A) Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:

a) Why was the YMCA pool considered safe? What did Douglas’ mother warn him about and why?

b) Who was the boy who threw Douglas into the water? Why do you think he did this?

c) What did Douglas mean by saying, “The instructor was finished, but I was not?”

d) Why did Douglas choose YMCA pool for learning swimming?

e) Why did Douglas avoid the pool whenever he could?

f) What physical complexes did Douglas suffer from?

g) What was the reaction of Douglas’ father when Douglas was knocked down at the beach by a wave?

h) What happened when Douglas went down the second time? What did he feel?

i) How did Douglas’ will to live grow in intensity?

j) What did Douglas mean by saying, “All we have to fear is fear itself”?

k) How did he put himself to test? What was the outcome?

l) Explain the writer’s first attempt to come out of the pool.

m) Why was the writer’s second attempt to come out of the pool as unsuccessful as the first?

B) Answer the following questions in 125-150 words:

1) What impression do you form of the narrator from his autobiographical account?

2) Describe Douglas’ experience of learning to swim by hiring a professional tutor.