

MODEL QUESTION PAPER - SET IICHAP. - 03 - DEEP WATER

ABOUT THE AUTHOR :- Douglas was a leading advocate of individual rights. He was a judge at the Supreme Court of U.S.A. retired in 1975. He was born in 1898 & died in 1980.

SUMMARY :- In this story he tells about his fear of water and how he conquered it by determination and will power.

As a child, when he was 3 or 4 yrs old, he would go to the beach in California with his father. He would get scared by the might of the huge waves which swept over him and it instilled a fear in his sub-conscious mind.

He started learning swimming with the help of an instructor who ensured that William knew swimming well enough to be able to swim in huge lakes & waterfalls also.

He faced it sarcastically, thinking that now, as he knew how to swim, what harm could it do to him. He challenged his fear in the face of it and finally it would vanish.

This experience was valuable for him. He overcame it and finally

conquered it. William realized that death is peaceful and it is life grew intensely as he had overcome his fear & started living fearlessly.

Important Question Answer :-

Q17 How did Douglas overcome his fear of water?

Ans William Douglas was not able to come out of his fear. So, he hired a swimming instructor. Once he had learned swimming he wanted to check if he had overcome the fear as well. He would swim in lakes and found the fear to return in small phases. Hence, he overcame the fear.

Q27 What happened at the YMCA swimming pool which instilled fear of water in Douglas mind?

Ans Since the age of 3 or 4 years, the author accompanied his father to the beach, he realized that he disliked water. Later at the age of ten - eleven years he decided to learn swimming. He felt that the swimming pool was safe. A big boy picked up the author and threw him in the pool at the deep end. He got water in his mouth & sank to the bottom. His lungs felt as if

they would thirst, he was overpowered by fear, reached out, as if to grab something, but could only get his hands on the water. An unexplainable terror seized him. His limbs were lifeless, rigid due to fear and he could not even scream, the only sign of life was his heart beat. He sucked in water and then suddenly all his efforts to save himself stopped. He was relaxed, peaceful, fearless and sleepy almost dead.

It was due to these experiences that the author developed an aversion to water.

Q37 How did the instructor turn Douglas into a swimmer?

Ans The instructor made him practice swimming step by step and, gradually piece by piece, turned him into a swimmer. When he had perfected each piece, he put them together into an integrated whole.

Q4 What is the "misadventure" that William Douglas speaks about?

Ans. The 'misadventure' that William Douglas speaks about is how he nearly drowned himself in a swimming pool when he was a young boy.

Q5 What were the series of emotions and fears that Douglas experienced when he was thrown into the pool? What plans did he make to come to the surface?

Ans. At first Douglas felt frightened. But he did not panic. He decided to land at the bottom of the pool as soon as he hit it. He shoot forth up as he planned. He came up slowly at the surface of water. He grew more frightened and suffocated because his legs have no life. Then he went down again once again. At last, he shoot forth of the floor of the pool. He came up slowly. His lungs ached, his head throubbbed. He was getting unconcious as he went down again. He jumped off the bottom of the pool.

He again came surface third time. Then he felt relaxed. He had no terror now. His mind was quite peaceful.

Q6 How did this experience affect him ?

Ans. This experience affected him greatly. He nearly died. He was weak and shivering. He couldn't eat that night. He shook and cried when he lay on his bed. There was a haunting terror in his heart for many days. He never went back to the pool. He feared water. He avoided it whenever it was possible for him.

~~Overcome~~

Q7 Why was Douglas determined to get over his fear of water?

Ans. Douglas was determined to get over his fear of water because the fear of water stuck to his mind for years. It ruined his fishing trips. It deprived him of the joy of canoeing, boating and swimming. Therefore he was anxious to overcome his fear of water.

Q8 How did the instructor "build a swimmer" out of Douglas?

Ans. Douglas decided to get an instructor and learn to swim. The instructor put a belt around Douglas. A rope was attached to the belt went through a pulley that ran on an overhead cable. The trainer held one end of the rope, and they went back and forth.

across the pool. This went on for many days. Then he taught him to put his face under water and exhale. He also taught Douglas to raise his nose and inhale. Douglas repeated the exercise hundreds of times. Thus, piece by piece, the instructor built a swimmer out of Douglas.

