

Listen to the new about e-cars and decide whether the statements below are true (T) or false (F). Write your answers in the table. (0) is an example for you.

STATEMENTS	TRUE/ FALSE
1. Germany has about 42 thousand electric cars on the roads. (2300)	F
0. <i>The majority of these vehicles are electric.</i>	<i>F</i>
2. Car manufacturers have not developed long-life and strong batteries for e-cars yet.	T
3. E-car manufacturers will get subsidies from the government.	T
4. Manufacturers will not have to pay taxes for the cars they make. (customers don't have to pay after purchase)	F
5. Charging stations will be created on special parking places.	T
6. Developments will boost employment as well.	T
7. The new batteries will be produced overseas. (production will stay in Germany)	F
8. The Green Party is satisfied with the new measures. (measures are not enough)	F

At present there are 42 million registered cars in Germany but only 2300 of them run on electricity. The government in Berlin knows that it cannot achieve its ambitious climate protection goals without the transport sector making a significant contribution. Drastically increasing the number of electric cars could be one way to do it, provided of course that batteries are recharged almost exclusively with electricity generated by renewables. That is the plan, but German car makers have dragged their feet over developing electric cars that have strong batteries which do not need to be charged every day and will provide enough power for the cars so that they can go faster than snails. Much of the technology needed to convince bias is still in its infancy, industry and the government had admitted on Monday, but at least there is a plan to speed things up. Industry has pledged 17 billion euros in investment in the years ahead. And Chancellor Angela Merkel said that initiative would be accompanied by a number of other measures from the government. „We will allocate 1 billion euros in federal resources to research and development up till 2013 that is twice as much as originally planned, she said. We also make electric cars tax free for 10 years after their purchase and the government institutions will make sure that at least every tenth new company car will be electric as of 2013. We also promote the creation of special parking zones where these cars can be recharged“. The head of the German metal workers' Union, Bertold Huber, said the scheme sounded fine, as no jobs would be lost in the process. 'We are not only talking about technology, it's also about the employment opportunities. Up to 30 000 new jobs will be created in this sector in the next couple of years which is good news. The cars unquestionably will be produced in Germany as will the new generation of batteries. So, employees do not have to fear that their jobs will be axed as a result of more electro-mobility.' For opposition green party floor leader Jürgen Türtin, the measures planned by the government to foster the development and production of electric cars do not go far enough. He fears that electric cars will be far too expensive and thinks potential bias should be lured with a special bonus with up to 5000 euros per car.