

Item: 58578

Preamble

A student is writing an argumentative essay for English class about electric cars. Read the draft of the essay and complete the task that follows.

Stimulus

Electric cars are not new inventions. They were first invented in the 1830s, though they did not become widely popular until the 1890s. For a time, it seemed electric cars would become the centerpiece of the transportation revolution, but that all changed when automakers turned to gas-and oil-powered cars instead. That decision did change the world, but not entirely for the better. Gas-powered cars produced lots of smoke and smog that was bad for the air. Also, because the United States did not have a large supply of oil, these automobiles eventually forced us to depend on other countries for the natural resources we needed. While that was all right at first, it has become a bigger problem ever since.

The main thing to do to correct these problems is to cut down on our use of gas-powered cars. So, another kind of vehicle is needed to replace gas-powered cars. The answer is the electric car.

Making the switch to electric cars needs to happen for a number of reasons. Since fully electric cars do not give off any gases, they are much cleaner and much less harmful to Earth. Also, electric cars will help to stop the dependence on foreign oil for energy. Electric cars are also much less costly to drive. On average, it would only take about \$1.25 to charge up an electric car. They also require fewer repairs than other automobiles, so it is possible to save money that way as well.

For these reasons, it is clear that the time to begin switching to electric cars is now. Electric cars have the ability to eliminate many of the problems that gas-powered cars have created over the years. The sooner people start driving electric cars, the sooner they can start saving money and saving the planet.

Item Stem

Write an introduction to the argumentative essay that establishes and introduces a clear claim about electric cars.

Brief-Write Rubric Target 6a • Argumentative (Organization-Introduction)

Score	Description
2	The response: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• establishes an adequate claim that articulates the argument(s) presented in the body of writing as a whole• provides adequate information to frame the argument to put the claim into context• does more than list arguments to support claim—not formulaic• provides a logical connection to the body paragraph
1	The response: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• provides a partial or limited claim• provides a claim that partially reflects the argument(s) presented in the body of writing as a whole• provides limited and/or extraneous information to frame the argument to put the claim into context• may list arguments—formulaic• provides a limited and/or awkward connection to the body paragraph
0	The response: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• provides no claim or provides a claim that is not appropriate for the body of writing as a whole• provides irrelevant or no information to frame the argument to put the claim into context• provides no connection to the body paragraph

Student Response Sample	Score: 2, 1, 0
<p>No one can deny the problems around the world from freak weather and overheating to the fact that we depend to much on other contries and our natural resorses. Most of our problems are caused by polution, polution can come from many sorses, mainly cars. Todays cars are powered by fossil fuels and oils that are quickly destroying our planet, but there is a way to slow down the proses imensly, electric cars! Electric cars are cheap and they avoid using harmful oils and fossil fuels.</p>	
<p>As a population of the world, we shoould start using electric cars instead of gas or oil-powered cars because the smake and smog they relese is bad for the air, someday the oil and gas will run out, and electric cars would over-all save money.</p>	
<p>What material powers your car? chances are, you or somebody close to you drives an oil powered car, but is that the best form of fuel? Electric cars are the way to go, because they are innovative, eco-friendly, and generally awesome! So, how do you drive? A Gasoline powered car that destroys the planet? or an eco-friendly car that runs off electricity?</p>	
<p>There are many reasons of why we should have electric cars and here is why. They cost less than automobiles, they are better for hte environment because they don't produce smoke, and they need less repairs than automobiles. That is why we need electric cars instead of automobiles and we need to start doing the change now!</p>	
<p>What they are trying to say is electric cars are old even though some peoplethink they are new.</p>	

ELA Answer Key

Student Response Sample	Score: 2, 1, 0
<p>No one can deny the problems around the world from freak weather and overheating to the fact that we depend to much on other contries and our natural resorses. Most of our problems are caused by polution, polution can come from many sorses, mainly cars. Todays cars are powered by fossil fuels and oils that are quickly destroying our planet, but there is a way to slow down the prossess imensly, electric cars! Electric cars are cheap and they avoid using harmful oils and fossil fuels.</p>	2
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<p>What they are trying to say is electric cars are old even though some peoplethink they are new.</p>	0