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

Ans. To make sure that Douglas conquered the old terror, he dived into Wentworth lake in New Hampshire, dived off a dock at Triggs Island, and swam two miles across the lake to Stamp Act Island.

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

1. 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 makes clear to the reader the sense of panic that gripped him as he almost drowned by giving the different description of his account. He talks about his fear of water. He describes the experiences of emotions and fears when he was thrown into the pool.

Douglas was thrown in a swimming pool by a strong boy. He did not know how to swim. But he decided to jump off the bottom of the pool as soon as he hit it. But he failed in doing so. He was frightened. These nine feet were likely ninety feet. He was suffocating. His lungs were ready to burst. His legs were as it paralysed. He was getting dizzy. He screamed but only water heard, him. Then a terror seized him. The death was before him.

2. How did Douglas overcome his fear of water?

Ans. The fear of water remained with Douglas so many years. He used every way he knew to overcome this fear, but it held him firmly. Then, he decided to get an instructor and learn to swim. He went to a pool and practised. The instructor tied a belt round Douglas. A rope was attached to the belt and went through a pulley that ran along a cable overhead. The trainer held one end of the rope as they back and forth in the pool.

This exercise repeated several weeks. After that instructor taught him to put his face under the water and exhale. At last the instructor made him a good swimmer. Now Douglas could swim without any instruction. But the fear of water was still now in his heart. He wanted to get rid of this fear of water.

So, one day he went to lake Wentworth in New Hampshire and dived off a dock at Trigg Island and swam two miles across the lake to Stamp Act Island. Now, he was fully confident that he had overcome his fear of water.

3. Why does Douglas as an adult recount a childhood experience of terror and his conquering of it? What larger meaning does he draw from this experience?

Ans. Douglas as an adult recount a childhood experience of terror and his conquering of it because this experience had a great impact on him. It is because only those who have experienced terror and conquered it can appreciate. There is terror only in the fear of death. Douglas quotes Roosevelt here, "All we have to fear is fear itself." He points out larger meaning from this experience. He has experienced both the sensation of dying and the will to live somehow grew in intensity. Finally, he felt released. He wants to tell us that we should keep strength even in odd situation. We should try to conquer our fear. Then we could easily overcome it.

CHAP: - 04 - THE RATTRAP

ABOUT THE AUTHOR :- Selma Lagerlof (1858-1940) was a Swedish writer whose stories have been translated into many languages. The story is narrated in the manner of a fairy tale. It gives us the message that the emotions of love and acceptance can reform others.

SUMMARY :- The rattrap is a story about a rattrap seller who leads a very poor life as his earnings are very low. He is alone in this whole world and leads a miserable life. So he starts knitting up various kinds of thoughts. One of these thoughts is of supposing the whole world as a big rattrap.

Every night, the peddler had to search for shelter as he has no home. One evening he was offered shelter by an old crofter. The next morning he stole the crofter's money which he had earned by selling his cow's milk. To safeguard himself, the peddler chose the path through the forest which was secluded, but soon found himself trapped in the forest as he was not able to find the way out of the dense forest. Later

on, he finds a way to a forge and takes shelter there. The ~~so~~ ironmaster mistakes him as an old friend and invites him to his house. Soon he is invited by the ironmaster's daughter. The next morning he is somehow stopped by the ~~so~~ ironmaster's daughter for Christmas Eve after being caught that he was a peddler and not Captain Stalhe.

The next day Christmas, when the ironmaster and his daughter visit the church, they come to know that the man is a thief who stolen money from the old crofter. The ironmaster and his daughter repent for sheltering a thief and wonder at what all things he would have stolen by that time. Here comes a twist as instead of stealing, the peddler gifts the ironmaster's daughter a rattrap. She finds a letter of thanks and the stolen money inside the rattrap. The peddler thanks Edla for her kindness and requests her to return the stolen money to the crofter.

This story gives us the message that goodness in a human being can be awakened at any time with your own good deeds.

