

THE RIVER THAMES



The River Thames starts in the Cotswold hills in England and flows eastwards for 338 km. It flows through London, the capital city, and finally pours into the North Sea. At the beginning the water is fresh, but the last part of the Thames is sea water.

The Thames in London is very famous of course. You can travel by boat along the river and see the famous London sights, like Tower Bridge, Big Ben and the London Eye. It's a great way to see London quickly!

Lots of people have holidays near the Thames or on the Thames - and never go near London! The 'young' Thames flows through very beautiful places and you can go fishing, swimming or boating.

There are pictures and stories of people skating on the Thames in London in the winter - but these days the Thames never freezes. It's still a great place to have fun.

(Source: MacMillan's Smart Elementary workbook)

Are the statements true (✓), false (✗) or doesn't it say (Ø)?

- 1 The Thames starts in the North Sea.
- 2 It is 3380 metres long.
- 3 The last part of the river has lots of fish.
- 4 You can see all London sights from the Thames.
- 5 The Thames flows through London.
- 6 There are usually rowing races on the Thames.
- 7 People like going on holidays near or on the Thames.
- 8 The Thames often freezes in winter.
- 9 It doesn't go through countryside.
- 10 You can travel by boat along the river.

Answer the questions.

- 1 Where does the Thames start?

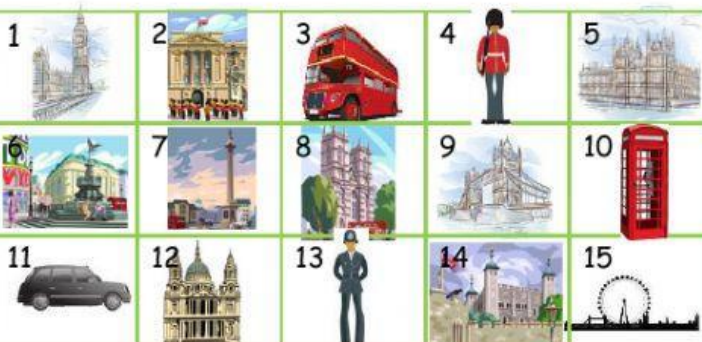
- 2 What London sights can you see from the river?

- 3 Do people have to go to London for a boat trip?

- 4 What can you do by the Thames in the countryside?

- 5 Has the Thames ever frozen?

Match the pictures to their names.



Nelson's Column/ phone booth/double decker/taxi/Big Ben/ Tower Bridge/Buckingham Palace/the Tower of London/guard/the London Eye/Piccadily Circus/the Houses of Parliament/ St Paul's Cathedral/bobby/Westminster Abbey

Complete the sentences.

- 1 The River Thames flows _____ for 338 km.
- 2 It pours into _____.
- 3 The last part of the Thames is _____ water.
- 4 The river in London is very _____.
- 5 On a boat trip you can see the famous London _____.
- 6 In the countryside you can go _____, swimming or _____.