

讲义

## Electric cars

电动汽车

## A revolution stalls

电动汽车革命受阻

American motorists aren't won over by battery power-yet

电动汽车还没有征服美国市场

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Americans love their automobiles. So long, it seems, as they don't run on batteries. A poll published in July by the Pew Research Centre found that less than two-fifths of them would consider buying an electric vehicle (EV). Despite expanding charging networks and more EV models to choose from, that is a slightly lower share than the year before.

美国人喜欢汽车。只要汽车不是电动的，他们都喜欢。美国皮尤研究中心7月公布的一项民意调查显示，不到五分之一的受访者表示会考虑购买电动汽车。尽管充电网络在不断扩大，有更多电动汽车车型可供选择，但这一比例仍略低于前一年。

## 【词汇】

1. **stall** /stɔ:l/ v. 六级/雅思/托福/考研/专八 to stop something from happening until a later date; to stop making progress 暂缓; 搁置; 停顿

例: While his career has stalled, hers has taken off.

在他的事业停滞不前之际，她的事业却腾飞了。

<同义替换> delay

2. **poll** /pɒl/ n. the process of questioning people who are representative of a larger group in order to get information about the general opinion 民意测验; 民意调查

例: to carry out/conduct a poll

进行民意测验

3. **charge** /tʃɑ:rdʒ/ v. to pass electricity through something so that it is stored there; to take in electricity so that it is stored and ready for use 充电

例: Before use, the battery must be charged.

电池使用前必须充电。

### 【长难句】

A poll published in July by the Pew Research Centre found that less than two-fifths of them would consider buying an electric vehicle (EV).

句子的主干部分为: A poll found that less than two-fifths of them would consider buying an electric vehicle (EV). 其中 less than two-fifths of them would consider buying an electric vehicle (EV) 为**宾语从句**, 整句话的意思是: 一项民意调查显示, 不到五分之二受访者表示会考虑购买电动汽车

published in July by the Pew Research Centre 为**后置定语**, 修饰 poll, 意思是: 美国皮尤研究中心7月公布的

Those words are backed up by relative inaction. In the third quarter of 2023 battery-powered vehicles made up 8% of all car sales. So far this year fewer than 1m EVs (not counting hybrids) were sold in America, a little more than half the number in less car-mad Europe. Chinese drivers bought almost four times as many.

这些结果受到消费者相对的“无动于衷”的影响。2023年第三季度, 电动汽车占汽车总销量的8%。今年到目前为止, 美国的电动汽车(不包括混合动力车)销量不到100万辆, 比不那么热衷于汽车的欧洲的一半多一点。中国的电动汽车销量几乎是美国的四倍。

### 【词汇】

1. **inaction** /ɪn'ækʃn/ n. lack of action; the state of doing nothing about a situation or a problem 无行动; 不采取措施

例: They have accused the government of inaction on the issue of railway safety.

他们指责政府在铁路安全问题上无所作为。

2. **hybrid** /'haɪbrɪd/ n. GRE/专八 a vehicle that uses two different types of power, especially petrol or diesel and electricity 混合动力车(使用两种不同能源, 尤指汽油或柴油与电混合使用)

3. **mad** /mæd/ adj. liking something/somebody very much; very interested in something 特别喜欢; 痴迷; 迷恋

例: Scott's mad for peanuts.

斯科特疯狂地喜欢花生。

<同义替换> obsessed

### 【短语】

1. **back up**: to support somebody/something; to say that what somebody says, etc. is true 支持; 证实(某人所言)

例: I'll back you up if they don't believe you.

如果他们不相信你，我会为你作证。

Disappointing demand is now **prompting** carmakers to **reassess** some of their ambitious **electrification** plans. In October Ford said it would delay \$12bn of EV investments. GM has **ditched** some EV targets and put off by a year a \$4bn **scheme** to turn an existing factory into one for e-**pickups**, among other EV-related savings; it will instead **pay out** a record \$10bn in share buy-backs in 2024. Carmakers' battery-making partners are turning cautious, too. In September SK Battery **laid off** more than 100 employees and reduced output at a **plant** in Georgia. In November LG Energy Solution, a fellow South Korean firm, said it was laying off 170 workers in Michigan.

