Lakes of the World

Caspian Sea – Europe/Asia

The world's largest inland body of water is the Caspian Sea. Lying between Europe and Asia, it is bordered by Russia and Azerbaijan on the west, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan on the north and east, and Iran on the south. The sea was named for the Kaspi, ancient peoples who once lived on its western shores. The Caspian Sea is nearly the size of Japan, covering an area of about 370,000 square kilometres.
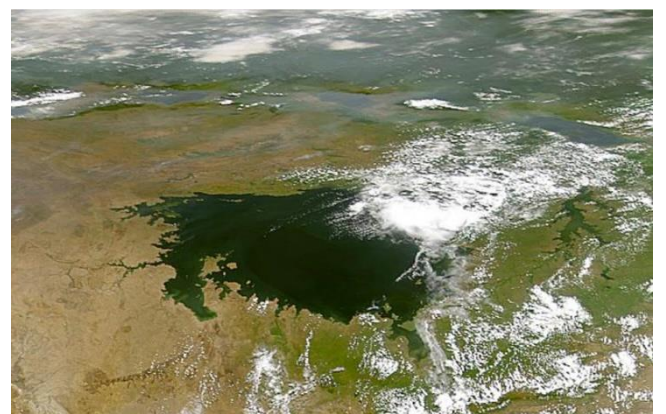

Lake Titicaca – South America

Lake Titicaca is a large, deep lake in the Andes mountains. The eastern part is in Bolivia and the western part of it is in Peru. It is the largest lake in South America. Lake Titicaca is at 3,812 m above sea level. It is often called the "highest navigable lake" in the world. It means that it is the highest lake that boats use for trade. The lake is also home to the famous "Floating Islands". Small islands made by the Uros (or Uru) people. They use layers of cut totora, a thick reed that grows in Lake Titicaca. The Uros make the islands by continuously bending over the reeds that grow in the lake.

Lake Victoria – Africa

Lake Victoria is the largest lake in Africa. It is also the second largest freshwater lake in the world (exceeded in size only by Lake Superior in North America). The lake lies mainly in the countries of Tanzania and Uganda. It also borders on Kenya. Lake Victoria has an area of 69,484 square kilometres. Several rivers flow into the lake. The most important is the Kagera River. The lake's only outlet is the Victoria Nile, which is the beginning of the Nile River. In 1858 a British explorer saw the lake while searching for the source of the Nile River. He named it Lake Victoria after Queen Victoria of England.

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Questions

1. **List two things Lake Titicaca is famous for?**

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   _____

2. **Who was Lake Victoria named after?**

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3. **How are the "Floating Islands" of Lake Titicaca created?**

   _____

   _____

4. **Where does the Caspian Sea get its name from?**

   _____

   _____

5. **Lake Victoria is the largest lake in Africa.   True / False**

6. **Which of the three lakes mentioned is the largest?**

   _____

7. **The Caspian Sea is nearly the size of Japan.   True / False**