

Text

An air powered car

Read this text about an air powered car and try to decide if it is true.

Could air be the solution to the energy crisis?

There is now an amazing new car that can **run on** air. It is cheap, creates no pollution and costs almost nothing to run. But is it just **too good to be true**?

The new CAT (compressed air technology) car was **on display** at the Paris motor show. The car was invented by Frenchman Guy Negre. He has spent the last six years developing his idea and has now produced a car that can travel up to 120 miles (200 kilometres) on one **tank** of compressed air and reach speeds of up to 65 mph (110 kph). The car will cost around 7,000 pounds (10,000 euros) and will come complete with its own refuelling system.

There is a problem with the car though. It will take around four to five hours to refuel. A high speed refuelling station has been designed, but this will cost around 70,000 pounds (100,000 euros).

The company believes that the car will sell well to taxi companies and delivery firms that operate in towns, because they don't need to travel long distances and they will be able **to afford** the cost of the refuelling station.

Some **critics** have **pointed out** that the car hasn't been properly tested yet and that the company's **claims** about the car's performance may be **exaggerated**, but even if the car can only achieve half of what the makers claim, it could turn out to be the answer both to the energy **crisis** and to the problem of inner city pollution.

Worksheet A

Comprehension

Read the text again and make notes about these things and their connection to the text. The first one has been done as an example.

	Answers
1. Guy Negre	<i>He is the Frenchman who invented the car.</i>
2. Six years	
3. 120 miles	
4. 65 mph	
5. £7,000	
6. Four to five hours	
7. £70,000	
8. Taxi companies	

Vocabulary

Look at the **bold** words in the text and match them to these meanings. One has been done for you as an example

Definitions	Answers
a. a difficult time	
b. being shown	<i>on display</i>
c. container for fuel	
d. facts that may not be true	
e. people who disagree with something	
f. be powered by	
g. to have enough money to buy something	
h. made to seem bigger or more important than they are	
i. commented	
j. unbelievable	

Worksheet B

Read these sentences and put an **A** at the end if you agree with them and **D** if you disagree.

<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Nobody will buy the CAT car because they are too slow.2. I would rather buy a CAT car than a Mercedes.3. People are too worried about the environment. There isn't really a problem.4. Big companies should spend more money on finding clean power sources.5. Ordinary people can do nothing to protect the environment. It is a job for the government.6. Big companies don't care about the environment. They just want to make more money.7. Cars are terrible dirty things. We should use more public transport.8. There is no energy crisis. We have enough oil and coal to last for many years.9. In five years time everybody will be driving an air powered car.	
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Now discuss the sentences with other people in your group.

Everyone must agree or disagree on each sentence. If you don't, rewrite the sentence so that you can all agree or disagree.