



GCSE

3700U30-1A



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FRIDAY, 6 JUNE 2025 – MORNING

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

UNIT 3

Reading and Writing: Argumentation, Persuasion and Instructional

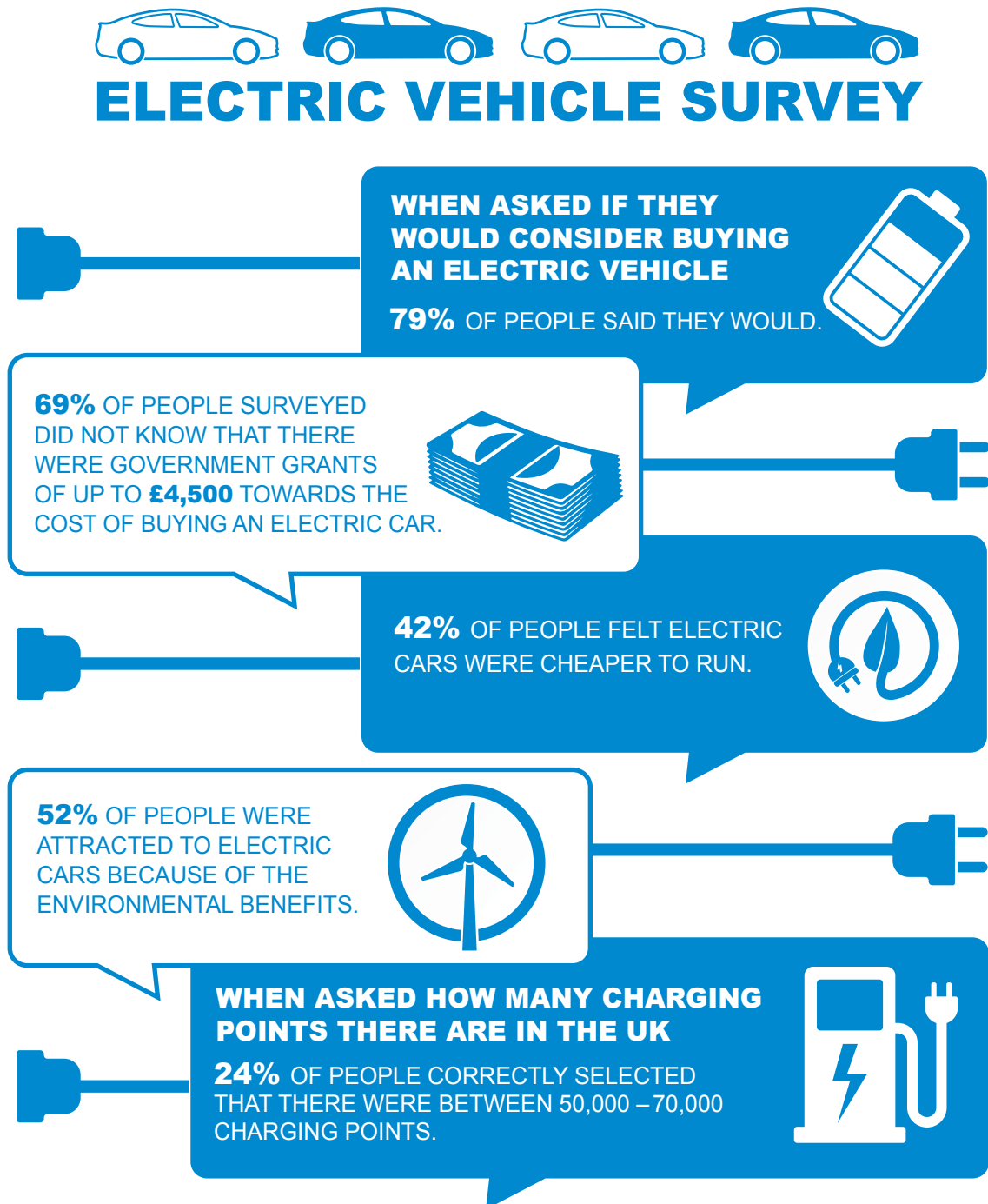
Resource Material

For use with Section A

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Text A gives the results of an electric vehicle survey.



