

The Third Term Test of English

Electric cars may seem like a recent invention, but they have been around for years. In the early 1900s, there were more electric cars on the road than there were gas-powered vehicles. At **that time**, gasoline was expensive compared with other fuels. Once gas prices dropped and new technologies were developed, electric cars went out of fashion in favour of gas-powered cars, which could travel longer distances without stopping.

During the 20th century, gas-powered cars got bigger, heavier, and faster. They required more fuel, which led to more air pollution. For years, carmakers did not worry about pollution. **They** were not concerned about how much gas cars used. However, as consumers became aware of Earth's limited supply of oil, **they** pressured manufacturers to make more efficient and less polluting cars.

One solution was a "hybrid" car, one that ran partly on gas and partly on electricity supplied by a battery. Hybrid cars became popular in the mid-2000s as gas prices rose dramatically and car manufacturers made the fuel-efficient cars more affordable.

An all-electric car uses no gasoline. The challenge, though, is that car batteries need to be recharged. That makes electric cars impractical for long distances. The government and car manufacturers are working together to develop safe, inexpensive, and practical electric cars. When these cars become available to consumers, gas stations may someday be a thing of the past.

Adapted from: Evan Moor. (2010). *Daily Reading Comprehension: Grade 05*. P. 145.

I- **Comprehension and Interpretation:** Read the text and do the activities:

1- **Say whether the following statements are true or false:**

- A- Electric cars are not a recent invention.
- B- People preferred gas-powered vehicles to electric ones because gas was not expensive.
- C- A hybrid car does not need gas.
- D- With electric cars, there may be no gas stations in the future.

2- **Answer the following questions according to the text:**

A- Did electric cars exist in the past? Justify your answer.

B- What is the problem with gas-powered cars?

C- What is a "hybrid" car?

D- What is the problem with "all-electric" cars?

3- Choose an appropriate title for the text:

- A- Electric Cars and Hybrid Ones.
C- Electric Cars: Past, Present and Future.

B- Electric Cars and Pollution.

4- Say what or who the underlined words refer to in the text:

- a- that time (§1):..... b- They (§2):.....
c- they (§2):.....

II/ Text Exploration:

1- Find in the text words that are closest in meaning to the following:

- a- conscious (§2) = b- famous (§3) =
c- cheap (§4) =

2- Form the opposites of the following words keeping the same roots: e.g. possible ≠ impossible.

- a- concerned ≠ b- efficient ≠
c- relevant ≠ c- precise ≠

3- Join the pairs of sentences using these link words: **therefore, however, although.**

a- Gas-powered cars can travel over long distances. They pollute the environment.

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b- Cars cannot run on water. People use airplanes to cross the sea.

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c- Cars are a good way to travel. Many people are killed in car road accidents.

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4- Decipher the following sentence and use the letters of the alphabet to write it:

/ðə 'prɒbləm ɒv eə pə'luːʃən ɪz sɒlvd baɪ ɪn'ventɪŋ ði ɪ'lektrɪk kɑː/

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5- Re-order the following sentences to get a coherent paragraph:

A- However, it took a long time to travel by camels or by donkeys. N°

B- The first humans could not travel over long distances on foot; N°

C- Karl Benz solved this problem by inventing the automobile in 1885/1886. N°

D- therefore, they used some animals like donkeys and camels as means of transportation. N°

GOOD LUCK