



Listen and Answer...

Most of world's rivers damaged by humans

A new study shows that 86 per cent of the world's rivers have been damaged by human . The study was conducted by researchers from a university in Toulouse, France. They examined on over 2,500 rivers around the world. They did not look at rivers in the polar regions of the Arctic and Antarctica or in deserts. The scientists looked into changes to over the past 200 years. They discovered that biodiversity in over half of rivers has been damaged by humans. The researchers said there were many reasons for this damage. A big reason is the introduction of new of fish into rivers. Other include pollution, dams, , farming and climate change.

The researchers say the worst-hit rivers are in Europe and North America. This is because these have large and rich towns and cities. The researcher said: "Rivers which have the most economic development around them, like the Mississippi River, are the most impacted." The River Thames in London was one of the worst affected rivers in the . The least-impacted rivers are in Africa and Australia. The researcher said: "This is probably to a slower rate of industrialization in Africa and low population around rivers in Australia." He added that rivers in many rich nations are unrecognizable with how they were 200 years ago.

Drag the words to the correct box to complete this article.

seriously
species
activity
biodiversity
activity
overfishing
data
reasons

lead
study
density
regions
western
compared
strongly
due

Listen
To Me!

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. study | a. The variety of life in the world or in a particular habitat or ecosystem. |
| 2. conducted | b. Organized and carried out. |
| 3. examined | c. Facts and statistics. |
| 4. data | d. A detailed checking and look of a subject or situation. |
| 5. polar | e. Dirty, harmful or poisonous things in the air, rivers, countryside, etc. |
| 6. biodiversity | f. Looked at in detail. |
| 7. pollution | g. About the North or South Pole. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 8. region | h. Had a strong effect on someone or something. |
| 9. lead | i. The process of growing and getting more advanced. |
| 10. development | j. The development of factories in a country or region on a wide scale. |
| 11. impacted | k. An area or part of a country or the world having easy-to-understand characteristics. |
| 12. due | l. Main; top; most important. |
| 13. industrialisation | m. Looked at the things that are the same and things that are different between different things. |
| 14. compared | n. Because of. |

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. Humans have damaged over 85% of the world's rivers. **T / F**
- b. Researchers looked at data on more than 2,500 rivers. **T / F**
- c. Scientists looked at biodiversity loss over the past 2,000 years. **T / F**
- d. Farming is one reason for the damage done to rivers. **T / F**
- e. The worst-hit rivers are those in South America. **T / F**
- f. The River Thames in London is now very clean. **T / F**
- g. The rivers with the least damage are in Africa and Australia. **T / F**
- h. Rivers today look very different to how they looked 200 years ago. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. damaged | a. wealthy |
| 2. conducted | b. found |
| 3. regions | c. unidentifiable |
| 4. discovered | d. areas |
| 5. reason | e. affected |
| 6. rich | f. harmed |
| 7. impacted | g. cause |
| 8. due to | h. speed |
| 9. rate | i. carried out |
| 10. unrecognisable | j. because of |



- 1) shows that 86 per cent of the world's rivers have been damaged _____
 - a. by human activity
 - b. by human active ability
 - c. by human act ability
 - d. by human active vitality
- 2) They did not look at rivers in _____
 - a. the pole are regions
 - b. the pole all regions
 - c. the polar regions
 - d. the poll are regions
- 3) over half of rivers has been seriously _____
 - a. damaged of humans
 - b. damaged at humans
 - c. damaged on humans
 - d. damaged by humans



- 4) A big reason is the introduction of new species of _____
a. fish onto rivers
b. fish into rivers
c. fish unto rivers
d. fish as to rivers
- 5) reasons include pollution, dams, overfishing, farming _____
a. and climactic change
b. and climates change
c. and climate change
d. and climatise change
- 6) This is because these regions have large and rich _____
a. town and cities
b. towns and city
c. town and city
d. towns and cities
- 7) like the Mississippi River, are the most _____
a. strongly impact it
b. strongly imp pact it
c. strongly impacted
d. strongly imp packed
- 8) The River Thames in London was one of the _____
a. worst-infected rivers
b. worst-reflected rivers
c. worst-affection rivers
d. worst-affected rivers
- 9) a slower rate of industrialisation in Africa and _____
a. low population dense city
b. low population denser tea
c. low population den city
d. low population density
- 10) rich nations are unrecognisable compared with how they _____
a. wire 200 years ago
b. we're 200 years ago
c. were 200 years ago
d. where 200 years ago