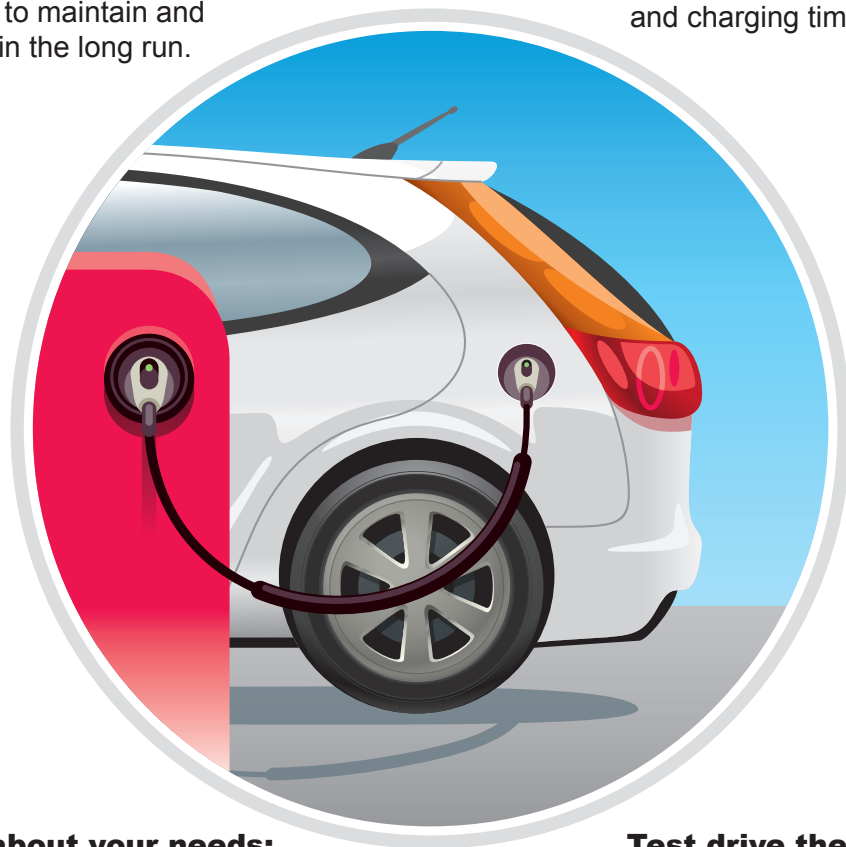
Text B is a factsheet that aims to help people when choosing an electric car.

Check affordability:

Once you have done your research, check what you can afford. Electric cars can be more expensive to buy. However, they can be cheaper to maintain and operate in the long run.

Research available models:

Research the electric cars that meet your driving needs and budget. Read reviews to get an idea of their performance and reliability. Check the battery range and charging time.



Think about your needs:

What size car do you need? How far do you travel on a daily basis? How many charging stations are in your area? What is your budget?

Test drive the car:

Finally, test drive your chosen electric car to get a feel for its performance and handling. This will help you to make the right decision.

Text C is taken from an advert that explores some of the advantages of electric vehicles (EVs).



Today there are 1.1 million electric cars on the road in the UK and 570,000 plug-in hybrid cars. With so many advantages and a range of models to suit most budgets, isn't it time we all plugged in to electric motoring?

