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Level 3 – 21st February, 2021

Most of world's rivers damaged by humans

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https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210221-rivers.html

Contents

Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

A new study shows that 86 per cent of the world's rivers have been damaged by human activity. The study was conducted by researchers from a university in Toulouse, France. They examined data 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 biodiversity over the past 200 years. They discovered that biodiversity in over half of rivers has been seriously damaged by humans. The researchers said there were many reasons for this damage. A big reason is the introduction of new species of fish into rivers. Other reasons include pollution, dams, overfishing, farming and climate change.

The researchers say the worst-hit rivers are in western Europe and North America. This is because these regions have large and rich towns and cities. The lead researcher said: "Rivers which have the most economic development around them, like the Mississippi River, are the most strongly impacted." The River Thames in London was one of the worst-affected rivers in the study. The least-impacted rivers are in Africa and Australia. The researcher said: "This is probably due to a slower rate of industrialisation in Africa and low population density around rivers in Australia." He added that rivers in many rich nations are unrecognisable compared with 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

WARM-UPS

1. RIVERS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about rivers. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

> study / rivers / human activity / data / polar regions / deserts / biodiversity / climate / regions / towns / cities / development / industrialisation / population / 200 years ago

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. RESPONSIBILITY: Students A **strongly** believe it is the responsibility of people who live next to a river to look after it; Students B **strongly** believe otherwise. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. POLLUTION: How harmful are these kinds of pollution? How can we deal with them? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How Harmful?	How to Deal with It
River pollution		
Ocean pollution		
Air pollution		
Noise pollution		
Light pollution		
Space pollution		

5. HUMAN: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "human". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. HUMAN ACTIVITY: Rank these with your partner. Put the things we should protect from human activity at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Space
- Antarctica
- Amazon River
- Ancient sites

- Deserts
- Mount Everest
- Oceans
- Rainforests

VOCABULARY MATCHING

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.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

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

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

1.	86 per cent of the world's rivers	a.	development
2.	They examined data on	b.	the Arctic
3.	the polar regions of	c.	and rich towns
4.	The scientists looked into changes	d.	of fish
5.	the introduction of new species	e.	200 years ago
6.	the worst-hit rivers are	f.	have been damaged
7.	these regions have large	g.	to biodiversity
8.	economic	h.	of industrialisation
9.	due to a slower rate	i.	over 2,500 rivers
10.	compared with how they were	j.	in western Europe

GAP FILL

A new study shows that 86 per cent of the world's rivers have been damaged by human (1) _____. The study was conducted by researchers from a university in Toulouse, France. They examined (2) _____ on over 2,500 rivers around the world. They did not look at rivers in the (3) _____ regions of the Arctic and Antarctica or in deserts. The scientists looked into changes to (4) _____ over the past 200 years. They discovered that biodiversity in over half of rivers has been (5) _____ damaged by humans. The researchers said there were many (6) _____ for this damage. A big reason is the introduction of new (7) _____ of fish into rivers. Other reasons include pollution, dams, (8) _____, farming and climate change.

polar

seriously

species

activity

biodiversity

overfishing

data

reasons

The researchers say the worst-hit rivers are in (9) _____ Europe and North America. This is because these (10) _____ have large and rich towns and cities. The (11) _____ researcher said: "Rivers which have the most economic development around them, like the Mississippi River, are the most (12) _____ impacted." The River Thames in London was one of the worst-affected rivers in the (13) _____. The least-impacted rivers are in Africa and Australia. The researcher said: "This is probably (14) _____ to a slower rate of industrialisation in Africa and low population (15) _____ around rivers in Australia." He added that rivers in many rich nations are unrecognisable (16) _____ with how they were 200 years ago.

lead

study

density

regions

western

compared

strongly

due

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

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

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

A new (1) _____ 86 per cent of the world's rivers have been damaged by human activity. The study (2) _____ researchers from a university in Toulouse, France. They examined data on over 2,500 rivers around the world. They did not look at rivers in the (3) _____ the Arctic and Antarctica or in deserts. The scientists looked into changes to biodiversity over the past 200 years. They discovered (4) _____ over half of rivers has been seriously damaged by humans. The researchers said there were (5) _____ this damage. A big reason is the introduction of new species of fish into rivers. Other reasons (6) _____, overfishing, farming and climate change.

