

Volvo will start making only all-electric cars

7th July, 2017



The car company Volvo has said it will start making all-electric cars. All new cars it makes from 2019 will have an electric motor. Volvo wants to stop making cars that use only petrol-driven or

diesel-driven engines. The carmaker said it plans to launch five fully electric cars between 2019 and 2021 and a range of hybrid models. A hybrid car has an engine that is both electric and petrol-driven. Volvo becomes the first major carmaker to say it will end making cars with an internal combustion engine. The internal combustion engine has been used in cars for over a century. Volvo's CEO said: "People increasingly demand electrified cars, and we want to respond to our customers' current and future needs."

More and more car companies are now selling cars with electric or hybrid engines. The US-based company Tesla makes only all-electric cars. Its stock market value is now 25 per cent higher than that of Ford Motor Company, which started in 1903. Tesla recently announced that it will make 20,000 of its Model 3 cars a month by December. Volvo hopes to sell a million electrified cars by 2025. In addition, it hopes to have changed its factories to be more environmentally friendly. It hopes to have what it calls "climate-neutral" manufacturing. Volvo said its plans will mean the company will have one of the widest ranges of electrified cars of any carmaker in the world.

Sources: bbc.com / autotrader.com / autoexpress.co.uk

Writing

Are electric cars good for the environment? Discuss three advantages and disadvantages.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

car company / electric cars / electric motor / diesel / century / demand / customers selling / stock market / higher / a million / factories / environment / climate / plans

True / False

- All new Volvo cars from 2019 will have an electric motor. T / F
- Volvo will stop making all petrol-driven cars before 2019. T / F
- The internal combustion engine has been used in cars for over 100 years. T / F
- Volvo wants to respond to its customers' current and future needs. T / F
- The numbers of carmakers selling hybrid cars is increasing. T / F
- Ford's stock market value is 25% higher than Tesla's value. T / F
- Tesla will be making 200,000 cars a month by December. T / F
- Volvo has the widest range of electrified cars of any carmaker globally. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1. making | a. reported |
| 2. makes | b. more and more |
| 3. major | c. on the planet |
| 4. increasingly | d. produces |
| 5. needs | e. aims |
| 6. value | f. manufacturing |
| 7. announced | g. ideas |
| 8. hopes | h. requirements |
| 9. plans | i. big |
| 10. in the world | j. worth |

Discussion – Student A

- What do you think about what you read?
- What do you know about Tesla?
- Why haven't all car companies decided to make only electrified cars?
- How can factories be more environmentally friendly?
- When will we stop using fossil fuels?
- Would you prefer an electric or petrol-driven car?
- What is "climate-neutral" manufacturing?
- What questions would you like to ask the boss of Volvo?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Volvo has said it will start | a. driven engines |
| 2. All new cars it | b. friendly |
| 3. diesel- | c. and future needs |
| 4. a range of hybrid | d. more car companies |
| 5. respond to our customers' current | e. models |
| 6. More and | f. by 2025 |
| 7. Its stock | g. making all-electric cars |
| 8. sell a million electrified cars | h. ranges of electrified cars |
| 9. be more environmentally | i. market value |
| 10. one of the widest | j. makes from 2019 |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about electric cars?
- Are electric cars good for the environment?
- In what ways are electric cars better than petrol cars?
- What is your favourite car and why?
- What do you know about Volvo?
- How popular are electric cars in your country?
- In what ways can cars be more environmentally friendly?
- Are there any negative things about electric cars?

Spelling

- chluan five fully electric cars
- a range of bdiy rh models
- the first oamjr carmaker
- for over a ertnyuc
- we want to odsnrep to our customers
- rnctreu and future needs
- Its stock market leuav
- aocdunenn that it will make 20,000
- Volvo hopes to sell a nlliimo
- In ioditand, it hopes to...
- "climate-tneralu" manufacturing
- one of the widest aserng of electrified cars

Answers – Synonym Match

| | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. f | 2. d | 3. i | 4. b | 5. h |
| 6. j | 7. a | 8. e | 9. g | 10. c |

Role Play

Role A – Bicycles

You think bicycles are the best form of transport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their forms or transport. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): cars, trains or airplanes.

Role B – Cars

You think cars are the best form of transport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their forms or transport. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): bicycles, trains or airplanes.

Role C – Train

You think trains are the best form of transport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their forms or transport. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): airplanes, bicycles or cars.

Role D – Airplane

You think airplanes are the best form of transport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their forms or transport. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): bicycles, cars or trains.

Speaking – Transport

Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| • train | • bicycle |
| • taxi | • car |
| • drone | • airplane |
| • helicopter | • bus |

Answers – True False

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| a | T | b | F | c | T | d | T | e | T | f | F | g | F | h | F |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.