: William Douglas developed an aversion to water when he was three or four years old. He stood at a beach with his father when a wave swept over him and knocked him down. He was buried under water and became breathless. He was petrified and developed a permanent fear for water.

Q.20) 'All we have to fear is fear itself.' When did Douglas learn this lesson?

Ans: Douglas learnt this lesson after he had conquered his fear of water completely. He went to Lake Wentworth, dived into the warm lake, and swam across to the other shore and back. He shouted with joy at finally having conquered his fear of water and realized the meaning of Roosevelt's words.