

Multiple Choice: How Rivers Form

Directions: Answer the multiple choice questions.

Questions

1. Rivers form when groundwater seepage and _____ water create channels that eventually combine to form a large stream of flowing water.

runoff

ocean

subsurface

2. What part of a river is the area where tributaries in the headwater region funnel water to the main stream?

dispersing

transporting

collecting

3. What part of a river is dominated by depositional processes?

dispersing

transporting

collecting

4. In which part of a river do meanders develop?

dispersing

transporting

collecting

5. Rivers begin in areas of

low elevation

high elevation

elevation at sea level

6. Very young rivers are characterized as

slow and wide

meandering

fast-moving and in narrow channels

Answers

1. runoff

Correct Feedback: Correct. Rivers are formed when runoff water collects and forms channels that begin to flow. These channels can also be fed by groundwater seepage, which gives them even greater flow.

Incorrect Feedback: Incorrect. Think about the type of water that runs over the land surface and feeds bodies of surface water.

2. collecting

Correct Feedback: Correct. The collecting system area is where water collects after running off of mountains and hills.

Incorrect Feedback: Incorrect. Think about where water collects after running off of mountains and hills.

3. dispersing

Correct Feedback: Correct. In the dispersing system area of a river, the flow is very slow, and sediments begin to settle out of the water.

Incorrect Feedback: Incorrect. Think about where the flow is very slow, so there is not enough energy to keep sediments in suspension.

4. transporting

Correct Feedback: Correct. In the transporting system area of a river, the channel widens and develops loops called meanders.

Incorrect Feedback: Incorrect. Think about where the flow first begins to settle down and the channel widens and develops loops.

5. high elevation

Correct Feedback: Correct. Rivers begin in areas of high elevation.

Incorrect Feedback: Incorrect. Remember that rivers form upslope and flow downhill.

6. fast-moving and in narrow channels

Correct Feedback: Correct. A very young river is still in the mountains and near the headwaters, where the slope is steep and the water is fast-moving.

Incorrect Feedback: Incorrect. Remember that a young river is still in the mountains and near the headwaters. The slope is steep, so the water is fast-moving.