

UOW College Hong Kong / Community College of City University
Student English Enhancement Unit (SEE U)
Daily English Practice

Week 4

#68 One Man and His Car

Skills/ Objectives: Listening and speaking

PART 1: Before you watch...

Preparatory questions

1. Do you wish you owned a car? Or do you already have one?
2. Do you prefer traditional fuel-powered cars or electric cars?
3. What do you know about Tesla?
4. From the vocabulary list below, can you find one appropriate word to complete the following sentence?

Climate change has pushed many species of plants and animals into the brim of _____.

Vocabulary

1. Civilization (noun): human society with well-developed traditions
2. Stanford (noun): as in Stanford University; an American university
3. Manufacturer (noun): a company that produces goods in massive numbers
4. Conceptualize (verb): to form an idea in one's mind
5. Extinction (noun): a situation where something no longer exists

Answer(s) to the relevant questions above will be provided in the next exercise.

Answers to relevant questions in the preceding set of exercises:

Question 2:

"E" stands for "electronic"; "i" for "internet."

Question 3:

"Spam" means 1. unwanted email; 2. a brand name for a type of pork

Question 4:

The word is "correspondence".

PART 2: Video

This video tells the life story of Elon Musk, founder of Tesla:

The Story of Elon Musk in 3 Minutes (click the link below to watch the video)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-BDSnB_94Jw

(Source: YouTube)

PART 3: Speaking

Note that there are two /k/ sounds in the pronunciation of the word “extinction.” Learn how to pronounce it here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MzCV3dVmsBo>

The first /k/ sound is buried in the letter “x,” and the second one in the letter “c.” You do not see the actual letter “k” anywhere in the spelling of “extinction. Just say it twice!

PART 4: Learn further

1. Read Tesla's mission statement here:

<https://www.tesla.com/about>

This tells you that they are not simply selling cars—they are selling “clean transport.”

2. With such claims to “clean transport,” there are doubters:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=17xh_VRrnMU

“Are Electric Cars Really Green?” calls into question the environmental friendliness of electric cars.