The researchers say the worst-hit rivers are in western Europe and North America. This is because (7) _____ large and rich towns and cities. The lead researcher said: "Rivers which have the most economic development around them, like the Mississippi River, are (8) _____ impacted." The River Thames in London was one of the worst-affected rivers in the study. The (9) _____ are in Africa and Australia. The researcher said: "This is (10) _____ a slower rate of industrialisation in Africa and low population (11) _____ in Australia." He added that rivers in many rich nations are unrecognisable (12) _____ they were 200 years ago.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. What percentage of the world's rivers have been damaged by humans?

2. How many rivers did researchers look at?

3. Where were rivers scientists did not look at besides the polar regions?

4. What have humans seriously damaged in over half of rivers?

5. What was introduced into rivers that caused damage to biodiversity?

6. Where are the worst-hit areas besides North America?

7. What kind of development strongly impacts rivers?

8. What does the article say is one of the worst-affected rivers?

9. What is low around rivers in Australia?

10. What are today's rivers very different from?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

1) What percentage of the world's rivers have been damaged by humans?
a) 85%
b) 86%
c) 84%
d) 80%

2) How many rivers did researchers look at?
a) about 2,500
b) less than 2,500
c) exactly 2,500
d) over 2,500

3) Where were rivers scientists did not look at besides the polar regions?
a) mountains
b) rainforests
c) deserts
d) valleys

4) What have humans seriously damaged in over half of rivers?
a) biodiversity
b) water quality
c) river banks
d) river beds

5) What was introduced into rivers that caused damage to biodiversity?
a) poisons
b) new species of fish
c) flood barriers
d) animals

6) Where are the worst-hit areas besides North America?
a) Western Europe
b) Eastern Europe
c) Africa
d) South America

7) What kind of development strongly impacts rivers?
a) social development
b) regional development
c) economic development
d) personal development

8) What does the article say is one of the worst-affected rivers?
a) the River Thames
b) the River Nile
c) the Seine
d) the Amazon

9) What is low around rivers in Australia?
a) oxygen levels
b) land
c) frogs
d) population density

10) What are today's rivers very different from?
a) lakes
b) pre-historic rivers
c) rivers 200 years ago
d) rivers on Mars

ROLE PLAY

Role A – Space

You think space is the thing we most need to protect from human activity. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which of these is the least in need of protection (and why): Antarctica, oceans or rainforests.

Role B – Antarctica

You think Antarctica is the thing we most need to protect from human activity. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which of these is the least in need of protection (and why): space, oceans or rainforests.

Role C – Oceans

You think oceans are the things we most need to protect from human activity. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which of these is the least in need of protection (and why): Antarctica, space or rainforests.

Role D – Rainforests

You think rainforests are the things we most need to protect from human activity. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which of these is the least in need of protection (and why): Antarctica, oceans or space.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms … for the words 'world' and 'river'.

world	river

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning…?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

• shows	• regions
• conducted	• like
• data	• worst
• changes	• due
• seriously	• low
• other	• 200

RIVERS SURVEY

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.

RIVERS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?

2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'river'?

3. What do you think of rivers?

4. What is your favourite river?

5. What childhood memories do you have of rivers?

6. How do humans damage rivers?

7. What do you think of your country's rivers?

8. What rivers around the world would you like to see?

9. What do you know about biodiversity loss?

10. How do you feel when you see polluted rivers?

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RIVERS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?

12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'human'?

