



**FIRST TERM EXAM**  
❧ *January 2009* ❧



Family name :

First name :

Class :

Level : 3<sup>rd</sup> year of J.H.S.

# Cars



Cars are of enormous importance in our lives and we are inclined to take them for granted. It's amazing to think that a century ago they had barely been invented.

The first cars appeared at the end of the 19th century and looked quite strange, compared to the ones we use today. Very few of them ran on petrol; most of them moved using steam or electric batteries. One of the strangest cars was invented in France and was powered by dogs running inside its back wheels. Cars of this period were very expensive and only the rich could afford them.



It wasn't until after World War II that owning a car wasn't a luxury. By the 1950s cars weren't just for travelling; they also showed people's position in society. They were huge, especially in America, beautifully decorated and had so many extras you could almost live in them. Because of their size, they used up enormous amounts of petrol, but at the time concern for the

environment was not an issue. They had also become much cheaper. This meant that many teenagers were able to make their dream come true and drive their own car.

Things changed again in the 1970s. Cars became much smaller and more economical because of

the oil crisis. The car was still a status symbol, but people were more aware of the price of petrol and of how efficiently their cars ran. There was also a growing awareness of the damage that exhaust fumes were doing to the environment.

In fact, pollution was probably the thing most taken into consideration when the cars of the 1990s were being designed. All cars were fitted with catalytic converters, devices which remove harmful pollutants from exhaust gases. During that period two major developments in safety were also made. Air-bags were installed in most cars to prevent serious injury in the event of a crash, and ABS (Anti-lock Braking System) was developed to prevent cars from skidding. The design of cars was influenced by science fiction films, and they became smoother and more aerodynamic in shape.

As for the future, it's difficult to imagine what cars will be like at the end of this century. One thing is certain, though, cars will be an important part of our lives for a long time to come.



**I/ Reading Comprehension : (7 pts)**

2 pts

**A/ Answer the following questions from the text :**

1- How were the 19<sup>th</sup> century cars different from nowadays cars ?

.....

2- What were cars after world war II used for ?

.....

3- In which period were cars like homes ?

.....

4- What are Catalytic convertors ?

.....

2 pts

**B/ Find words or expressions in the text which mean the same as the following :**

1- Have enough money for something (para 2) : .....

2- Having/possessing (para 3) : .....

3- Time of difficulty or danger. (para 4) : .....

4- Know or realize the importance of something (para 4) : .....

2 pts

**C/- What do the underlined words in the text refer to ?**

1- its (para 2 ; line 7) : .....

2- their (para 3 ; line 7) : .....

3- this (para 3 ; line 12) : .....

4- that period (para 5 ; line 6) : .....



1 pt

**C/Complete the unfinished words appropriately :**

- 1- Wind and wave energy are **r**..... forms of energy.
- 2- While Oliver Twist was taking some books back to the bookseller, a young woman **k**..... him and took him back to Fagin’s house.

1 pt

**D/ Write the words between brackets in the correct form :**

- 1- Don’t let the kids play with the dog. He is totally **(harm)** ..... !
- 2- The students showed the new girl friendship and **(kind)** .....
- 3- I hope the baby will let us watch this DVD without **(interrupt)** .....
- 4- An accident occurred outside my house last night and we were all **(amaze)** ..... to find the driver wasn’t hurt.

1 pt

**E/ Respond to the following :**

1- **Sara** : Why do you think Clara is putting on her coat today ?

**You** : ..... (*Express possibility*)

2- **Bill** :My flight leaves at noon and I still have many things to do. I’m sure I won’t finish on time.

**You** : .....(*Offer your help*)

