

## 2 Have you ever ...?

## 2 READING

Read *Maglev, train of the future?* on page 76 of the Student's Book and do exercises 2 and 3 there. Then read *Electric cars: Fact or Fiction?* and decide: true or false? Discuss your answers with another student.

## Electric cars: Fact or Fiction?

- 1 *Electric cars were popular in the nineteenth century.*
- 2 *An electric-powered car produces less air pollution than a petrol or diesel-powered one.*
- 3 *There has never been so much interest in electric cars before.*
- 4 *Slow acceleration is a problem with electric cars.*
- 5 *Electric cars can go extremely long distances between charges.*
- 6 *It costs more to run an electric car than a petrol or diesel one.*
- 7 *There are charging stations everywhere in the world for electric cars.*



Now match statements 1–7 above with texts A–G below.

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| <b>A</b> <i>Estonia is the only country in the world with a nationwide network of quick-charging stations for electric cars. Every town with a population of more than 5,000 has one.</i>   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>B</b> <i>The opposite is true! The running costs of electric cars are typically a quarter of those of petrol or diesel cars.</i>   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>C</b> <i>Not at all. Electric cars can accelerate very quickly. The world record is currently held by an experimental electric car with four motors, built by a group of Dutch students from the Delft University of Technology. This car went from 0–100 km/h in 2.3 seconds!</i>   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>D</b> <i>While this is true, the sales are still low compared to petrol or diesel cars. For example, one of the world's most popular models has only sold 100,000 cars. In Norway in 2013, just over 5% of new cars were electric and that's the highest percentage in the world. The equivalent figure for Switzerland was around 0.4%.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>E</b> <i>A correct statement. However, it depends where and how the electricity is generated. Electricity generated through 'dirty' sources, like coal-burning power stations, does create pollution.</i>  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>F</b> <i>Some electric cars can go up to 400km between charges, but others can only manage around 160. However, most daily car use is less than this. Many electric car owners charge their car's battery at night. But to do this safely, they have to be able to park the car off the road.</i>  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>G</b> <i>In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, electric cars were popular. This was partly because oil was expensive, and petrol engines were dirty and noisy.</i>   | <input type="checkbox"/> |

## 3 AFTER READING

Which of the statements 1–7 in *Electric cars: Fact or Fiction?* are true and which are false? Correct the false statements.

True \_\_\_\_\_ False \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Now look at *Your response* on page 76 of the Student's Book.