

## The world's fastest car is ... electric

### Elementary

#### 1 Warmer

Put these methods of transport in order from 1 (the one you like the best) to 6 (the one you like the least).

- |          |            |
|----------|------------|
| 1. _____ | a. bicycle |
| 2. _____ | b. train   |
| 3. _____ | c. bus     |
| 4. _____ | d. plane   |
| 5. _____ | e. car     |
| 6. _____ | f. boat    |

#### 2 Key words

Fill the gaps in the sentences with these key words from the text. The paragraph numbers will help you.

maximum

recharge

waiting list

accelerate

amazing

battery

1. When cars \_\_\_\_\_, they move faster. (para 1)
2. If something is \_\_\_\_\_, it is very surprising or impressive. (para 2)
3. A \_\_\_\_\_ is something that fits into a car, mobile phone or radio, for example, and supplies it with power. (para 2)
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ is the largest amount, size or number that is possible. (para 2)
5. If you \_\_\_\_\_ a battery, you put more power into it. (para 2)
6. A \_\_\_\_\_ is all the names of people who want to buy something that they can't buy now but might be able to buy in the future. (para 4)

#### 3 Find the information

Find the following information in the text as quickly as possible.

1. What is the top speed of the Pininfarina Battista?
2. How long does it take to accelerate from 0 to 100 kph?
3. When did the production of the first electric cars begin?
4. When were customers able to buy the Tesla Roadster for the first time?
5. How long does it take the Tesla Roadster to accelerate from 0 to 100 mph?
6. Which of the two cars is more expensive?

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4 April, 2019

- 1 At the 2019 Geneva Motor Show in Switzerland, a new Italian supercar appeared for the first time. The car, called the Pininfarina Battista, might be the fastest road car in the world. Its top speed is 250 miles per hour (400 kilometres per hour) and it can accelerate from 0 to 62 mph (100 kph) in less than two seconds.
- 2 Its speed is amazing, but the most interesting thing about this car is that it is electric. The production of the first electric cars began not very long ago. In 2004, the California company Tesla started to design and build the Tesla Roadster. In 2008, customers were able to buy this car for the first time. The problem was that many electric cars only had enough battery power to travel for a maximum of around 300 kilometres, and some needed to recharge their battery after quite short distances.
- 3 But now, you can drive the Pininfarina Battista for 450 km (280 miles) before you need to recharge the battery. The latest Tesla Roadster can travel even further – up to 620 miles – on a full battery. In fact, some people believe that the Roadster is faster than the Battista. It can accelerate from 0 to 60 mph (96 kph) in 1.9 seconds and to 100 mph (160 kph) in only 4.2 seconds. And just like the Battista, its top speed is around 250 miles per hour (400 kph).
- 4 Both cars look fantastic, but there is one big difference between them – the price. You can buy a Roadster for \$250,000, but a Battista is more expensive at \$2.6 million. Even if you have enough money, you will have to join a waiting list to buy a Battista. Only 150 will be made – 50 for Europe, 50 for Asia and 50 for the United States.

#### 4 Comprehension check

Match the beginnings to the endings to make statements about the text.

- |                                                   |                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. If you want to buy a Pininfarina Battista, ... | a. ... is made by the Tesla company in California.                |
| 2. You will also have to ...                      | b. ... have much more powerful batteries.                         |
| 3. The first electric cars ...                    | c. ... spend around \$2.6 million.                                |
| 4. The latest electric cars ...                   | d. ... appeared for the first time at the 2019 Geneva Motor Show. |
| 5. The Roadster ...                               | e. ... you will have to join a waiting list.                      |
| 6. The new Italian supercar ...                   | f. ... could only travel for a maximum of around 300 kilometres.  |

#### 5 Chunks

Rearrange the words to make phrases from the text.

1. road fastest world the in car the
2. two in seconds than less
3. quite after distances short
4. two hour around miles hundred and per fifty

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#### 6 Two-word phrases

Match the words in the left-hand column with the words in the right-hand column to make expressions from the text.

- |            |          |
|------------|----------|
| 1. top     | a. power |
| 2. battery | b. show  |
| 3. waiting | c. speed |
| 4. motor   | d. list  |

#### 7 Comparatives and superlatives

Complete the table.

	adjective	comparative	superlative
1.	late		
2.	interesting		
3.	fast		
4.	expensive		

#### 8 Discussion

- What is your favourite car?
- Would you like to drive a powerful car like the ones in the text? Why? Why not?

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#### KEY

#### 2 Key words

1. accelerate
2. amazing
3. battery
4. maximum
5. recharge
6. waiting list

#### 3 Find the information

1. 250 miles per hour (400 kilometres per hour)
2. less than two seconds
3. 2004
4. 2008
5. 4.2 seconds
6. the Pininfarina Battista

#### 4 Comprehension check

1. e
2. c
3. f
4. b
5. a
6. d

#### 5 Chunks

1. the fastest road car in the world
2. in less than two seconds
3. after quite short distances
4. around two hundred and fifty miles per hour

#### 6 Two-word phrases

1. c
2. a
3. d
4. b

#### 7 Comparatives and superlatives

	adjective	comparative	superlative
1.	late	later	the latest
2.	interesting	more interesting	the most interesting
3.	fast	faster	the fastest
4.	expensive	more expensive	the most expensive