World Rivers

Use this key to check answers and read the explanations.

1. In which direction does the Nile generally flow through Egypt toward its Mediterranean delta?
   - A. North
   - B. South
   - C. East
   - D. West

   Correct answer: A. North

   The Nile flows generally north across Egypt toward the Mediterranean, despite bends in its course.

2. Which river receives water from the Rio Negro at Manaus, Brazil?
   - A. Orinoco
   - B. Paraná
   - C. Amazon
   - D. São Francisco

   Correct answer: C. Amazon

   The Rio Negro joins the Solimões, the upper part of the Amazon in Brazil, near Manaus.

3. Which river reaches the sea through a broad delta in southern Viet Nam?
   - A. Indus
   - B. Mekong
   - C. Yangtze
   - D. Red River

   Correct answer: B. Mekong

   The Mekong splits into channels across southern Viet Nam. The Red River has a separate delta in the north.

4. Which river passes the Houses of Parliament in London?
   - A. Trent
   - B. Severn
   - C. Tyne
   - D. Thames

   Correct answer: D. Thames

   The Houses of Parliament stand beside the River Thames in Westminster.

5. Which of the two main Mesopotamian rivers passes through Baghdad?

A. Euphrates
B. Tigris
C. Jordan
D. Indus

Correct answer: B. Tigris
Baghdad is built along both banks of the Tigris in present-day Iraq.

6. Which river enters the Caspian Sea through a large delta near Astrakhan?

A. Volga
B. Danube
C. Dnieper
D. Rhine

Correct answer: A. Volga
The Volga flows south through western Russia to the Caspian. Its lower channels spread into a wide delta.

7. Which river passes through Mali and continues to the Gulf of Guinea through a delta in Nigeria?

A. Zambezi
B. Congo
C. Nile
D. Niger

Correct answer: D. Niger
The Niger bends through Mali before turning southeast. Near Nigeria’s coast, its branches reach the Gulf of Guinea.

8. Which bay receives the Ganges, Brahmaputra, and Meghna through the delta that includes the Sundarbans?

A. Gulf of Thailand
B. Hudson Bay
C. Bay of Bengal
D. Persian Gulf

Correct answer: C. Bay of Bengal
The rivers deposit sediment along the coast of the Bay of Bengal. Much of the Sundarbans is tidal.

9. Which river runs from Canada across Alaska to a delta on the Bering Sea?

A. Yukon
B. Mackenzie
C. Fraser
D. Columbia

Correct answer: A. Yukon
The Yukon crosses Alaska and spreads into a delta on the western side of the state.

10. Which river joins the Murray at Wentworth, near the border of New South Wales and Victoria?

A. Goulburn
B. Murrumbidgee
C. Lachlan
D. Darling

Correct answer: D. Darling
The Darling flows into the Murray at Wentworth, near the border of New South Wales and Victoria.

11. Which two rivers meet at the head of the Río de la Plata?

A. Amazon and Tocantins
B. Orinoco and Magdalena
C. Paraná and Uruguay
D. São Francisco and Paraguay

Correct answer: C. Paraná and Uruguay
The Paraná and Uruguay rivers feed the broad estuary between Argentina and Uruguay.

12. Which river reaches the Arctic Ocean through a large delta on the Laptev Sea?

A. Amur
B. Lena
C. Indus
D. Volga

Correct answer: B. Lena
The Lena flows generally north across Siberia. Its branching delta opens into the Laptev Sea.

13. Which river forms part of the land boundary between northeastern China and Russia’s Far East?

A. Yellow River
B. Yenisey
C. Mekong
D. Amur

Correct answer: D. Amur
The Amur runs for a long stretch along the China–Russia boundary. It eventually reaches the sea on the Pacific side of Asia.

14. Which river spreads out into wetlands in Botswana’s Kalahari Basin with no outlet to the sea?

A. Okavango
B. Niger
C. Congo
D. Senegal

Correct answer: A. Okavango
The Okavango feeds an inland delta. Its waters spread across wetlands and sand in Botswana.

15. Which of these rivers carries the most water per second on average at its mouth?

A. Zambezi
B. Niger
C. Congo
D. Nile

Correct answer: C. Congo
The Congo carries substantially more water at its mouth than any of the other three rivers, even though the Nile has a longer course.