

Answer the questions:

1. What is land transport equipment?
Name some examples.
2. Do you think land transport equipment and technologies make our lives easier?
Why or why not?
3. Read about land transport equipment and technologies.

In 1886, the German engineer Karl Benz invented the first motor car. It had three wheels and an engine. The top speed was 16 km/h. Benz started selling his car in 1888.

In the early 1900s, cars were for rich people. They were expensive and the engines were not very good. Most people travelled by train or horse. But after Henry Ford invented the Model T in 1908,

more people bought cars. The Model T was cheaper than other cars because Ford made the parts in big factories. In 1913, Ford's factories made 200,000 cars. By 1924, they made two million cars!

In the 1950s and 1960s, cars became faster and more powerful. Cars like the Aston Martin DB5 (in the James Bond films) and the Jaguar E-Type were beautiful and fast. In the 1980s and 1990s, car technology improved a lot. New cars have better engines, better brakes and better safety features.

There are now about one billion cars in the world. In some countries, like the USA, there is almost one car for every person! But too many cars are bad for the environment. They cause pollution and use a lot of oil.

Some people think that electric cars are the future. Electric cars don't use petrol or diesel, so they don't pollute the air. Some countries, like Norway and the Netherlands, want to ban petrol and diesel cars by 2025. There are also new ideas for cars that can drive themselves. Yandex is working on self-driving cars. These cars have cameras and computers, and they don't need a driver. Maybe soon we won't need driving licences!

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| • to invent – изобретать | • pollution – загрязнение |
| • powerful – сильный | • petrol – бензин |
| • to improve – улучшать(ся) | • driving licence – водительские права |
| • brake – тормоз | |
| • safety – безопасность | |

Decide which statements are true and which are false. Compare with your partner.

1. Karl Benz invented the first motor car in 1888.
2. The Model T was the first car to be mass-produced in big factories.
3. In the 1950s and 1960s, cars became slower and less powerful.
4. New cars have better engines, better brakes, and better safety features.
5. There are currently over one billion cars in the world.
6. Electric cars don't use petrol or diesel, so they don't produce pollution.
7. Norway and the Netherlands plan to ban petrol and diesel cars by 2025.
8. Yandex is developing self-driving cars.
9. Self-driving cars have cameras and computers, and they can drive without a driver.
10. Driving licenses may become unnecessary in the future.

4. SKILLS

- Describe the evolution of car industry in your country / area. Name the most important dates and names.
- Predict what will happen with the car industry in the future. Will they be more ecologically friendly? Will they fly? Will people reduce using cars?