The First Electric Car

Vocabulary

Ex. 1. *Complete the sentences with the given words:*

excavator, pollutants, condenser, conductivity, plug-in, service, slippery, rust, wire, tail, furnace, insulation, wheel, triple, float

The new furnace's _____(1) is significantly higher than the old one, resulting in lower energy costs.

Before removing the wire's _____(2), make sure to use a reliable wire stripper to avoid damage.

The _____(3) tree of this motorcycle provides incredible stability and control while riding on rough terrain.

The mechanic found that the _____(4) bowl was clogged, causing the engine to run poorly.

Working with older vehicles often requires dealing with rusty parts, especially in the _____(5) system.

_____(6) from automotive emissions are damaging the environment and contributing to climate change.

The _____(7) plays a crucial role in maintaining the refrigeration cycle of an air conditioning unit.

Proper maintenance extends the _____(8) life of any machine, including this excavator which has been working for 20 years.

The contractor rents an _____(9) when they need heavy-duty equipment for digging projects.

The _____(10) feeder on this welding machine makes it easy to handle thicker or longer wires without bending them.

The _____(11) aligner uses laser tracking to ensure perfect alignment of a vehicle's wheels.

The _____(12) on the car's body was so severe that the mechanic recommended replacing it instead of repairing it.

Hybrid cars, such as the _____(13) hybrid, offer both fuel efficiency and performance.

The _____(14) pipe emissions of diesel engines contain harmful pollutants that can negatively impact air quality.

Be careful of the _____(15) surface in the garage, it could cause accidents if not cleaned properly.

Reading

Ex. 1. *Read the text.*

The First Electric Car

The first electric car was built in Scotland in 1837. It could carry six passengers and had a range of 40 miles (65 km) at a speed of 4 mph (6 kph). The driver had to stop every 25 miles (40 km) to replace the batteries.

In 1899, the Belgian company Pieper produced an electric car with a range of 120 miles (200 km) at a speed of 20 mph (32 kph). However, the price of electric cars was very high and most people bought petrol-driven cars instead.

In 1900, just 34% of the cars in the US were powered by petrol. But petrol engines soon became more reliable and cheaper to produce than electric motors. They also had a much greater range. By 1920, almost all cars were petrol-driven.

Electric cars have been around for over 100 years, but they are only now becoming popular again. In the early 1990s, General Motors produced an electric car called the EV1. Although it was well-liked by those who drove it, General Motors stopped producing the EV1 in 1999. In the same year, Toyota launched the Prius, a petrol-electric hybrid car. This was followed by the Honda Insight in 1999 and the Toyota Camry in 2000. These cars use both petrol and electricity.

In 2008, Tesla Motors, an American company, began selling an electric sports car called the Tesla Roadster. It can travel up to 245 miles (395 km) on one charge. In 2010, Nissan released the Leaf, a fully electric car with

a range of 100 miles (160 km). The following year, Chevrolet released its own electric car, the Volt.

Today, there are many different electric cars available. They are better for the environment than petrol-driven cars because they do not produce CO2, a gas that causes global warming. However, they are also more expensive and have a shorter range than petrol-driven cars.

Ex. 2. *Say if the following statements are TRUE (T) or FALSE (F)*

1. The first electric car was built in Scotland in 1837.

2. The electric car built in Scotland in 1837 had a range of 40 miles (65 km) at a speed of 4 mph (6 kph).

3. The Belgian company Pieper produced an electric car with a range of 120 miles (200 km) at a speed of 20 mph (32 kph).

4. Electric cars were more affordable than petrol-driven cars in the late 19th century.

5. By 1920, almost all cars in the US were petrol-driven.

6. General Motors stopped producing the EV1 in 1999.

7. The Toyota Prius was the first petrol-electric hybrid car.

8. Electric cars have a longer range than petrol-driven cars.

Communication

Ex. 1. *Make questions using the following words:*

1. differences/diesel/electric

2. environmentally friendly/cars/type

3. cost/owning/diesel

4. government incentives/purchasing/electric

5. advantages/owning/diesel

6. explain/engines/diesel/electric/cars

7. fuel-efficient/type/car

8. maintenance costs/differ/diesel/electric

9. concerns/range/electric/diesel

10. factors/consider/deciding/diesel/electric/car