

## QUESTIONS: -

## 1. What is the misadventure that William Douglas speaks about?

Ans- The misadventure that William Douglas speaks about is the experience which he faces at Y.M.C.A swimming pool. When he was ten or eleven years old a big bully of a boy found him alone and tossed him into the deep end of the pool. At once, he went at the bottom and fear to be drowned. The misadventure gave Douglas a lot of agony and trouble and he has to undergo long and intense suffering during those moment.

## 2. What were the series of emotion and fears that Douglas experienced when he was thrown into the pool? What plans did he make to come to the surface?

Ans- When William Douglas was thrown into the pool, he experienced a series of emotions and felt, he was frightened but not out of his wits. He planned to make a big jump to come to the surface but those nine feet appeared to him like ninety feet. He gathered all his strength and took a great jump to come to the surface but no make difference. His legs become stiff and refused to move. When he opened his eyes, he saw nothing but water. It made him panic.

## 3. How did this experience affect him?

Ans- This experience had a lasting effect on Douglas. This gave unpleasant memories and his fear of water. Whenever he went to the pool the haunting fear of water followed him. It also ruined his fishing trips. It deprived him from the joys of canoeing, boating and swimming.

## 4. Why was Douglas determined to get over his fear of water?

Ans- The fear of water stays with him for many years. Douglas used every way to overcome his fear of water but with little success. Wherever he went, it ruined his Joy of boating, fishing and swimming. Even as an adult, it held him firmly in it's grip. He was determined to get over his fear of water. Finally, he decided to get an instructor and learn to swim.

## 5. How did the instructor built a swimmer out of Douglas?

Ans- The instructor made serious efforts to build a swimmer out of Douglas. The instructor made him practice five days in a week, an hour each day. He put a belt around him. Rope was attached to the belt which went through the pulley. He was made to go back and forth across the pool. Panic seized the author everytime. He was also taught how to inhale and exhale. In this way, he built a swimmer out of Douglas piece by piece.

## 6. How did Douglas make sure that he conquered the old terror?

Ans- The instructor had made the Douglas a perfect swimmer. But whenever he was alone in the pool the sign of old terror would return. He wanted to make sure that he was free from the fear of water. So, he decided to went to Lake Wentworth and dived off a dock at Triggs Island. He swam for two miles. Only once the terror returns but his swam on. Thus, he made sure that he had conquered the old terror.

## 7. What happened to Douglas when all efforts ceased?

Ans- Douglas tried very hard to come out of the pool but all his efforts ceased. Even his legs were rigid. He found himself in a hopeless situation. He felt drowsy and crossed to oblivion. When he came to his senses, he found himself lying on a stomach beside the pool. He was vomiting.

## 8. How did William Douglas overcome his fear of water?

Ans- The fear that developed in the pools with Douglas for many years. This fear of water ruined his fishing trips, boating and swimming. Finally he decided to get an instructor and learn to swim. He practiced 5 days a week an hour each day. The instructor made in practiced by putting a belt around him. Rope was attached to the belt which went through a pulley and Douglas held one end of the rope and went back and forth across the pool. The instructor was able to build a swimmer out of Douglas. Douglas was not very sure because some signs of old fear would return when he was alone in the pool. So, one day he went to Lake wentworth and dived off a dock at Triggs Island. He swam two miles across the lake and finally he was able to conquer his fear of water.

## 9. How does Douglas make clear to the reader the sense of panic that gripped him as he almost drowned? Describe the details that have made the description vivid?

Ans- Douglas never imagined that he would face so much trouble in his life. The trouble started when a young boy tossed him into a deep end of the pool. He at once, went at the bottom of the pool in a sitting position. He plans to make a jump and come to the surface but those nine feet appear to be more like ninety. He gathered all his strength and took a great jump. When he opened his eyes he looks nothing but water and grew panicky. Douglas legs were paralysed. He cried for but nothing happened. All his efforts were ceased. He felt drowsy and when he came to his senses, he found himself lying beside the pool vomiting.

## 10. Why does Douglas as an adult record a childhood experience of terror and his conquering of it? What larger meaning does he drop from this experience?

Ans- In deep water Douglas recounts a childhood experience of terror of water. He also describes his determination of conquering that fear of water. Here he shows all terrors

and obstacles can be overcome through persistent efforts. His experience is a useful lesson for others to succeed even in the most difficult circumstances. He describes how a big boy threw him into the deep end of the Y.M.C.A. pool. He felt suffocated. His legs did not work and a terror seized him. When he came to his senses, he found himself lying beside the pool. Finally, an instructor gave him training and made him a swimmer. He went to Lake Wentworth and dived off a dock at Triggs Island and swam for two miles. At last, he was able to conquer his fear of water. Douglas's experience has a deep meaning he had experienced both the sensation of dying and the fear of it. Finally what matters is the will to live. As Roosevelt said, "All we have to fear is fear itself." He felt released free to walk the mountain paths, climb the peaks and brush aside fear.