1. What made the peddler accept Edla Willmansson's invitation?

Ans. The peddler accepted Edla Willmansson's invitation because she spoke to him kindly. She knew that he was afraid. So, she assured him that no harm would come to him, and he would be free to leave the home whenever he wanted to.

2. What doubts did Edla have about the peddler?

Ans. Edla thought, "Either he has stolen something or else he has escaped from jail."

3. When did the ironmaster realise his mistake?

Ans. The ironmaster had seen the peddler in the uncertain dim light of the furnace. But when he saw the peddler standing in broad daylight washed and shaved, then he realised his mistake.

4. What did the peddler say in his defence when it was clear that he was not the person the ironmaster had thought he was?

Ans. The peddler said that he had never pretended to be ironmaster's regimental comrade. He only wanted to have a shelter for the night. He had been continuously declining the ironmaster's invitation. And now he was willing to go away.

5. Why did Edla still entertain the peddler even after she knew the truth about him?

Ans. Edla still entertained the peddler even after she knew the truth about him because she thought that he was a poor homeless tramp. It was not appropriate to chase away a human being when they have asked to come there. She wanted to get the joy of feeding a hungry poor man on Christmas.

Think as you read

6. Why was Edla happy to see the gift left by the peddler?

Ans. Edla had learned in the church that the peddler was a thief. He had stolen the old crofter's money. Her father taunted her. But finding the money left by the peddler she became happy. The man was not a thief after all. All this made her happy.

7. Why did the peddler sign himself as Captain Von Stahle?

Ans. The peddler signed himself as captain Von Stahle because ironmaster's daughter had reformed him. She addressed him as a captain. In that way, he got power to cheer himself. So, he signed as "Captain Van Stahle" Infact he was captain Von Stahle.

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

1. How does the peddler interpret the acts of kindness and hospitality shown by the crofter, the ironmaster and his daughter?

Ans. The peddler thought that the acts of kindness and hospitality shown by the crofter, the iron master and his daughter were baits for a poor wanderer. They lured him into a trap. If the crofter had not shown him his money, he would not have stolen. It was a bait he wanted for and ultimately he got himself trapped in it. The ironmaster invited him in his home. But the peddler declined the invitation, thinking that he would be caught. Then finally he had to accept Edla Willmansson's invitation. He said to himself that he was going to be caught in a trap. He cursed himself for stealing the crofter's money. But somehow he came out of this trap by returning the crofter's thirty kroner. He went away from the ironmaster's house without taking any of his thing.

2. What are the instances in the story that show that the character of the ironmaster is different from that of his daughter in many ways?

Ans. There are many instances in the story which show that the character of the ironmaster is different from that of his daughter in many ways. The ironmaster is a strict and powerful man while Edla is gentle and kind. She is of shy nature. The ironmaster speaks gently to the peddler and invites him in his home. He considers him to be his old regimental comrade. But when he comes to know that he has been mistaken, he loses all sorts of interests in him. He feels himself cheated. The ironmaster decides to

hand him over to sheriff. On the other hand, Edla does not believe the peddler to be a captain. She takes him as a vagabond. She wants to feed him in the true spirit of Christmas. She disagrees with her father when he asks the peddler to go away. She thinks that it is not a fair way to chase away a human being whom they have asked to come there, and to whom they have promised Christmas cheer. She never thinks that the peddler will deceive them. But the ironmaster has feared that he will cause some harm to them. When Edla comes to know about peddler robbing crofter, she feels sorry for him.

3. The story has many instances of unexpected reactions from the characters to others' behaviour. Pick out instances of these surprises.

Ans. The story has many instances of unexpected reactions from the characters to others' behaviour. The instances of these surprises are as follows –

(i) The homeless peddler asked for a night's shelter at the crofter's cottage. The crofter who was an old man without wife or child, became happy to find someone to talk to in his loneliness. He treated him like a friend and served him hot porridge. He gave him tobacco to smoke. The crofter told everything about himself to the peddler. He showed the peddler three wrinkled ten-kroner bills. It was least expected that the peddler would deceive the crofter who had served him so well.

