

Professional Skills English Year 2

name: Lucas Wanink

result: pass / fail

teacher: Jakob Loer

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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Loer', is written over a faint, light blue grid background.

## Electric versus petrol cars

Electric vehicles (EVs) have become a popular topic, especially with the push for cleaner energy and less reliance on fossil fuels. While they promise to be a solution to environmental problems, many people are still unsure about fully switching to electric cars. Despite their eco-friendly appeal, EVs come with challenges that make them less attractive to some consumers. Issues like limited range, long charging times, and expensive battery replacements continue to hold people back. In addition, concerns about the high price of electric cars and the availability of charging stations also add to the reluctance. These factors make electric cars less appealing when compared to petrol-powered cars, even as governments and manufacturers push for greater adoption.

One of the main reasons people hesitate to buy electric cars is their limited driving range. Unlike petrol cars, which can go for hundreds of miles on a single tank, electric vehicles often need to be recharged more frequently. This can be a problem for drivers who often take long trips, as the range of many EVs may not be enough. According to CNBC, the range issue is still a major concern for many people. Along with the long time it takes to recharge, these challenges make EVs less convenient, which can discourage potential buyers. Many consumers want a car that can be used without constant planning around charging stops, especially when traveling in remote areas.

The high cost of electric cars is another important factor. EVs are generally more expensive than petrol cars, making them less affordable for many consumers. In addition to the purchase price, replacing EV batteries can be very costly. Batteries also have a limited lifespan, meaning owners might face expensive repairs or replacements after several years of use. This financial burden makes petrol cars seem like a safer and

more budget-friendly choice for many families. Additionally, even with government incentives and tax breaks, the upfront cost can be too much for the average buyer.

Another difficulty is the limited number of charging stations. While petrol stations are available almost everywhere, EV charging points are still not as common, especially in rural areas. This creates what experts call “range anxiety”, where drivers worry about running out of power without being able to find a charger nearby. This fear can make electric cars less practical for everyday use. Expanding the charging infrastructure would help ease this anxiety, but progress has been slow in many regions.

While electric cars offer environmental benefits, they still face significant challenges that make them less attractive to many consumers. Issues like limited driving range, long charging times, high costs, and the lack of charging stations continue to hold back widespread adoption. Until these problems are addressed, petrol-powered cars will remain the preferred choice for many drivers. As technology improves and infrastructure expands, electric cars may eventually become a more practical and popular option for everyone.

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