

4. FLAMINGO: PROSE SEEN PASSAGE

1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:
(RBSE 2013)

'I used every way I knew to overcome this fear, but it held me firmly in its grip. Finally, one October, I decided to get an instructor and learn to swim. I went to a pool and practiced five days a week, an hour each day. The instructor put a belt around me. A rope attached to the belt went through a pulley that ran on an overhead cable. He held on to the end of the rope, and we went back and forth, back and forth across the pool, hour after hour, day after day, week after week. On each trip across the pool a bit of the 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.'

Passage Questions:

i) What was the narrator's fear? -

Ans. The narrator had a fear of water, specifically of going underwater.

(ii) What decision did the narrator take? -

Ans. The narrator decided to get a swimming instructor and practice swimming to overcome their fear.

(iii) What tip was given to the narrator? -

Ans. The instructor taught the narrator to put their face underwater and exhale, then raise their nose and inhale. This helped them overcome the panic of being underwater.

(iv) How long did the narrator take to slack his fear? -

Ans. It took the narrator three months for the tension and fear to begin to relax.

(v) What is the opposite of 'exhale'? -

Ans. The opposite of 'exhale' is 'inhale'.

(vi) One word for 'sudden uncontrollable fear' is -

Ans. There are many words to describe "sudden uncontrollable fear," some options include: panic, terror, fright, dread, horror, or anxiety.