(ii) The peddler asked ironmaster to sleep near forge for a night. The ironmaster spoke very kindly to him and invited him home. But the peddler declined his invitation. This refusal of the peddler seems very much an unexpected behaviour.

4. What made the peddler finally change his ways?

Ans. It was Edla's selfless concern for poor homeless peddler that made him to change his ways. Edla had been so nice to him, as if he was a captain. Now the peddler wanted to be nice to her in return, as if he was a real captain. He wanted to repay her kindness. He did not want her to be embarrassed at this Christmas season by a thief. He returned back the crofter's money. All this made him finally change his ways.

5. How does the metaphor of the rattrap serve to highlight the human predicament?

Ans. The metaphor is used by the peddler. He thinks this whole world is a big rattrap. It sets baits to attract people to catch them. The comparison is quite apt. We use cheese or pork to lure rats into a trap. In the same way, this world has many baits for humans. These are clothing, riches, lands, food, joys and so many other things. Anybody who touches the world closes on him. He or she cannot escape these things. They become more and more greedy. Though we are all aware of this trap, and see those caught in it are unhappy, but we could not stop ourselves from circling around those baits. We all are eager to be trapped voluntarily in this trap, and invite troubles for ourselves. This is our predicament.

6. The peddler comes out as a person with a subtle sense of humour. How does this serve in lightening the seriousness of the theme of the story and also endear him to us?

Ans. The peddler comes out as a person with a subtle sense of humour. This serves a great deal in lightening the seriousness of the theme of the story and also endears him to us. His very idea of the world being a rattrap is humorous. When the peddler goes with Edla to her father's house, he thinks, "Now I am sitting in the trap and will never get out of it." This is really a funny thing for us. Trap is used here both as a carriage and a snare. The subtle sense of humour can be seen in his letter addressed to Edla where he writes, "Since you have been so nice to me all day long, as if I was a captain, I want to be nice to you, in return, as if I was real captain." Then the humour can be seen in the final lines. "The rattrap is a Christmas present from a rat who would have been caught in this world's rattrap if he had not been raised to captain, because in that way he got power to clear himself." This funny use of words gives an imaging and interesting end to the story.

ENGLISH CORECLASS - XIICHAP. - 05INDIGO

ABOUT THE AUTHOR :- Louis Fischer was born in Philadelphia. He made a career as a journalist and wrote for "The New York Times". He was also a member of the faculty at Princeton University.

SUMMARY :- Louis Fischer met Gandhi in 1942 at his ashram in Sevagram. Gandhi told him that how he initiated the departure of the British from India. He recalled that it in 1917 at the request of Rajkumar Shukla a sharecropper from Champaran, he visited the place. Shukla told him that he had come from Champaran to seek his help in order to safeguard the interests of the sharecroppers. Gandhiji told him that he was busy so Shukla accompanied him to various places till he consented to visit Champaran. Gandhi went to lawyer Rajendra Prasad's house and they waited for him. In order to get complete knowledge of the situation, he reached Muzaffarpur on 15th April 1917. He was welcomed by Prof. J.B. Kriplani and his students. Gandhi was surprised to see the immense support for an advocate of home rule like him. As per the contract, 15 percent of the peasant's land holding was to be reserved for cultivation.

of indigo, the crop of which was given to the landlord as rent. He went to Motihari where he started gathering complete information about the indigo contract. Many lawyers came to advise him but when he stressed, they all joined his struggle & even consented to go to jail in order to help the poor peasants. On the day of trial a large crowd gathered near the court. Gandhiji gave his statement that he was not a lawbreaker but he disobeyed so that he could help the peasants. He was granted bail and later on, the case against him was dropped.

He opened six schools in Champaran villages and volunteers. Later on with the help of a volunteer doctor he provided medical facility to the natives of Champaran, thus making their life a bit better. A peace maker, Andrews wanted to volunteer at Champaran ashram. But Gandhiji refused as he wanted Indians to learn the lesson of self reliance so that they would not depend on others.

Q1 What did the peasants pay the British landlords as rent? What did the British now want instead and why? What would be the impact of synthetic indigo on the prices of natural indigo?