如今，消费者需求疲软，使汽车制造商不得不对他们的一些雄心勃勃的电动汽车计划进行重新考量。10月，福特表示将推迟120亿美元的电动汽车投资。通用汽车已经放弃了一些推广电动汽车的目标，并将一项40亿美元的计划推迟了一年，该计划旨在将一家现有工厂改造成一家电动货车工厂，该计划还包括其他与电动汽车相关的节省措施。相反，通用汽车宣布了一项100亿美元的加速股票回购计划。汽车制造商的电池制造合作伙伴也变得谨慎起来。今年9月，SK Battery解雇了100多名员工，并降低了佐治亚州一家工厂的产量。11月，另一家电池制造商韩国公司LG能源解决方案表示，他们将在密歇根州裁员170人。

### 【词汇】

1. **prompt** /pra:mpt/ v. 四级/雅思/托福/GRE/考研 to make somebody decide to do something; to cause something to happen 促使；导致；激起  
例：His speech prompted an angry outburst from a man in the crowd.  
他的讲话激起了人群中一男子的愤怒。
2. **reassess** /,ri:ə'ses/ v. to think again about something to decide if you need to change your opinion of it 重新考虑；再次评价  
例：After reassessing the situation, she decided to do nothing.  
重新评估情况后，她决定什么也不做。
3. **electrification** /ɪ,lektrɪfɪ'keɪʃn/ n. the process of changing something so that it works by electricity 电气化  
例：the electrification of the railway line from Manchester to Preston  
从曼彻斯特到普雷斯顿的铁路线电气化
4. **ditch** /dɪtʃ/ v. 四级/雅思/考研 to get rid of something/somebody because you no longer want or need it/them 摆脱；抛弃；丢弃

例: The new road building programme has been ditched.

新的道路建设计划已废弃。

5. **scheme** /ski:m/ n. 四级/六级/雅思/GRE/考研 a plan or system for doing or organizing something 计划; 方案; 体系; 体制

例: a training scheme

培训方案

<同义替换> plan

6. **pickup** /'pɪkʌp/ n. a vehicle with low sides and no roof at the back used, for example, by farmers 轻型货车; 敞篷小货车; 皮卡货车

7. **plant** /plænt/ n. a factory or place where power is produced or an industrial process takes place 发电厂; 工厂

例: a nuclear power plant

核电厂

### 【短语】

1. **pay out** : to pay a large sum of money for something 付巨款

例: I had to pay out £500 to get my car repaired.

我只好花 500 英镑的高价修理我的汽车。

2. **lay off** : to stop employing somebody because there is not enough work for them to do (因工作不多而) 解雇

例: 200 workers at the factory have been laid off.

工厂里已有 200 个工人下岗。

All this presents **bumps** on the road to electrified motoring in America. The car industry's ability to **swerve** around them will determine the **fate** of its energy transition. And, since passenger cars contribute a fifth of American total carbon emissions, it will have an effect on the country's decarbonisation efforts, too.

所有这些都使美国的电动化汽车之路受阻。美国汽车工业能否避开这些阻碍将决定其能源转型的命运。而且，由于乘用车的碳排放量占美国总排放量的五分之一，这也将对美国的脱碳进程产生影响。

### 【词汇】

1. **bump** /bʌmp/ n. a small raised area on a surface 隆起之处

例: The car hit a bump on the road.

汽车撞到了路上一块凸起之处。

1. **swerve** /swɜːrv/ v. 雅思/GRE/专八 (especially of a vehicle 尤指车辆等) to change direction suddenly, especially in order to avoid hitting somebody/something 突然转向; 急转弯

例: She swerved sharply to avoid a cyclist.