13. What do you think about what you read?

14. What do you think of rivers in cities?

15. What responsibility do city people have for their rivers?

16. What should polluting companies do to clean up rivers?

17. What activities do you like doing in rivers?

18. What damage is done when a river dies?

19. How might rivers have looked 200 years ago?

20. What questions would you like to ask the researchers?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

A new study shows that 86 per cent of the world's rivers have been (1) _____ by human activity. The study was conducted (2) _____ researchers from a university in Toulouse, France. They examined (3) _____ 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 biodiversity over the (4) _____ 200 years. They discovered that biodiversity in over half of rivers has been (5) _____ damaged by humans. The researchers said there were many reasons for this damage. A big reason is the introduction (6) _____ new species of fish into rivers. Other reasons include pollution, dams, overfishing, farming and climate change.

The researchers say the worst-hit rivers are in western Europe and North America. This is because (7) _____ regions have large and rich towns and cities. The lead researcher said: "Rivers which have the (8) _____ economic development around them, like the Mississippi River, are the most (9) _____ impacted." The River Thames in London was one of the worst-affected rivers in the study. The least-impacted rivers are in Africa and Australia. The researcher said: "This is probably (10) _____ to a slower rate of industrialisation in Africa and low population density around rivers in Australia." He (11) _____ that rivers in many rich nations are unrecognisable compared with how they (12) _____ 200 years ago.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

1.	(a)	damaged	(b)	damages	(c)	damage	(d)	damaging
2.	(a)	of	(b)	in	(c)	by	(d)	at
3.	(a)	statistic	(b)	number	(c)	data	(d)	formula
4.	(a)	passed	(b)	parsed	(c)	psst	(d)	past
5.	(a)	serious	(b)	seriousness	(c)	seriously	(d)	series
6.	(a)	of	(b)	to	(c)	at	(d)	on
7.	(a)	their	(b)	these	(c)	that	(d)	them
8.	(a)	most	(b)	many	(c)	much	(d)	mere
9.	(a)	strengthen	(b)	strongly	(c)	strong	(d)	strengthening
10.	(a)	dew	(b)	dual	(c)	due	(d)	duel
11.	(a)	divided	(b)	subtracted	(c)	added	(d)	multiplied
12.	(a)	been	(b)	must	(c)	could	(d)	were

SPELLING

Paragraph 1

1. The study was <u>dtcneocdu</u> by researchers

2. in the polar <u>segiorn</u>

3. the Arctic and Antarctica or in <u>steerds</u>

4. <u>osbvdtiieyri</u> in over half of rivers

5. Other reasons include <u>uonlpliot</u>

6. <u>letmica</u> change

Paragraph 2

7. <u>eetnswr</u> Europe

8. the most <u>niecmoco</u> development

9. one of the worst-<u>eadtcffe</u> rivers

10. The least-<u>mitadpec</u> rivers

11. low <u>onopuptlia</u> density

12. <u>paercomd</u> with how they were

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

(   )   rivers. Other reasons include pollution, dams, overfishing, farming and climate change.

(   )   are in Africa and Australia. The researcher said: "This is probably due to a slower

(   )   reasons for this damage. A big reason is the introduction of new species of fish into

(   )   impacted." The River Thames in London was one of the worst-affected rivers in the study. The least-impacted rivers

(   )   half of rivers has been seriously damaged by humans. The researchers said there were many

(   )   rate of industrialisation in Africa and low population density around rivers in Australia." He

(   )   activity. The study was conducted by researchers from a university in Toulouse, France. They examined data

(   )   because these regions have large and rich towns and cities. The lead researcher said: "Rivers which have

(   )   The researchers say the worst-hit rivers are in western Europe and North America. This is

(   )   the most economic development around them, like the Mississippi River, are the most strongly

(*1*)   A new study shows that 86 per cent of the world's rivers have been damaged by human

(   )   added that rivers in many rich nations are unrecognisable compared with how they were 200 years ago.

