

Electric Vehicles: Fight Against Pollution

Task 1: You will hear a BB Learning English radio podcast about electric rickshaws.¹ Listen to the conversation and complete the grid below. Be careful. one word is not enough. (You will have 30 seconds after the first listening and 90 seconds after the second listening.)

- 1 In some parts of the world, switching to electric vehicles has become a significant success in fighting _____ *climate change* _____
- 2 Over half of two- and three-wheelers in India are _____ *electric vehicles* _____
- 3 In India more than three quarters of electricity is _____ *generated by coal* _____
- 4 Two and three-wheelers are so appealing in India because they are
 - convenient
 - accessible
 - _____ *affordable* _____
 - efficient

as there is a lack of

 - _____ *(sufficient) public transport infrastructure* _____
- 5 Petrol cars in Delhi are responsible for smog, which poses a serious _____ *health risk* _____
- 6 In winter, air pollution sometimes gets so bad that _____ *they have to close* _____
- 7 To improve Delhi's air quality the Indian government wants _____ *30% of vehicles to be electric* _____ by 2030.
- 8 To achieve this goal the Indian government has put up _____ *over 1 billion dollars* _____

Task 2: Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to **form a word of the same word family** that fits in the space in the same line. There is one example (0) at the beginning.

Electric Vehicles Drive Change in India²

- 0 Electric vehicles (EVs) are making *transportation* around the TRANSPORT world greener. Despite the high cost of EVs, even in countries with a
- 1 high *poverty* rates, people are switching to vehicles powered by POOR
- 2 *electricity* In India, for example, small vehicles such as ELECTRIC

¹ 6 Minute English, "E-rickshaws driving away pollution," Intermediate level, Episode 240606, BBC Learning English, June 6, 2024, https://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/6-minute-english_2024/ep-240606.

² Adapted from: 6 Minute English, "E-rickshaws driving away pollution," Intermediate level, Episode 240606, BBC Learning English, June 6, 2024, https://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/6-minute-english_2024/ep-240606.

motorbikes, scooters and rickshaws are now electric. This is because electric two- and three-wheelers are convenient in places without sufficient and ...*frequent*... public transport. They are easily accessible and very*efficient*..... . For lower-income households,*affordability*.... is another important factor.

In cities like Delhi, where smog has created a serious*health*.... risk, electric scooters and e-rickshaws help reduce the severe air*pollution*.... problem created by petrol cars. It is children who are most affected by the toxic and*unhealthy*..... atmosphere.

To ...*solve*.... this problem, the Indian government has ...*invested*... over \$ 1 billion to make their roads greener and the air in cities cleaner.

FREQUENCY

EFFICIENCY

AFFORD

HEALTHY

POLLUTE

HEALTHY

SOLUTION

INVESTMENT

Task 3: Please compare the situations shown in the pictures below. (Approx. 1 minute)



Task 4: Talk about the questions below.

- How many electric vehicles do you have in your family or household?
- What were the reasons for switching to EVs?
- Do you have a sufficient, high quality, frequent public transport infrastructure where you live?
- Have you ever used an e-bike or e-scooter to get around in a town or city? If so, what was your experience?
- What's the air quality where you live?
- What could be the positive and negative effects of more people switching to EVs?

Positive Effects:

Cleaner Air:

Less exhaust fumes from cars lead to better air quality in cities and towns.

Quieter Streets:

Electric vehicles are quieter than traditional cars, reducing noise pollution.

Lower Running Costs:

Electric vehicles often have lower fuel costs.

Convenient Charging:

Home charging can be more convenient than going to a gas station.

Negative Effects:**Safety Concerns:**

E-bikes and e-scooters can be faster and heavier, potentially leading to more accidents in pedestrian areas and on cycling paths.

Quiet Operation:

EVs are very quiet, which can pose a danger to pedestrians and wildlife who may not hear them approaching.

Charging Infrastructure:

Lack of sufficient public charging stations can be inconvenient and limit the use of EVs for long trips.

Task 5 – Guided Writing: You have recently bought an **e-bike**. A reminder from the e-bike company to write an online review has popped up in your email.

Write an online review and include the following points:

- Reasons for switching from a normal to an e-bike.
- Positive experiences with the new e-bike.
- One problem you had with the e-bike and how you tried to solve it.
- Your advice to potential buyers.

Write about 200 words.

How to Write an Online Review

[Introduction: State what you are reviewing.] *I recently bought [What?] from [Where? Company?], and here is my experience.*

[Give background on why you bought the product or service.] *I bought the e-bike because*

[Describe positive aspects such as design, performance, and features.] *One amazing feature of my new e-bike is But I also like Moreover, it has*

[Mention any problems.] *The only problem I had was*

[Give tips or advice to potential buyers.] *If you are thinking about getting, make sure that*

[Ending / Conclusion: Summarize your overall impression and give a recommendation.] *Overall, I am very happy with and would recommend*

Example – E-Bike Online Review

I recently bought an XYZ e-bike at ABC in their store in DEF, and here is my experience. (18)

I decided to get an e-bike because my normal bike was too slow for getting to my friend's house and school. Also, I live in a hilly area, and going uphill with a normal bike is exhausting. The e-bike is much faster, and I can ride longer distances without getting tired. (51)

I love my new e-bike because of its stylish design. It has a sleek and cool look that makes it stand out. I also like the comfortable seat and that it is relatively light, so it's easy to carry if I need to. Another great feature is the built-in lock and theft tracking system. It makes me feel safe leaving my bike outside while I'm in school. (67)

I only had a small issue with the brakes. They made a funny noise when I used them. I took the bike to the shop, and they fixed it quickly. Now it's perfect. (33)

If you are considering getting an e-bike, be sure to pay attention to some important points. Check the battery life, the weight of the bike, and the quality of essential components like the brakes and gears. Additionally, look for cool features like a tracking system, since e-bikes are often targeted by thieves. (52)

Overall, I'm very happy with my purchase and would recommend this e-bike to anyone looking for a reliable and stylish way to commute. (23)

(about 250 words)