

Buying a car

1. What do people consider when buying a car? Match the factors 1-7 to the definitions a-g:

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 1 price | a the amount of money you get when you sell your car |
| 2 resale value | b how much petrol or diesel the car uses |
| 3 size | c when customers always buy their car from the same manufacturer |
| 4 interior features | d the amount of money you pay when you buy the car |
| 5 fuel consumption | e the car's capacity to go fast and accelerate quickly |
| 6 performance | f how big the car is |
| 7 brand loyalty | g items inside the car |

2. Label the types of cars (British English/American English) – drag the names below the pictures

camper van/ recreational vehicle (RV) convertible hatchback limousine
 pick up sports car SUV



a coupe



3/ Discuss the cars from exercise 2 – write 4-5 sentences.

Which car(s) ...

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 has/have lots of room for passengers? | 5 has/have low fuel consumption? |
| 2 is/are good for driving on bad roads? | 6 is/are ideal for small parking spaces? |
| 3 is/are not suitable for large families? | 7 has/have only one passenger seat? |
| 4 is/are perfect for hot, sunny weather? | 8 is/are good for transporting things? |

4/ Complete the sentences below using the correct form of the adjectives in the box (comfortable, expensive, fast 2x, heavy, noisy, powerful, safe 2x, spacious).

- The Audi TT has a top speed of 250 mph. It is much _____ than a Fiat Panda.
- Rolls-Royce makes some of the _____ cars in the world.
- All new cars now have airbags as standard so they are _____ than cars were years ago.
- A diesel engine is still _____ than a petrol engine even though they are much quieter than they used to be.
- Volvos have a reputation of being some of the _____ cars on the market.
- The interior of a Bentley is _____ and luxurious than a BMW7-series.
- The Porsche Cayenne weighs two and a half tonnes. It is _____ than the BMW X5.
- The Lamborghini Diablo is one of the _____ cars in the world.
- A car engine with twelve cylinders is _____ than one with six cylinders.
- These leather seats are the _____ seats I've ever sat in.

5/ Listen to the dialogue about buying a new car and match the beginnings and the ends of the sentences – write the numbers into the boxes.

- A I'm absolutely
B Money doesn't
C It would be cheaper
D I don't want to drive something
E More and more of our energy
F I think a Tesla goes from 0-60 miles per hour

☐
☐
☐
☐
☐
☐

- in the long term.
- comes from solar and wind.
- that pollutes the environment.
- sick of it.
- in about two seconds.
- grow on trees.



6/ Which car do they decide to buy in the end? Why? Would you buy the same car? Why/why not? Write the answer in 2-3 full sentences.

Tesla car worksheet:

7/ Read the text about the cars of the future. Decide, whether the following sentences are true (write T) or false (write F) according to the text.

1. You'll still need a key to open the car door.
2. You'll no longer have a steering wheel.
3. Sensors in the dashboard will measure your blood pressure.
4. You won't be able to fall asleep while driving.
5. You won't need to read traffic signs any more.
6. You'll still need good parking skills.

The car of the future

It is a cold winter morning but your car is waiting for you, warm and comfortable, at exactly the temperature you like. You open the door by pressing your finger against the lock and your car greets you with a friendly 'Hi, how are you?' You sit down and the

computer reminds you of your schedule. You start the car. You now have a joystick, steering-by-wire, braking-by-wire. The old mechanical parts of the past are gone. As you back out of your driveway, warning sensors warn you about objects and pedestrians in your way. Using voice commands you programme your route, check your emails and dictate answers, ask for local and international news, look up phone numbers and play music. The car also looks after your health. Sensors in your seat and armrest tell you your weight and blood pressure, while sensors in the dashboard notice if you are drowsy and vibrate the joystick to wake you.

Many of the old worries associated with driving are gone. Traffic jams don't happen any more because your car automatically avoids crowded roads. Collision avoidance



sensors prevent accidents. Speeding tickets are also a thing of the past – sensors pick up signals from traffic signs and automatically adjust your speed or stop your car. And breaking down is no longer a problem. Your car diagnoses any potential faults or worn parts and warns you and the service station. When you arrive at the service station, the spare parts are already waiting for you. Your car can even park itself. Just stop at any parking space (your car knows, of course, if parking is permitted here) and operate the automatic parking system. The car scans the size and shape of the available space and then reverses in.

2/ Self driving cars – levels of autonomy. Join the levels and their descriptions.

Level 0 No automation

the vehicle systems are essentially driving, but the driver is required to monitor and be ready to step in, if needed

Level 1 Driver assistance

the vehicle's autonomous driving system is fully capable of monitoring the driving environment and handling all driving functions for routine routes and conditions; conditions could be limited to certain vehicle speeds, road types and weather conditions

Level 2 Partial automation

no driver is required behind the wheel at all; in fact, vehicles might not even have a steering wheel or gas/brake pedals

Level 3 Conditional automation

the automated systems start to take control of the vehicle in specific situations, but do not fully take over; an example of this level is adaptive cruise control, which controls acceleration and braking

Level 4 High automation

the driver is completely responsible for controlling the vehicle, performing tasks like steering, braking, accelerating or slowing down

Level 5 Full automation

the vehicle's autonomous driving system is fully capable of monitoring the driving environment and handling all driving functions; the vehicle may alert the driver that it is reaching its operational limits (eg. if there is heavy snow); if the driver does not respond, it will secure the vehicle automatically