她猛地急转弯, 以避免一个骑自行车的人。

2. **fate** /fet/ n. the things, especially bad things, that will happen or have happened to somebody/something 命中注定的事 (尤指坏事); 命运的安排

例: The fate of the three men is unknown.

这三个人命运未卜。

<同义替换> destiny

The biggest **brake** on EV enthusiasm in America is price. The average EV there sells for \$52,000, reckons Cox Automotive, a consultancy. That is not a world away from the \$48,000 that Americans typically pay for a petrol vehicle. But total costs of ownership, which combine the sales price and running costs for five years, vary more widely. At \$65,000, the typical EV is \$9,000 more expensive to own than a petrol car (owing to factors like pricey home chargers, dearer insurance and, compared with Europe and China, inexpensive petrol). On Ford's latest earnings call executives **grumbled** that Americans were **stubbornly** "unwilling to pay **premiums**" for EVs.

在美国, 抑制消费者对电动汽车热情的最大因素是价格。考克斯汽车咨询公司 (Cox Automotive) 估计, 一辆电动汽车的平均售价为 5.2 万美元。美国人通常购买的一辆汽油车标价为 4.8 万美元, 两个价格倒也相去不远。但两者的总产权成本 (包括销售价格和五年的运行成本) 差异更大。一辆普通电动汽车的价格为 6.5 万美元, 比一辆汽油车贵 9 千美元 (影响因素有: 昂贵的家用充电器、高额保险以及比起欧洲和中国, 美国的汽油相对更便宜等)。在福特最新的收益电话会议上, 高管们抱怨说, 美国人太犟了, “他们不愿意为电动汽车支付额外费用”。

### 【词汇】

1. **brake** /breɪk/ n. a thing that stops something or makes it difficult 阻力; 障碍

例: High interest rates are a brake on the economy.

高利率阻碍了经济发展。

2. **grumble** /'grʌmbl/ v. 六级/雅思/托福/GRE/专八 to complain about somebody/something, especially something that is not really very serious 咕哝; 嘟囔; 发牢骚

例: She's always grumbling to me about how badly she's treated at work.

她总是向我抱怨她在工作中如何受亏待。

<同义替换> complain

3. **stubbornly** /'stʌbərnlɪ/ adv. in a way that shows you are determined not to change your opinion or attitude 固执的；执拗的；顽固的；倔强的

例：She stubbornly refused to pay.

她怎么都不肯付钱。

4. **premium** /'pri:miəm/ n. 雅思/GRE/考研/专八 an extra payment added to the basic rate 额外费用；附加费

例：You have to pay a high premium for express delivery.

快递须付高额的附加费。

### 【短语】

1. **owing to** : because of 因为；由于

例：The game was cancelled owing to torrential rain.

比赛因大雨取消了。

### 【长难句】

But total costs of ownership, which combine the sales price and running costs for five years, vary more widely.

句子的主干部分为：But total costs of ownership vary more widely. 意思是：但两者的总产权成本差异更大

which combine the sales price and running costs for five years 为定语从句，修饰 ownership，意思是：包括销售价格和五年的运行成本

All this leaves America's car industry circling a **roundabout**. Consumers' unwillingness to pay for expensive EVs is forcing carmakers to offer **steep** discounts to shift **inventory**. Tesla has **slashed** its prices several times in the past year. Carmakers are offering average discounts of almost 10% on their EVs, more than twice as generous as for petrol cars. But this is making it even harder for the companies to make money from battery power. Ford's electric **division** is losing about \$62,000 for every vehicle it sells, in contrast to a net profit of \$2,500 apiece for the company's petrol cars. Continued losses in turn may

所有这些都让美国的汽车工业陷入了困境。消费者不愿为昂贵的电动汽车买单，迫使汽车制造商提供大幅折扣以清理库存。在过去的一年里，特斯拉多次大幅降价。汽车制造商为他们的电动汽车提供了近10%的平均折扣，是汽油车的两倍多。但这也使得这些公司更难从电动车市场中赚钱。福特的电动汽车部门每卖出一辆车就会亏损约6.2万美元，相比之下，该公司的汽油车每辆车的净利润为2500美元。持续的亏损反

**temper** car firms' appetite to invest in a broader electric offering that would appeal to buyers.

过来可能会抑制汽车公司对投资于更广泛的能吸引买家的电动产品的兴趣。

### 【词汇】

1. **roundabout** /'raʊndəbaʊt/ n. a place where two or more roads meet, forming a circle that all traffic must go around in the same direction (交通) 环岛

例: There was a lot of traffic on the roundabout.

