

DRŽAVNO NATJECANJE IZ ENGLESKOGA JEZIKA
za 2. razred srednjih škola

SLUŠANJE S RAZUMIJEVANJEM

Good morning. May I have your attention, please? The listening part of the test will start now. Open your tests to page 2. As you can see, the listening task and questions are on this page.

You will hear a report on hydrogen-powered cars.

You will hear the extract twice, and there will be a short pause between the two readings.

You can write your answers during both the first and second readings.

For questions 1 to 5, you must complete the sentences using no more than one word or a number for each gap. You will hear the words that you need to use. The answers will occur in the same order as the questions.

While you are listening, write your answers on the task itself. You can cross out your answers, change them, make notes or underline words if you wish.

**After the second reading, you will have 1 minute to check your answers.
During this time, you should write your final answers on the Answer Sheet.**

Now, let's begin. You have 30 seconds to read through the questions.

Now you will hear the report.

Very few people these days would deny that global warming is an increasing cause for concern and that our love affair with the automobile is a significant factor in greenhouse gas emissions. In fact, things are not looking good for the petroleum industry. Analysts say that there is a good chance that comparatively cheap oil will run out in the next four decades, while unrest in the Middle East, such as in Iraq, continues to drive up prices. Looking at it like this, oil seems to be unsustainable in the long-run and what is needed is a shift from our dependence on it. So what does the future actually hold?

A glimpse of the way we are going might be provided by the construction of a refuelling station for cars that run on hydrogen. It's located in the south, just east of the nation's capital, on the main northbound motorway. Despite the lack of media fanfares, the

event is considered to be an enormous step forward in the development of greener sources of energy.

So how does the whole thing work? It's quite simple really. Cars that are powered by hydrogen take oxygen from the air. This oxygen is then combined with hydrogen in a tank in the vehicle in order to produce electricity. The electricity then powers the vehicle's engine.

It should be pointed out that hydrogen cars are not the only green model being proposed by opponents of fossil fuels. There is also the electric-battery powered vehicle. However, the supporters of hydrogen power claim that it holds several advantages over its rival. The principal benefit is that hydrogen cars are easier to recharge, as it only takes about five minutes to do this. This compares extremely favourably with the six hours required by their electric-battery-powered counterparts. Once filled, this latter can only drive a hundred kilometres, which is about sixty odd miles, before refuelling is required, while the hydrogen model can drive three times as far.

Then why aren't we all doing our bit for the environment and the future of mankind by driving hydrogen-powered cars to work each day? It would seem that the main obstacle to their immediate introduction is the lack of necessary infrastructure, especially refuelling stations. This is why the opening of the first one in the country is such a significant occurrence. Nevertheless, such vehicles require less than electric-battery driven ones. This is due to the fact that they need less time for refuelling, which in turn means that fewer parking places will be required at stations. Advocates of the electric-battery model, on the other hand, claim that although this is true to a certain extent, it does not paint a wholly accurate picture, since most drivers would do this at home anyway. They also point to the fact that the average car owner only drives about thirty kilometres a day.

Some commentators have indicated that it is not necessarily the case that these two green alternatives are in direct competition with each other. One only has to look at the co-existence of cars that run on diesel and those that use petrol to appreciate this fact.

It is hoped that the first hydrogen-powered cars will be on sale as early as 2015 and that by 2020 there will be several hundred thousand of them on our streets. However, such predictions could be upset by the global slump, given the fact that the price of a hydrogen-driven engine is ten times more than a conventional one. Nevertheless, it seems that hydrogen is here to stay, as witnessed by the fact that the US president has pledged two billion dollars from 2013 to develop the industry further.

[Count silently to 5 and then say the following:]

Now you will hear the report again.

[After the second reading, say the following:]

You now have 1 minute to check your answers and copy them onto the Answer Sheet.

[Count silently to 60 – and then say the following:]

This is the end of the listening task. You may now go on to do the other parts of the test.