***Sujet type Mines-Ponts : the techno king***

*Question 1*

*According to the columnist, how relevant is the comparison between Tesla and Apple? (80 words +/-10%) Answer the question in your own words.*

Starting with EVs, Tesla diversified its production to integrate AI devices, connected services and electric facilities. To some, it thus ranks next to Apple as the epitome of the global tech giant. Indeed, Tesla may outrank Apple, given the comparative size of the car market and the initial Chinese response to Musk’s industrial projects.

Yet China welcomed Tesla to boost its own competitiveness in the fledgling EV sector. The challenges of international competition mean that Musk’s ambitions are now hitting China’s national priorities and concerns over data gathering.

(88 words)

*Question 2*

*In your opinion, are our driving habits likely to change over the coming decades? Illustrate your answer with pertinent examples.*

      EU lawmakers recently voted to ban the sale of new combustion engine cars by 2035. After the generalization of car-free days in western capitals, and the development of hybrid and full-blown electric cars, such a decision speaks volumes as to our growing awareness of the necessity to redefine our relationship with cars.

      It would be wishful thinking, though, to see the writing on the wall: Germany decided to push for a loophole that would allow the sale of combustion engine cars beyond the 2035 deadline — provided they run on synthetic fuels. This testifies that combustion engines still have rosy days ahead. Besides, the British government's recent announcement that it would issue new licenses for energy exploration in the North Sea is a sign that there is no risk of a sudden shortage of oil.

      Resultantly, it is difficult to define reliable trends regarding our driving habits in the near future. It is rather obvious that business-as-usual is no longer an option, but cars are undoubtedly here to stay. One may hope that the fleet of gas-guzzlers will gradually be replaced by new, more eco-friendly, indeed fossil-fuel-free vehicles, while public transportations will become the norm in big cities worldwide.                                         (198 words)

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