环行交叉路上车辆很多。

2. **steep** /sti:p/ adj. 四级/雅思/GRE/考研 (of a rise or fall in an amount 数量的上升或下降) sudden and very big 突然的; 急剧的; 大起大落的

例: a ~ rise in unemployment

失业率的暴升

3. **inventory** /'ɪnvəntɔ:ri/ n. 雅思/GRE/考研/专八 all the goods in a store (商店的) 存货, 库存

例: inventory control

库存管理

4. **slash** /slæʃ/ v. (often used in newspapers 常用于报章) to reduce something by a large amount 大幅度削减; 大大降低

例: The workforce has been slashed by half.

职工人数裁减了一半。

5. **division** /dɪ'vɪʒn/ n. a large and important unit or section of an organization (机构的) 部门

例: The company's sales division is going to be restructured.

该公司的销售部将会重组。

6. **temper** /'tempər/ v. 四级/雅思/GRE/考研 to make something less severe by adding something that has the opposite effect 使缓和; 使温和

例: The hot sunny days were tempered by a light breeze.

一阵轻风为晴朗炎热的天气带去些许凉意。

American carmakers are still hoping they can escape this **vicious** circle. They are mostly **postponing** their American EV investments rather than **pulling the plug** on them. In the next year or two many companies are

美国汽车制造商仍然希望他们能够摆脱这种恶性循环。他们大多是推迟在美国的电动汽车投资, 而不是取消投资。在接下来的两三年里, 许多公司预计将推出专门的

expected to **unveil** **dedicated** electrified “platforms”, as a car’s structural **backbone** is known, rather than **lumping** batteries unsatisfyingly onto existing petrol-driven **skeletons**. Some of the EVs’ quality problems are **teething** pains typical of all new models, be they electric or petrol-powered, which will be **sorted out** as production lines mature. And from January the EV **tax credits** will also be available at the point of sale, making it less **burdensome** for buyers to take advantage of them.

All this could eventually improve quality, expand product ranges, push down costs and, with luck, generate profits for car firms. Eventually may, though, come a bit later than hoped.

电气化“平台”（即众所周知的汽车结构骨架），而不是将电池强加在现有的汽油驱动骨架上，这样做的成效也不尽人意。电动汽车的一些质量问题是所有新车型的典型问题，无论是电动汽车还是汽油动力汽车，都将随着生产线的成熟而得到解决。从1月起，电动汽车税收抵免也将在销售点上线，这样一来，买家的负担也会更轻。

所有这些最终都会提高质量，扩大产品范围，降低成本，如果幸运的话，还会为汽车公司创造利润。不过，最终可能会比预期的晚一些实现。

### 【词汇】

1. **vicious** /'viʃəs/ adj. 六级/雅思/GRE/考研/专八 very bad or severe 恶劣的；严重的

例：a vicious spiral of rising prices

物价的恶性持续上涨

<同义替换> severe

2. **postpone** /pəʊ'spɒn/ v. to arrange for an event, etc. to take place at a later time or date than originally planned

延迟；延期；展缓

例：The game has already been postponed three times.

这场比赛已经三度延期了。

3. **unveil** /,ʌn'veɪl/ v. 托福/专八 to show or introduce a new plan, product, etc. to the public for the first time (首次)

展示，介绍，推出；将...公之于众

例：They will be unveiling their new models at the Motor Show.