Ans. The landlords compelled all the sharecroppers to plant three twentieths or 15 percent of their holdings with indigo and rendered the entire indigo harvest to the British landlords as rent. This was done by a long-term contract. The British landlords did not want them now to plant indigo. They came to know that Germany had developed synthetic indigo. As a result, the prices of indigo were bound to go down in a considerable manner. So, they got agreements from the peasants to pay them compensation for being released from the 15 percent arrangement.

~~Read the text carefully~~

Q2) The events in this part of the text illustrate Gandhi's method of working. Can you identify some instances of this method and link them to his ideas of Satyagraha and non-violence?

Ans. Gandhiji continued with the work for which he had come to Champaran. He met the British official commissioner of the Tirhut division in which the Champaran district lay. He bullied Gandhiji and ordered him to leave Tirhut at once. Gandhiji did not leave. Instead he proceeded to Motihari, the capital of Champaran. Gandhiji received a notice but he declared that he would not leave. Several lawyers accompanied him. Gandhiji received a summons to appear in court the next day. Thousands of peasants came in support of Gandhiji. They surrounded the court building. Gandhiji did not allow them to commit any kind of violence. Gandhiji also protested against the delay. He read a statement pleading guilty. He accepted that he disregarded the order to leave, "not for want of respect for lawful authority, but in obedience to the higher law of our being, the voice of conscience." He did not want to set an example as a lawbreaker. All these events in this part of the text illustrate Gandhi's method of working. The above mentioned events are some examples of this method and link them to his idea of satyagraha and non-violence.

~~Read the text carefully~~

Q3) Why did Gandhi agree to a settlement of 25 percent refund to the farmers?

Ans. Gandhi agreed to a settlement of 25 percent refund to the peasants because according to Gandhiji, the amount of the refund was less important than the fact that the landlords had been obliged to surrender part of the money and, with it, part of their prestige. The British landlords used to consider themselves above law. They behaved their tenants brutally. The peasants now had got rid of their fear. They were no longer afraid of them.

Q4) How did the episode change the plight of the peasants?

Ans. This episode changed the plight of the peasants considerably. They found that they had rights and defenders. This episode liberated the peasants from the fear of the British landlords. They learned courage. Now they faced the British landlords with courage. The British landlords left their estates, which were reverted to the peasants. Cultivation of indigo was stopped. Besides this, they got back a part of money they had paid to the British landlords as compensation.

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

Q5) Why do you think Gandhi considered the Champaran episode to be a turning point in his life?

Ans. Gandhiji considered the Champaran episode to be a turning point in his life because from now the peasants have come out of the fear from the British land-lords. He had come to Champaran to visit Shukla for some days. But after seeing the miserable condition of peasants, he lived there for 7 months. The British land-lords behaved the peasants as their slaves. The peasants have to cultivate indigo for them. But when

Germany discovered synthetic indigo, the cultivation of indigo was stopped in India, because the price of indigo will come down now. This issue was moved into the court where Mr. Gandhi was declared the winner. The tenants got back a small part of money they had paid to the British landlords as compensation. The peasants now had got rid of their fear. They were no longer afraid of them.

Q6) How was Gandhi able to influence lawyers? Give instances.

Ans. Gandhiji was ready to go to jail against the injustice to the sharecroppers. The lawyers thought that amongst themselves, Gandhiji was totally a stranger person. But he was ready to go to jail for the sake of poor peasants. This influenced them. They thought that it would be a shameful desertion, if they go home. Therefore, they told Gandhiji that they were ready to follow him into jail.

Q7) What was the attitude of the average Indian in smaller localities towards advocates of 'home rule'?

Ans. The attitude of the average Indian in smaller localities towards advocates of 'home rule' was totally negative. They were afraid to show sympathy for the advocates of home rule in those days.

Q8) How do we know that ordinary people too contributed to the freedom movement?

Ans. When Gandhiji was in problem with the authorities in Champaran, thousands of peasants gathered around the court building. They became ready to follow him in the jail. All this shows their contribution to the freedom movement.