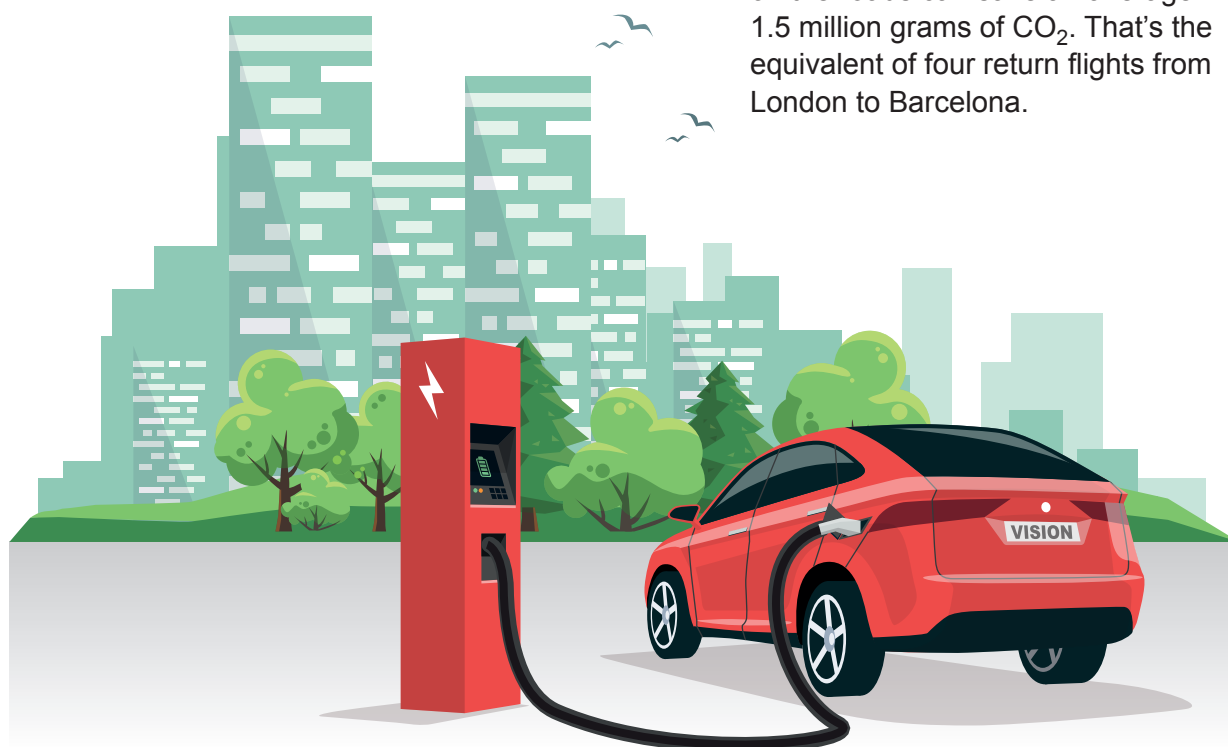
ELECTRIC CARS

What are the advantages?

Electric vehicles have many benefits, including: cleaner environment, renewable energy, reduced noise pollution and lower running costs. In plain language, they are better for our planet.

Fun Fact

In over a year, just one electric car on the roads can save an average 1.5 million grams of CO₂. That's the equivalent of four return flights from London to Barcelona.



BETTER FOR OUR PLANET

One of the biggest advantages of driving EVs is the impact on our environment.

Pure EVs don't emit any exhaust gases, which reduces local air pollution particularly in congested cities.

BETTER DRIVING

EVs have more responsive acceleration and efficient braking.

LOWER RUNNING COSTS

On average, an electric car costs less than £1.30 to drive 100 miles (based on our GoElectric 35 tariff during off-peak hours) versus £11.05 for a petrol car. They are cheaper to service and maintain.

Easy to drive, excellent performance, safe and with zero emissions, electric cars are the only choice for car and environmental enthusiasts. With convenient home charging and reduced noise pollution, electric cars will make life easy for you and won't disturb your neighbours. The future is bright, the future is electric.

Text D is adapted from an article about a woman who took a road trip with her son in an electric car.