他们将在汽车展上首次推出自己的新型汽车。

<同义替换> release

4. **dedicated** /'dedɪkətɪd/ adj. 雅思 designed to do only one particular type of work; used for one particular purpose only 专用的；专门用途的

例：Software is exported through a dedicated satellite link.



软件通过专用卫星链路出口。

5. **backbone** /'bækbəʊn/ n. the most important part of a system, an organization, etc. that gives it support and strength 支柱；骨干；基础

例：Agriculture forms the backbone of the rural economy.

农业是农村经济的基础。

6. **lump** /lʌmp/ v. to put or consider different things together in the same group, even when they are actually quite different 把...归并一起（或合起来考虑）

例：You can't lump all Asian languages together.

你不能把所有的亚洲语言混为一谈。

7. **skeleton** /'skelɪtn/ n. the main structure that supports a building, bridge etc [建筑物、桥梁等的] 框架，骨架

例：Minutes after the explosion, all that remained was the skeleton of the bridge.

爆炸发生几分钟后，这座桥就只剩一副框架了。

8. **teethe** /ti:ð/ v. if a baby is teething, its first teeth are growing [婴儿] 出牙，长乳牙

例：If your new car is having teething troubles, take it back to the garage where you bought it.

如果你的新车在初期使用中出现问题，送回到汽车销售处去。

\***teething pains**: problems connected with a new product, or problems at the beginning of a process or activity 项目或产品初期遇到的问题或麻烦

9. **burdensome** /'bɜ:rdnsəm/ adj. causing worry, difficulty or hard work 负担沉重的；难以承担的；繁重的

例：The new regulations will be burdensome for small businesses.

新法规对小型企业而言将是沉重的负担。

### 【短语】

1. **pull the plug** : to prevent a plan, business etc from being able to continue, especially by deciding not to give it any more money [尤指通过不再提供资金] 使（某事物）不能继续，中断，停止

例：The Swiss entrepreneur has pulled the plug on any further investment in the firm.

那位瑞士企业家不再向这家公司投资。

2. **sort out** : to organize the contents of something; to tidy something 理顺；整理

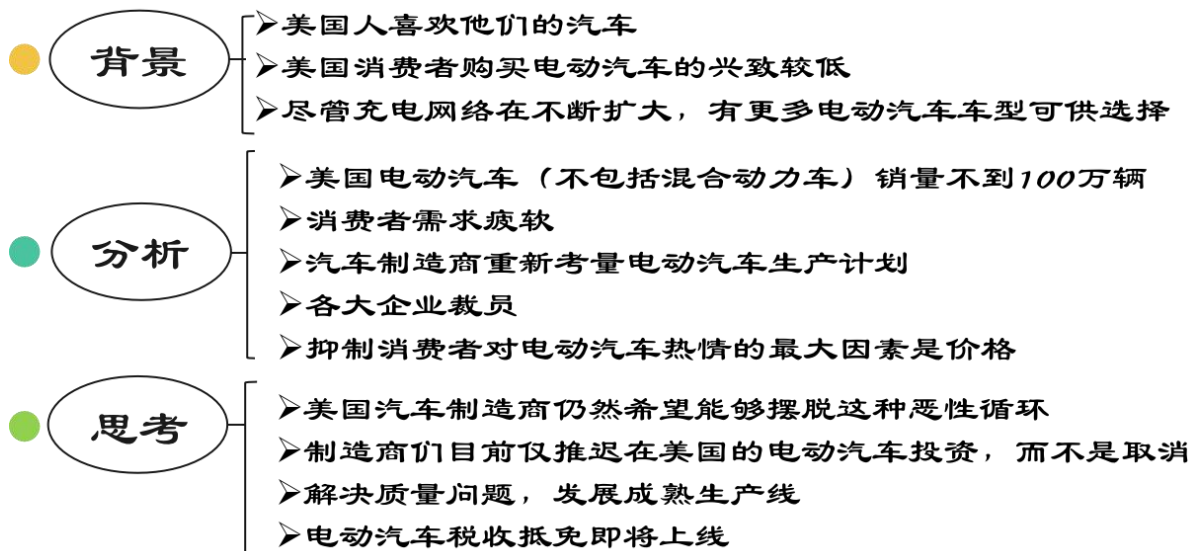
例：The cupboards need sorting out.

