

Name _____ Date _____

Read this editorial. Then answer the questions.

Support Electric Cars

- 1 It's time for our city to take action. We need to protect the environment and improve our quality of life. Right now, our downtown has several problems. First, it is filled with cars. The cars pollute the air. The federal government tests the air downtown. Its reports show that our air quality is often very poor.
- 2 One reason our city is crowded with cars is that parking is cheap. Cheap parking encourages people to drive cars into the city. There would be fewer cars if people took buses or trains. Everyone agrees that the traffic jams downtown are a nightmare.
- 3 The federal and state governments strongly support electric cars. These cars don't cause pollution. Hybrids use gas and electric power. Hybrids and electric-only cars are becoming more common. Auto companies now offer many different models. The batteries last longer than they did a few years ago. But recharging them can be a problem. There are gas stations everywhere. But electric recharging stations are still relatively rare.
- 4 Our city should support electric cars to protect the environment. We could solve the traffic and pollution problems at the same time. The city should limit many of our parking lots to cars powered by electricity. This would reduce the number of gasoline-powered cars coming into the city. It would also encourage people to buy electric cars or use public transportation. The city could also offer recharging stations in the lots. The money from selling the electricity would go to the city. The results would be fewer cars downtown, less pollution in the air, and income from the recharging stations. It is a chance for our city to prepare for the future and protect our environment at the same time.

continued 

1. This question has two parts. Answer Part A and then Part B.

Part A Which sentence from paragraph 1 states the main idea of the passage?

- A "We need to protect the environment and improve our quality of life."
- B "Right now, our downtown has several problems."
- C "The federal government tests the air downtown."
- D "Its reports show that our air quality is often very poor."

Part B Reread the first two paragraphs of the passage. Choose **two** sentences that support the main idea in Part A. Underline the sentences you choose.

It's time for our city to take action. We need to protect the environment and improve our quality of life. Right now, our downtown has several problems. First, it is filled with cars. The cars pollute the air. The federal government tests the air downtown. Its reports show that our air quality is often very poor.

One reason our city is crowded with cars is that parking is cheap. Cheap parking encourages people to drive cars into the city. There would be fewer cars if people took buses or trains. Everyone agrees that the traffic jams downtown are a nightmare.

2. In paragraph 1, the or in reports is pronounced like the—

- A oar in soar.
- B ar in charge.
- C our in sour.
- D ar in hard.

3. What evidence does the author give in the passage to support the idea that electric cars could bring money to the city?

- A "Cheap parking encourages people to drive cars into the city."
- B "There would be fewer cars if people took buses or trains."
- C "But electric recharging stations are rare."
- D "The money from selling the electricity would go to the city."

4. This question has two parts. Answer Part A and then Part B.

Part A What text structure does the author use to present the information in the passage?

- A compare and contrast
- B problem and solution
- C question and answer
- D chronological order

Part B Choose two sentences from the passage that illustrate the text structure identified in Part A.

- A "The federal government tests the air downtown."
- B "Cheap parking encourages people to drive cars into the city."
- C "Hybrids use gas and electric power."
- D "Auto companies now offer many different models."
- E "The city should limit many of our parking lots to cars powered by electricity."
- F "The city could also offer recharging stations in the lots."

5. In paragraph 3, what is the meaning of hybrids?

- A federal and state governments
- B people with different ideas
- C cars that use two sources of power
- D companies that sell many products

6. In paragraph 2, the ar in parking is pronounced like the—

- A or in core.
- B ear in clear.
- C ar in care.
- D ar in car.

continued 

7. Choose **two** sentences from the passage that the author uses to directly persuade readers to help bring about a change. Check the box next to each sentence you choose.

- "It's time for our city to take action."
 "Cheap parking encourages people to drive cars into the city."
 "Hybrids and electric-only cars are becoming more common."
 "But recharging them can be a problem."
 "It is a chance for our city to prepare for the future and protect our environment at the same time."

8. This question has two parts. Answer Part A and then Part B.

Part A Which sentence **best** states the main idea of the passage?

- A** Supporting electric cars could help the environment and the city.
B Not enough people are driving electric cars because they're hard to get recharged.
C If people used public transportation, they wouldn't need to buy electric cars.
D Federal and state governments aren't doing enough to support hybrid and electric-only cars.

Part B Which **two** sentences from the passage provide evidence to support the main idea identified in Part A?

- A** "The federal government tests the air downtown."
B "One reason our city is crowded with cars is that parking is cheap."
C "Cheap parking encourages people to drive cars into the city."
D "We could solve the traffic and pollution problems at the same time."
E "The results would be fewer cars downtown, less pollution in the air, and income from the recharging stations."