I travelled the UK and Ireland in an electric car, and what a shocker: nothing went wrong

When my son suggested a road trip this summer, I wasn't sure. We'd visit friends and family and we'd explore the capital cities of four nations – it sounded amazing. The only problem was that we'd be doing it in our electric car – and it holds less than 100 miles' worth of charge.

I'm an electric car convert, but even I was affected by the alarmism that haunts the electric vehicle market. I had read about a lack of working chargers in the UK. I took out a second breakdown policy when I realised that mine covered only one callout in any 28-day period. I expected an adventure, and to come back with tales to tell, like running out of charge halfway up a mountain, or making friends for life with a random farmer as the car took all night to charge on their three-point socket.

But, sorry, I have no such tales. This isn't that kind of article – it all went boringly well. My son had plotted our course, choosing stops that had a backup charger down the road. This careful planning meant I soon stopped anxiously watching the number of miles left on the dashboard display and started to enjoy the drive. We played games, made up daft songs and laughed at each other's bad jokes. We did see a lot of service stations and industrial estates, but we never needed any of the backups.

Sometimes the chargers were at pubs where we could have lunch. Sometimes they were in town centre car parks, and we could take a look around or grab a coffee for the 20 minutes or so it would take to recharge. Twice we had to wait about 20 minutes for a charging bay, but that was as dramatic as it got. The journey did take longer than it would have in a petrol car – we stopped about every hour and a half. But we weren't in a hurry. I tend to get tired quite quickly when I'm driving, but on this trip, despite being the only driver, I found myself feeling rested when I arrived at each destination.

You may or may not be ready to go electric. All I'd like to suggest is to consider how an electric car could work for you. There may not be sufficient chargers yet in your area – or you just may not have noticed them, and many more are appearing all the time. The cars are still too expensive – as is electricity at the moment, but overall it may turn out to be cheaper than you expected. And – just possibly – more fun.

Text E was taken from a website and describes Andy's electric car journey.

His electric car turned a dream road trip into a nightmare – but he still loves it

Andy and his wife were left stranded for three days during a European road trip because their electric VW car wouldn't charge.

It all took a turn for the worse when they had to deal with a broken charging network and gremlins in the car's system which prevented it from topping up when they did eventually find a working charging station.

Andy explained: "We started our journey from Kent to Portugal with 100% charge and a predicted range of around 260 miles. I had planned to use the chargers at the Channel Tunnel to top up before we made the crossing, but none of them were working, which I thought was very poor. We arrived in France with the car showing 90% charge left – so onwards and upwards, I thought."

Andy didn't need to rush his trip as he is retired and wanted to enjoy the drive to Portugal. The first day of the journey in France went without any major problems, although Andy's car wouldn't connect to the faster chargers that were available at some service stations. After an enjoyable overnight stay, the next leg of the journey proved to be a little more troublesome.

"We started looking for chargers once we got down to 100 miles. With it being unexpectedly cold, our batteries only gave us a total of 220 miles – not the 260 miles we expected, which is a big difference. We went to a charging point picked by the navigation system on the car but charging stopped after a few minutes. We decided to try a different one but the next three either had a 'broken' sign or would not accept our payment cards. By now we only had 30 miles of battery range left, and it was a 20-mile trip to the next available charger. We arrived stressed, but pleased to find it accepted one of our payment cards. Unfortunately, it stopped working within five minutes."

Andy and his wife began to panic, and phoned VW Assistance to arrange for a rescue truck. "It was now about 5pm, and after spending a few hours on my mobile phone trying to speak to the French section of VW Assistance, we were finally taken by taxi to a hotel at 10 o'clock that evening. We had to spend three nights in a hotel without our car. VW eventually told us that the car needed an update on its internal computer, and that they had successfully charged it at the garage. After six long days and another day of driving we finally entered Portugal and arrived at our apartment – exhausted, but with a sense of achievement. Am I happy with my electric car? Yes. I'm retired and don't have to rush anywhere, but if I was still working doing long journeys, it would definitely be a no!"

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