柜橱该整理一下了。

3. **tax credit** : money that is taken off your total tax bill 税收抵免

总结

## 1) 文章架构



## 2) 同义替换

✓ 汽车

**vehicle**

A poll published in July by the Pew Research Centre found that less than two-fifths of them would consider buying an electric vehicle (EV).

美国皮尤研究中心7月公布的一项民意调查显示，不到五分之一的受访者表示会考虑购买电动汽车。

**automobile**

Americans love their automobiles.

美国人喜欢他们的汽车。

其他: car

例: Where can I park the car?

我可以在哪里停车呀?

✓ 下降, 减少

**reduce**

In September SK Battery laid off more than 100 employees and reduced output at a plant in Georgia.

今年9月，SK Battery 解雇了 100 多名员工，并下调了佐治亚州一家工厂的产量。

### slash

Tesla has slashed its prices several times in the past year.

在过去的一年里，特斯拉多次大幅降价。

### 其他：diminish/decrease

例：The world's resources are rapidly diminishing.

世界资源正在迅速减少。

## 3) 一词多义

### ✓ steep

✓ 文章原句：Consumers' unwillingness to pay for expensive EVs is forcing carmakers to offer steep discounts to shift inventory. 消费者不愿为昂贵的电动汽车买单，迫使汽车制造商提供大幅折扣以清理库存。

### ✓ 释义：

① (of a rise or fall in an amount 数量的上升或下降) sudden and very big 突然的；急剧的；大起大落的

a ~ rise in unemployment

失业率的暴升

② (of a price or demand 价格或要求) too much; unreasonable 过高的；过分的；不合理的  
£4 for a cup of coffee seems a little ~ to me.

一杯咖啡 2 英镑在我看来有点贵得离谱。

③ (of a slope, hill, etc. 斜坡、山等) rising or falling quickly, not gradually 陡的；陡峭的

a ~ flight of stairs

一段很陡的楼梯

### ✓ ditch

✓ 文章原句: GM has ditched some EV targets... 通用汽车已经放弃了一些推广电动汽车的目标...

✓ 释义:

① **to get rid of something/somebody because you no longer want or need it/them** 摆脱; 抛弃; 丢弃

The new road building programme has been ~.

新的道路建设计划已废弃。

② **if a pilot ditches an aircraft, or if it ditches, it lands in the sea in an emergency** 使(飞机)在海上紧急降落; (在海上)迫降

Two balloonists had to ~ during the race.

两名乘气球飞行者在比赛中被迫在水上紧急降落。

③ **to not go to school, a class etc when you should** 逃学, 逃课

Did you ~ class today?

你今天逃课了?

#### 4) 仿写训练

✓ 描述避开障碍

✓ 文章原句:

All this presents bumps on the road to electrified motoring in America. The car industry's ability to swerve around them will determine the fate of its energy transition.

✓ 句型及表达:

All this presents bumps on the road to... 所有这些都让其在...之路上受阻

The ...'s ability to swerve around them will determine the fate of... ...能否避开这些阻碍将决定其...的命运

✓ 仿写示例:

All this presents bumps on the road to win the critical battle against poverty in China. The country's ability to swerve around them will influence the goal of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects.

## ✓ 仿写作业——描述避开障碍

所有这些都给在美国发展半导体生产的道路带来了障碍。芯片制造商能否避开这些问题，将影响推动美国芯片产业发展的目标。

## 5) 主题词总结

今日主题——电动汽车	
1. automobile	汽车
2. electric vehicle	电动汽车
3. charging network	充电网络
4. hybrid	混合动力车
5. decarbonisation	脱碳