

### Tesla launches new electric car

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The new Model 3 will have a starting price of US\$35,000. However, it won't be available till the end of 2017. It can be ordered in many countries around the world including the UK, India, China and New Zealand. It will be Tesla's first mass produced electric car.

In the first two days alone pre-orders surpassed 276,000. Every car was secured by a deposit of US\$1,000 or similar in other currencies. Unlike deposits for iPhones, the Tesla deposits are fully refundable.

Following this huge wave of interest Musk tweeted that the company was "definitely going to need to rethink production planning". He added, "The future of electric cars is looking bright!" Musk would like to produce about 500,000 vehicles a year of the new Model 3.

The new vehicle will have a range of at least 346 kilometres (215 miles) per charge. A 15" landscape touchscreen will feature inside. Five adults will fit comfortably inside. The front to rear roof area will be a continuous piece of glass.

After just one week Tesla reported 325,000 deposits had been paid for the new Tesla Model 3. That's a whopping US\$14 billion in future sales. A Tesla statement said: "This is the biggest one-week launch of any product ever."

Musk estimated that the average selling price of the new Tesla Model 3 including extras will be around US\$42,000. This should make even more revenue for his company. Tesla though is facing competition from other electric cars with a similar price including the Chevy Bolt.

### SPEAKING – WARM UP

Think of three things you know about the new Tesla Model 3 electric car. Go round the room swapping details with others.

### LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

### READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

### SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

**1) The article** – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

**2) The article** - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 5) Discuss the article.

**3) Article quiz** - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

#### Student A questions

- 1) Name the CEO.
- 2) What does CEO mean?
- 3) What is the range of the new car?
- 4) What do we mean by 'landscape touchscreen'?
- 5) What are fully refundable?

#### Student B questions

- 1) What is a Chevy Bolt?
- 2) How many pre-orders were taken in the first week?
- 3) What does 'whopping' mean?
- 4) What did Musk tweet?
- 5) Name three countries.

## Tesla launches new electric car – 10<sup>th</sup> April 2016

### WRITING / SPEAKING

*In pairs.* On the board write as many words about the 'Tesla' One-two minutes. Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

### WRITING / SPEAKING

*In pairs* – think of three key points about electric cars. Write them below. Discuss!

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

Add three brands and models of electric cars. Discuss!

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

### SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 1

*In pairs* - Student A is a car dealer. Student B is someone wanting to buy an electric car. 3 mins.

### SPEAKING - DISCUSSION

*In pairs* - Compare the differences between electric cars and those run by petrol/diesel/or other types of fuel. Which is better? Why? 3 mins.

### DISCUSSION

#### Student A questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) Would you buy the new Tesla Model 3? Explain.
- 3) Do you know anyone who has an electric car or hybrid?
- 4) What has your country/region/city done to encourage people to use an electric car?
- 5) How does the new Tesla Model 3 compare with other Tesla models?
- 6) How does the new Tesla Model 3 compare with the Nissan Leaf?
- 7) Will we see more electric cars on the road? Explain.
- 8) Will you be ordering the new Tesla Model 3?
- 9) What car do you drive currently?
- 10) Have you learnt anything in today's English lesson?

### SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 2

*In groups.* One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *Discussion FM* radio studio in London. Today's interview is about: *Tesla launches new electric car.*

- 1) Someone with a Tesla electric car.
- 2) Elon Musk, CEO Tesla Motors.
- 3) A motoring journalist.
- 4) A shareholder of Tesla Motors.

**The teacher** will choose some groups to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

### SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 3

*In pairs* - Student A is a journalist. Student B is Elon Musk, CEO Tesla Motors. 3 mins.

### SPEAKING - PRESENTATION

Allow 10-15 minutes – As a class.

Prepare a 3-5 minute presentation on

#### Ten different electric cars

(Google it if necessary!)

**The teacher** can moderate the session.

### DISCUSSION

#### Student B questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) What other electric cars do you know of?
- 3) Why has the new Tesla car had so many pre-release orders?
- 4) Will you be taking a test drive in the new Tesla Model 3?
- 5) What makes Tesla cars different from other brands?
- 6) Will we see any serious competition from other brands in the electric car market?
- 7) What type of car will Tesla create next do you think?
- 8) Is US\$35,000 too much to pay for a new car? Explain.
- 9) Is touchscreen technology on a landscape screen the future for cars?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

## Tesla launches new electric car – 10<sup>th</sup> April 2016

### GAP FILL: READING

#### Tesla launches new electric car

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Following this huge wave of interest Musk tweeted that the company was "definitely going to need to (6)\_\_\_ production planning". He added, "The future of electric cars is looking (7)\_\_\_!" Musk would like to produce about 500,000 (8)\_\_\_ a year of the new Model 3.

**vehicles / luxury / alone / deposits / rethink / prototype / bright / pre-orders**

The new vehicle will have a (1)\_\_\_ of at least 346 kilometres (215 miles) per (2)\_\_\_ . A 15" landscape touchscreen will feature inside. Five adults will fit comfortably inside. The front to rear (3)\_\_\_ area will be a (4)\_\_\_ piece of glass.

After just one week Tesla reported 325,000 deposits had been paid for the new Tesla Model 3. That's a (5)\_\_\_ US\$14 billion in future sales. A Tesla statement said: "This is the biggest one-week (6)\_\_\_ of any product ever."

Musk estimated that the (7)\_\_\_ selling price of the new Tesla Model 3 including extras will be around US\$42,000. This should make even more revenue for his company. Tesla though is facing competition from other electric cars with a (8)\_\_\_ price including the Chevy Bolt.

**whopping / average / range / similar / launch / charge / continuous / roof**

### GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

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The new Model 3 will have a starting price of US\$35,000. However, (3)\_\_\_ won't be available till the end of 2017. It can be ordered in many countries around the world including (4)\_\_\_ UK, India, China and New Zealand. It will be Tesla's first mass produced electric car. (5)\_\_\_ the first two days alone pre-orders surpassed 276,000. Every car was secured (6)\_\_\_ a deposit of US\$1,000 or similar in other currencies. Unlike deposits for iPhones, the Tesla deposits are fully refundable.

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**by / of / it / its / he / at / in / the**

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Musk estimated (4)\_\_\_ the average selling price of the new Tesla Model 3 including extras will be around US\$42,000. This should make (5)\_\_\_ (6)\_\_\_ revenue for his company. Tesla (7)\_\_\_ is facing competition from (8)\_\_\_ electric cars with a similar price including the Chevy Bolt.

**other / ever / though / that / this / just / more / even**

## Tesla launches new electric car – 10<sup>th</sup> April 2016



### GAP FILL: LISTENING

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### WRITING/SPELLING

#### WRITING / SPEAKING

**1) On the board** - *In pairs/As a class*, list 20 things you know about: Tesla cars. *One-two minutes. Talk about each of them.*

**2) Sentence starters** - Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- 1) Tesla \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) The new electric \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) I like \_\_\_\_\_

**3) Write down 50 words about: *Tesla launches new electric car.*** Your words can be read out in class.

**4) Homework** - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: *Tesla launches new electric car.* Your email can be read out in class.

#### SPELLING

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

- 1) vehicle
- 2) rear
- 3) touchscreen
- 4) design
- 5) definitely
- 6) prototype
- 7) available
- 8) anticipated
- 9) electric
- 10) surpassed

#### SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

**Pass = 12**  
**Good = 15**  
**Very good = 18**  
**Excellent = 20**

- 11) unlike
- 12) range
- 13) bright
- 14) charge
- 15) comfortably
- 16) continuous
- 17) should
- 18) revenue
- 19) though
- 20) similar