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Electric Vehicles The Ford motor company ' s abandonment of electric cars effectively signals the end of the road for the technology , analysts say . General Motors , and Honda ' ceased production of battery . powered cars in 1 999, to focus on fuel cell and hybrid electric gasoline engines, which are more attractive to the consumer . Ford has now announced it will do the same . Three years ago . the company introduced the Think City two-seater car and a golf cart called the THINK, or Think Neighbor . It hoped to sell 5 , 000 cars each year and 10 , 000 carts . But a lack of demand means only about 1 , 000 of the cars have been produced , and less than 1。 700 carts have been sold so far in 2002 . “ The bottom line is we don ' t believe that this is the future of environment transport for the mass market . ” Tim Holmes of Ford Europe said on Friday . “ We feel we have given electric our best shot ” The Think City has a range of only about 53 miles and up to a six-hour battery recharge time . General Motors ' EVI electric vehicle also had a limited range 。 of about 100 miles . The very expensive batteries also mean electric cars cost much more than petrol-powered alternatives . An electric Toyota~RAV4 EV vehicle costs over\$42 , 000 in the US, compared with just \$17 , 000 for the petrol version . Toyota and Nissan...are now the only major automanufacturers to produce electric vehicles . “ There is a feeling that battery electric has been

given its chance . Ford now has to move on with its hybrid program  
 “ , and that is what we will be judging them on , ” Roger Higman  
 , a senior transport campaigner at UK Friends of the Earth , told  
 the Environment News Service . Hybrid cars introduced by Toyota  
 and Honda in the past few years have sold well . Hybrid engines  
 Offer Greater mileage than petrolonly engines , and the batteries  
 recharge themselves. Ford says it thinks such vehicles will help it meet  
 planned new guidelines “ on vehicle emissions ” in the  
 U.S. However, it is not yet clear exactly what those guidelines will  
 permit . In June , General Motors and Daimler Chrysler won a  
 court injunction , delaying by two years Californian legislation  
 requiring carmakers to offer 100 , 000 zero-emission and other  
 lowemission vehicles in the state by 2003 . Car manufacturers hope  
 the legislation will be rewritten to allow for more low--emission  
 , rather than zeroemission , vehicles . 1 . What have the Ford  
 motor company . General Motor ’ s and Honda done concerning  
 electric cars?A) They have started to produce electric cars . B) They  
 have done extensive research on electric CarsC They have given up  
 producing electric cars . D) They have produced thousands of  
 electric Cars2 . According to Tim Holmes of Ford Europe  
 , battery-powered carsA) will be the main transportation vehicles in  
 the futureB1 will not be the main transportation vehicles in the future  
 . C) will be good to the environment in the futureD) will replace  
 petrolpowered vehicles in the future . 3. Which auto manufacturers  
 are still producing electric vehicles?A) Toyota and NissanB) General  
 Motor ’ s and HondaC) Ford and ToyotaD) Honda and Toyota4

. According to the eighth paragraph , hybrid carsA)offer fewer mileage than petrol driven carsB)run faster than petrol driven carsC)run more miles than petrol driven carsD)offer more batteries than petrol driven cars5 . Which of the following is true about the hope of car manufacturers according to the last paragraph?A)Low-emission cars should be banned . B)Only zero-emission cars are allowed to run on motorways . C)The legislation will encourage car makers to produce more electric cars . D)The legislation will allow more 10w . emission to be produced . 100Test 下载频道开通 , 各类考试题目直接下载。详细请访问 [www.100test.com](http://www.100test.com)