# Journey of a River: Geographical Report

*Learning objective: To describe and explain the physical processes of a river's journey from source to mouth.*

Use the following prompts to structure your report. Ensure you include technical vocabulary to explain how the river changes as it travels towards the sea.

A river’s journey is a fascinating process that begins high in the mountains at a point known as the source.

*Word bank: source · tributary · meander · erosion · deposition · estuary · confluence · Furthermore · consequently · in addition to · subsequently*

**1. The Upper Course: Describe the characteristics of the river near the source. You might want to mention the steep gradient and the speed of the water. Start your paragraph with: 'Near the source, the river begins its journey by...' (2 marks)**

**2. The Middle Course: Explain how the river changes as it gains more water from tributaries. What happens to the shape of the river here? Start your paragraph with: 'As the river flows into the middle course, it begins to widen and form...' (2 marks)**

**3. Erosion and Deposition: How do these two processes shape the river's path? Start your paragraph with: 'The river is constantly changing the landscape through erosion, which wears away the banks, while deposition occurs when...' (3 marks)**

**4. The Lower Course and Mouth: Describe what the river looks like as it nears the sea. Start your paragraph with: 'Finally, in the lower course, the river slows down significantly before reaching the mouth, where...' (2 marks)**

**5. Human Impact: How might people use the river for transport, farming, or energy? Start your paragraph with: 'Rivers are vital for human activity; for example, they can be used for...' (2 marks)**

*Extension challenge: Research a famous river in the UK, such as the River Severn or the River Thames. Write a short paragraph explaining which region it flows through and one major city it passes.*