(   )   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 biodiversity over the past 200 years. They discovered that biodiversity in over

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

1. been   have   Rivers   by   damaged   activity   .   human

2. of   region   the   polar   in   the   Rivers   Arctic   .

3. past   the   biodiversity   200   to   over   years   .   Changes

4. there   reasons   .   The   said   were   many   researchers

5. into   introduction   species   The   rivers   .   fish   of   of

6. have   these   regions   is   towns   .   large   because   This

7. economic   have   which   the   development   .   most   Rivers

8. the   was   Thames   The   one   worst-affected   .   River   of

9. is   This   probably   due   to   rate   .   a   slower

10. nations   Rivers   are   many   unrecognisable   .   in   rich

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

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

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

The researchers say the worst-hit rivers are *on / in* western Europe and North America. This is because these regions have large and *rich / richly* towns and *city / cities*. The lead researcher said: "Rivers which have the most *economic / economical* development around them, like the Mississippi River, are the most strongly *impact / impacted*." The River Thames in London was one of the worst-affected rivers *in / at* the study. The least-impacted rivers are in Africa and Australia. The researcher said: "This is probably *dew / due* to a slower rate of industrialisation in Africa and *lone / low* population density around rivers in Australia." He *added / adding* that rivers in many rich nations are unrecognisable compared with how they were 200 years *ago / age*.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

_ n_w st_dy sh_ws th_t 86 p_r c_nt _f th_ w_rld's r_v_rs h_v_ b__n d_m_g_d by h_m_n _ct_v_ty. Th_ st_dy w_s c_nd_ct_d by r_s__rch_rs fr_m _ _n_v_rs_ty _n T__l__s_, Fr_nc_. Th_y _x_m_n_d d_t_ _n _v_r 2,500 r_v_rs _r__nd th_ w_rld. Th_y d_d n_t l__k _t r_v_rs _n th_ p_l_r r_g__ns _f th_ _rct_c _nd _nt_rct_c_ _r _n d_s_rts. Th_ sc__nt_sts l__k_d _nt_ ch_ng_s t_ b__d_v_rs_ty _v_r th_ p_st 200 y__rs. Th_y d_sc_v_r_d th_t b__d_v_rs_ty _n _v_r h_lf _f r_v_rs h_v_ b__n s_r___sly d_m_g_d by h_m_ns. Th_ r_s__rch_rs s__d th_r_ w_r_ m_ny r__s_ns f_r th_s d_m_g_. _ b_g r__s_n _s th_ _ntr_d_ct__n _f n_w sp_c__s _f f_sh _nt_ r_v_rs. _th_r r__s_ns _ncl_d_ p_ll_t__n, d_ms, _v_rf_sh_ng, f_rm_ng _nd cl_m_t_ ch_ng_.

Th_ r_s__rch_rs s_y th_ w_rst-h_t r_v_rs _r_ _n w_st_rn __r_p_ _nd N_rth _m_r_c_. Th_s _s b_c__s_ th_s_ r_g__ns h_v_ l_rg_ _nd r_ch t_wns _nd c_t__s. Th_ l__d r_s__rch_r s__d: "R_v_rs wh_ch h_v_ th_ m_st _c_n_m_c d_v_l_pm_nt _r__nd th_m, l_k_ th_ M_ss_ss_pp_ r_v_r, _r_ th_ m_st str_ngly _mp_ct_d." Th_ R_v_r Th_m_s _n L_nd_n w_s _n_ _f th_ w_rst-_ff_ct_d r_v_rs _n th_ st_dy. Th_ l__st-_mp_ct_d r_v_rs _r_ _n _fr_c_ _nd __str_l__. Th_ r_s__rch_r s__d: "Th_s _s pr_b_bly d__ t_ _ sl_w_r r_t_ _f _nd_str__l_s_t__n _n _fr_c_ _nd l_w p_p_l_t__n d_ns_ty _r__nd r_v_rs _n __str_l__." H_ _dd_d th_t r_v_rs _n m_ny r_ch n_t__ns _r_ _nr_c_gn_s_bl_ c_mp_r_d w_th h_w th_y w_r_ 200 y__rs _g_.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

