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**Level 0 – 21st February, 2021**

## Most of world's rivers damaged by humans

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210221-rivers-0.html>

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Please try Levels 1, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210221-rivers-0.html>

Humans have damaged most of the world's rivers. Researchers looked at over 2,500 rivers, but none in the Arctic and Antarctica. Humans have seriously damaged biodiversity in over half of rivers in the past 200 years. Reasons include new species of fish in rivers, pollution, dams and climate change.

The worst rivers are near big cities in Europe and America. These rivers have a lot of factories near them. The least-affected rivers are in Africa and Australia. This is because there are fewer factories in Africa and smaller populations around rivers in Australia. Rivers in rich nations are very different to how they were 200 years ago.

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/feb/18/very-few-of-worlds-rivers-undamaged-by-humanity-study-finds>  
<https://www.newscientist.com/article/2268348-humans-have-severely-affected-fish-biodiversity-in-half-of-all-rivers>  
<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-02-18/human-caused-climate-change-threatens-a-quarter-of-freshwater-fish>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210221-rivers-0.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Humans have           | a. biodiversity      |
| 2. Researchers looked at | b. in rivers         |
| 3. none in the           | c. over 2,500 rivers |
| 4. seriously damaged     | d. change            |
| 5. in over half          | e. Arctic            |
| 6. in the past           | f. of rivers         |
| 7. new species of fish   | g. 200 years         |
| 8. climate               | h. damaged most      |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                 |                     |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. The worst rivers are         | a. Africa           |
| 2. These rivers have a          | b. nations          |
| 3. The least-affected rivers    | c. ago              |
| 4. there are fewer factories in | d. lot of factories |
| 5. smaller populations          | e. they were        |
| 6. Rivers in rich               | f. near big cities  |
| 7. very different to how        | g. around rivers    |
| 8. 200 years                    | h. are in Africa    |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210221-rivers-0.html>

Humans have damaged (1) \_\_\_\_\_ world's rivers.

Researchers (2) \_\_\_\_\_ 2,500 rivers,

(3) \_\_\_\_\_ the Arctic and Antarctica. Humans

have seriously damaged biodiversity in (4) \_\_\_\_\_

rivers in the (5) \_\_\_\_\_. Reasons include new

species of fish in rivers, pollution, (6) \_\_\_\_\_

change.

The (7) \_\_\_\_\_ near big cities in Europe and

America. These rivers (8) \_\_\_\_\_ of factories near

them. The least-affected (9) \_\_\_\_\_ Africa and

Australia. This is because (10) \_\_\_\_\_ factories in

Africa and smaller populations (11) \_\_\_\_\_

Australia. Rivers in rich nations are very different to how they

were (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210221-rivers-0.html>

Humans have damaged most of the world's rivers. Researchers looked at over 2,500 rivers, but none in the Arctic and Antarctica. Humans have seriously damaged biodiversity in over half of rivers in the past 200 years. Reasons include new species of fish in rivers, pollution, dams and climate change. The worst rivers are near big cities in Europe and America. These rivers have a lot of factories near them. The least-affected rivers are in Africa and Australia. This is because there are fewer factories in Africa and small populations around rivers in Australia. Rivers in rich nations are very different to how they were 200 years ago.

# RIVERS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210221-rivers-0.html>

Write five GOOD questions about rivers in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