### OBJECTIVE QUESTIONS: -

**Q 1. At the end of the experience, Douglas felt**

- (a) happy (b) released
- (c) sad (d) victorious

**Q 2. 'All we have to fear is fear itself. Who said these words?**

- (a) Douglas (b) his instructor
- (c) his father (d) President Roosevelt

**Q 3. Where was the lake Wentworth?**

- (a) In New Hampshire (b) in Washington
- (c) in California (d) in Washington D.C

**Q 4. How did Douglas make sure that he had conquered the old terror?**

- (a) By visiting California
- (b) By jumping into the waters
- (c) By taking a lesson from the instructor
- (d) By swimming into the lake Wentworth

**Q 5. What were the series of emotions and fears that Douglas experienced when he was thrown into the pool?**

- (a) Fear
- (b) Confidence
- (c) Overconfidence
- (d) Mixed feelings of confidence and fear

**Q 6. What was the fear in Douglas' mind?**

- (a) To be defeated (b) To be pushed
- (c) Being drowned (d) None

**Q 7. What did William O Douglas desire for?**

- (a) Visit to California (b) To be a judge
- (c) To learn swimming (d) To be with his mother

**Q 8. What is haunting the author?**

- (a) Terrible experience in the pool
- (b) Ghosts
- (c) His mother's words
- (d) A push by a young boy

**Q 9. Where did the writer go when he was 3 or 4 years**

**old in the story?**

- (a) Washington (b) New Zealand
- (c) California (d) Canada

**Q 10. Y.M.C.A stands for?**

- (a) Young Men's Christian Authority
- (b) Young Men's Christopher Association
- (c) Young Men's Christian Army
- (d) Young Men's Christian Association

**Q 11. For how many years had the author taught in high school in Yakima?**

- (a) 2 years (b) 4 years
- (c) 3 years (d) 5 years

**Q 12. Who is the author of Deep Water?**

- (a) William Shakespeare
- (b) William George Bernard Shaw
- (c) William Wordsworth
- (d) William Douglas

**Q 13. What distance Douglas covered while swimming across the lake Wentworth?**

- (a) 4 miles (b) 3 miles
- (c) 5 miles (d) 2 miles

**Q 14. What was stopping Douglas to get into the waters of Cascade?**

- (a) Memories of Washington
- (b) Memories of California
- (c) Instructions given by the instructor
- (d) Memories full of terror in the pool

**Q 15. Whenever terror struck again, Douglas would start**

- (a) shouting (c) crying
- (b) laughing (d) talking to terror

**Q 16. Douglas had to repeat exhaling and inhaling exercises**

- (a) hundred times (b) forty times
- (d) ten times (c) fifty times

**Q 17. He practised in the pool**

- (a) ten times a week (b) five days a week
- (c) twice a week (d) thrice a week

**Q 18. After being haunted by fear for many years Douglas decided to learn to swim. He took the help of**

- (a) his mother (c) a friend
- (b) his father (d) an instructor

**Q 19. How many times did Douglas try to come to the surface of the pool?**

- (a) Twice (b) Once
- (c) Five times (d) Thrice

**Q 20. Why did Douglas hate to walk bare legs?**

- (a) Ugly looking legs (b) Fat legs
- (c) Because of skin colour
- (d) Because of skinny legs

**Q 21. "I crossed to oblivion, and the curtain of life fell".**

**What does oblivion mean?**

- a) spavilion                      b) changing room
- c) unconsciousness        d) death

**Q 22. What distance Douglas covered while swimming across the lake Wentworth?**

- a) 4 miles                      b) 3 miles
- c) 5 miles                      d) 2 miles

**Q 23. Where was the lake Wentworth?**

- a) In New Hampshire        b) in Washington
- c) in California                d) in Washington D.C

<b>ANSWERS KEY:</b>
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1-(B), 2-(D), 3-(A), 4-(D), 5-(D), 6-(C), 7-(C), 8-(A), 9-(C), 10-(D), 11-(A), 12(D), 13(D), 14-(D), 15-(D), 16-(A), 17(B), 18(D), 19(D), 20(D), 21-(C), 22-(D), 23-(A)