a new study shows that 86 per cent of the worlds rivers have been damaged by human activity the study was conducted by researchers from a university in toulouse france they examined data on over 2500 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 biodiversity over the past 200 years they discovered that biodiversity in over half of rivers has been seriously damaged by humans the researchers said there were many reasons for this damage a big reason is the introduction of new species of fish into rivers other reasons include pollution dams overfishing farming and climate change

the researchers say the worst hit rivers are in western europe and north america this is because these regions have large and rich towns and cities the lead researcher said rivers which have the most economic development around them like the Mississippi River are the most strongly impacted the river thames in london was one of the worst affected rivers in the study the least impacted rivers are in africa and australia the researcher said this is probably due to a slower rate of industrialisation in africa and low population density around rivers in australia he added that rivers in many rich nations are unrecognisable compared with how they were 200 years ago

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

Anewstudyshowsthat86percentoftheworld'srivershavebeendamagedbyhumanactivity.ThestudywasconductedbyresearchersfromauniversityinToulouse,France.Theyexamineddataonover2,500riversaroundtheworld.TheydidnotlookatriversinthepolarregionsoftheArcticaandAntarcticaorindeserts.Thescientistslookedintochangestobiodiversityoverthepast200years.Theydiscoveredthatbiodiversityinoverhalfofrivershasbeenseriouslydamagedbyhumans.Theresearcherssaidthereweremanyreasonsforthisdamage.Abigreasonistheintroductionofnewspeciesoffishintorivers.Otherreasonsincludepollution,dams,overfishing,farmingandclimatechange.Theresearcherssaytheworst-hitriversareinwesternEuropeandNorthAmerica.Thisisbecausetheseregionshavelargeandrichtownsandcities.Theleadresearchersaid:"Riverswhichhavethemosteconomicdevelopmentaroundthem,liketheMississippiriver,arethemoststronglyimpacted."TheRiverThamesinLondonwasoneoftheworst-affectedriversinthestudy.Theleast-impacteddriversareinAfricaandAustralia.Theresearchersaid:"ThisisprobablyduetoaslowerrateofindustrialisationinafricaandlowpopulationdensityaroundriversinAustralia."Headdedthatriversinmanyrichnationsareunrecognisablecomparedwithhowtheywere200yearsago.

FREE WRITING

Write about **rivers** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

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ACADEMIC WRITING

Everybody should spend time cleaning up rivers. Discuss.

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. RIVERS: Make a poster about rivers. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. BIODIVERSITY: Write a magazine article about biodiversity in rivers and how governments should spend huge amounts of money cleaning them up. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on rivers. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to keep rivers clean. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. d   2. b   3. f   4. c   5. g   6. a   7. e
8. k   9. l   10. i   11. h   12. n   13. j   14. m

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

a T   b T   c F   d T   e F   f F   g T   h T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. f	2. i	3. d	4. b	5. g
6. a	7. e	8. j	9. h	10. c

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. 86%
2. Over 2,500
3. Deserts
4. Biodiversity
5. New species of fish
6. Western Europe
7. Economic development

8. The River Thames
9. Population density
10. Rivers 200 years ago

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. Rivers have been damaged by human activity.
2. Rivers in the polar region of the Arctic.
3. Changes to biodiversity over the past 200 years.
4. The researchers said there were many reasons.
5. The introduction of species of fish into rivers.
6. This is because these regions have large towns.
7. Rivers which have the most economic development.
8. The River Thames was one of the worst-affected.
9. This is probably due to a slower rate.
10. Rivers in many rich nations are unrecognisable.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. b 2. d 3. c 4. a 5. b 6. a 7. c 8. a 9. d 10. c

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)