

# the Water Brothers EPISODE GUIDE QUESTIONS

## THE PURE AND THE POISONED

1. In this episode, which country did the Water Brothers visit to see the Ganges River?
2. How many people live in the Ganges basin?
3. How many kilometres long is the Ganges River?
4. Give two reasons why the Ganges River is so polluted.
5. What industry in Kanpur is polluting the Ganges River?
6. What element is present in unusually high levels in the Ganges River and is helping break down human and animal waste?
7. True or False: Is the Ganges River considered a goddess to Hindus?
8. What is the Maha Kumbh Mela?
9. How many people come to the Maha Kumbh Mela?
10. Why do people continue to pollute the river?

# the Water Brothers EPISODE GUIDE ANSWERS

## THE PURE AND THE POISONED

- 1. In this episode, which country did the Water Brothers visit to see the Ganges River?** In this episode, The Water Brothers were in India to see the Ganges River.
- 2. How many people live in the Ganges basin?** Half a billion people live in the Ganges basin – that's 14% of the entire world's population.
- 3. How many kilometres long is the Ganges River?** The Ganges River is 2,500 km long.
- 4. Give two reasons why the Ganges River is so polluted.** Sewage, over-extraction of water, industries, tanneries, and agriculture are reasons why the Ganges River is so polluted.
- 5. What industry in Kanpur is polluting the Ganges River?** Tanneries, leather-processing industries are polluting the Ganges River with various toxic chemicals including chromium, formaldehyde and cyanide. These chemicals are used to colour and soften leather that will be made into products like jackets and shoes.
- 6. What element is present in unusually high levels in the Ganges River and is helping break down human and animal waste?** The Ganges River has an unusually high level of oxygen. This oxygen helps break down human and animal waste.
- 7. True or False: Is the Ganges River considered a goddess to Hindus?** True. Hindus believe that the Ganges River is a goddess.
- 8. What is the Maha Kumbh Mela?** The Maha Kumbh Mela is a bathing festival that takes place along the banks of the Ganges. It takes place every 12 years.
- 9. How many people come to the Maha Kumbh Mela?** Over 120 million people come to the Maha Kumbh Mela to take a holy dip in the Ganges.
- 10. Why do people continue to pollute the river?** Hindus believe the Ganges is a goddess, and therefore that it cannot be polluted. As a result, people continue to pollute the river, believing that it will not be affected.

# THE PURE AND THE POISONED

## **The Ganges River**

- <http://proof.nationalgeographic.com/2014/08/04/chasing-the-sacred-down-the-ganges-from-snow-to-sea/http://www.britannica.com/place/Ganges-River>
- <http://www.dw.com/en/indias-polluted-ganges-river-threatens-peoples-livelihoods/a-17237276>

## **Pollution and the Ganges River**

- <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2011/11/111123-india-ganges-river-pollution/>
- <http://www.care2.com/causes/saving-the-ganges.html>
- <http://www.yourarticlelibrary.com/water-pollution/5-major-causes-of-water-pollution-in-india/19764/>

## **Maha Kumbh Mela**

- [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/what-is-kumbh-mela\\_55ddd188e4b0a40aa3ace6aa](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/what-is-kumbh-mela_55ddd188e4b0a40aa3ace6aa)