

A PRODUCT HISTORY

Complete the text with verbs from Practice 1.

Henry Ford, the son of a farmer, was born in Greenfield, Michigan on July 30th, 1863. He (a) _____ school at 15 to work on his father's farm, but in 1879, he moved to Detroit, where he (b) _____ an apprentice in a machine shop. He returned to Greenfield after his father gave him some land to start his own farm. He hated farming and returned to Detroit to work as an engineer for the Edison Illuminating Company. He (c) _____ his spare time trying to build a petrol-driven motor car. In 1896, he (d) _____ his first car in the garden. He named the car 'Tin Lizzie' and it (e) _____ no reverse gear or brakes. Ford started two companies that ended in failure. Finally, in June 1903, he (f) _____ 12 people ready to invest \$28,000 in a new company. He (g) _____ production of the Model A car. The car (h) _____ well and by 1907, the profits reached \$1,100,000. In 1909, Ford decided to manufacture only one type of car, the Model T. At first, it (i) _____ 14 hours to assemble a Model T car. Ford reduced this to one hour 33 minutes. This (j) _____ the overall cost of each car, and between 1908 and 1916, the price of the Model T (k) _____ from \$1,000 to \$360. In the 1920s, the Ford Motor Company (l) _____ rapidly and in 1925 Ford produced 60% of America's total output of cars. Henry Ford died on 7th April 1947.

leave
grow
spend
take
read
sit

buy
give
write
drink
lose
understand
have

go
begin
come
sell
cost

become
find
fall
cut
swim
build
forget

Complete the questions for the answers.

- a Why *did Henry Ford leave school* _____ ?
To work on his father's farm.
- b What _____ ?
Some land to start his own farm.
- c When _____ ?
In 1896.
- d When _____ ?
In 1907.
- e What _____ ?
To manufacture only one type of car.
- f How long _____ ?
Fourteen hours.
- g How much _____ ?
From \$1,000 to \$360.
- h When _____ ?
On 7th April 1947.

Correct the sentences about Henry Ford.

a His father was an engineer.

No, he wasn't an engineer; he was a farmer.

b In 1879, he became a manager.

No, he didn't become a manager; he became an apprentice.

c He hated engineering.

d In 1896, he built his first bicycle.

e In 1903, he began production of the Model T.

f The Model A sold badly.

g At first, it took 15 hours to produce a Model T.

h The price fell from \$2,000 to \$500.

i In the 1920s, the company grew slowly.