**THE FUTURE OF THE CAR**

Cars play a very important role in modern life. They offer freedom, mobility and flexibility. But they are also one of modern life’s major problems. Cars cause so much pollution, congestion and noise that some environmentalists say that the car has become man’s worst enemy.

It is not hard to understand why. In most cities, main highways are blocked every morning and evening by traffic jams. Big cities often have very high levels of air pollution, which can be the cause for many illnesses. Not everything is negative. Today, a car is 90% more efficient than 25 years ago. But the predicted increase in the number of cars on the road means that pollution will still grow in the future.

What about electric cars? Perhaps electricity will take the place of gasoline and diesel one day, but not yet. Some experts believe that it will take another 20 years before batteries are so powerful that they can allow electric cars to travel long distances. And the possible other motors that use other energies, like hydrogen, are still too expensive to replace gasoline and diesel engines.

1. **Are the following sentences TRUE or FALSE according to the text? Justify your answer copying the evidence from the text. No marks are given for only TRUE or FALSE.** (Puntuación máxima: 2 puntos)
   a. Traffic is difficult in the morning and evening in big cities.
   b. Air pollution can provoke different illnesses.
   c. Electric cars will never take the place of gasoline and diesel cars.
   d. At present, hydrogen motors are not a possibility because they are not powerful enough.

2. **Fill in the gaps with the right form of the word in brackets:** (Puntuación máxima: 4 puntos)
   a. Gasoline engines are _____________________ than hydrogen engines.
   b. In 20 years everybody (use) ________________ electric cars.
   c. During the last 2 weeks we (travel) _______________ around Europe.
   d. Main highways (block) ________________ by traffic jams every morning.
   e. You will produce less pollution if you (use) ________________ the underground.
   f. If people shared their cars to go to work, there (not be) ___________________ so much pollution.
   g. When I (be) ________________ a child, my mother (like) ________________ driving a lot.

3. **In your own words and based on the ideas from the text, answer these questions. Be careful with the grammar and write precise answers.** (Puntuación máxima: 4 puntos)
   a. What is negative about cars?
   b. Is the electric car ready to replace gasoline cars?
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