

# Chapter-3

## Deep Water

### SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. **How and when did Douglas develop an aversion to water?**

**Ans.** His aversion to water began when he was three or four years old. He went with his father to a beach where the waves knocked him down and overpowered him. This created the phobia in his mind and left him in a state of fear.

2. **Why has the Yakima river been referred to as treacherous?**

**Ans.** There had been several cases of drowning in the river. It was not considered safe because of its rough water and fast current.

3. **In order to escape drowning what strategy did Douglas adopt while in the deep end of the pool?**

**Ans.** When Douglas was thrown into water, he was terribly frightened but still mentally alert. He planned that when his feet hit the bottom, he would make a big jump, come to the surface lie flat on it and paddle to the edge of the pool.

4. **How did the instructor 'build a swimmer' out of Douglas?**

**Ans.** The instructor built a swimmer out of Douglas piece by piece. For three months, he held him high on a rope attached to his belt. Douglas practiced moving back and forth across the pool. Then he was taught to put his face under water and exhale, then raise his nose and inhale. Next, the instructor told him to kick with his legs. Finally his legs relaxed and he could command over them.

### LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. **Give an account of the fears and emotions of Douglas as he made efforts to save himself from drowning in YMCA pool.**

**Ans.**

- When the author was flung into the deep end of the pool, he was overcome with fear.
- Fortunately, he was able to think rationally.
- So, he planned that as soon as he hit the bottom, he would make a big jump.



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- He hoped that he would be able to come to the surface.
  - but his efforts went futile.
  - Panic groped him when he realised that he had gone deep inside nine feet of water.
  - He thought he would bob to the surface like a cork
  - His limbs were almost paralysed.
  - He failed to find anything to hold on to and he was again being pulled under.
  - His lungs ached and his screams went unheard.
  - The mass of yellow water gripped him which produced stark terror.
  - When three attempts to rise to the surface failed, he fainted. He experienced a terror which never left him.

