

Do we need a reference here?

1. Read the text below.
2. Decide which ideas need a reference and which ideas do not.

China's BYD beats Tesla, becomes world's top EV seller

The Chinese company BYD is now the world leader in electric vehicle (EV) sales. It has sold more cars than the American company Tesla for the first time in one year. In 2025, Tesla sold 1.64 million cars. This was a 9% drop from the year before. At the same time, BYD sales grew by 28% to more than 2.25 million cars.

Tesla had a difficult year for several reasons. Some customers did not like the new car models. Other people were worried about the political actions of Tesla's owner, Elon Musk. Competition from Chinese companies like BYD, Geely, and MG also made things harder. These companies often sell their cars for less money than Western brands. To help, Tesla lowered its prices in the United States, but sales still fell. One reason was the end of a government program that gave buyers \$7,500 to help pay for electric cars.

Excerpt from: Practice With News (2026) *China's BYD beats Tesla, becomes world's top EV seller*, 5 January. Available at: <https://practicewithnews.com/chinas-byd-beats-tesla-becomes-worlds-top-ev-seller/> (Accessed: 27 February 2026).

Which of these ideas need a reference? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Electric car companies are growing quickly around the world.
- ☐ BYD sold more cars than Tesla last year.
- ☐ Many customers did not like the new Tesla models.
- ☐ In my opinion, the electric car market will continue to grow.
- ☐ Some people prefer electric cars because they want to help the environment.
- ☐ BYD sales went above 2.25 million cars, which shows strong demand.

Referencing exercise

1. Read this paragraph.

Electric car sales are growing very quickly around the world, especially in China. BYD sold more than 2.25 million electric cars in 2025, which was a big increase from the year before. New global data also shows that electric vehicle sales almost tripled between 2021 and 2024. In the UK, the government is reviewing its electric car sale quotas after car production fell to its lowest level in more than 70 years. I think these changes will affect how fast the country can move towards cleaner transport.

2. Add citations as necessary to the paragraph using the following materials:

- The BYD text.
- This excerpt from 'Global Electric Car Sales Nearly Triple in Three Years'.

Global electric car sales almost tripled over the past three years. They had previously doubled between 2020 and 2021, driven by registrations in China. Registrations of new electric vehicles reached 17.3 million last year, compared to just 6.5 million in 2021. That's according to EV-volumes data cited by the International Energy Agency.

Pakistan & Gulf Economist (2025) 'Global Electric Car Sales Nearly Triple in Three Years', 25 May.

- This excerpt from 'Govt reviewing flagship EV sale quotas after biggest car production fall in 73 years'.

Carmakers are required to sell a certain percentage of EV cars each year ahead of a petrol and diesel car sales ban in 2030. The government is reviewing its electric car sale quotas - one of its flagship green policies. With 2025 having the lowest vehicle production in the UK since 1952, ministers are now looking at how to change the zero emission vehicle (ZEV) mandate, the government confirmed. If it decides to lower the quotas, it would represent a U-turn on one of the government's - and specifically Net Zero Secretary Ed Miliband's - flagship green policies.

Sky News (2026) 'Govt reviewing flagship EV sale quotas after biggest car production fall in 73 years', 29 March. Available at: <https://news.sky.com/story/govt-reviewing-flagship-ev-sale-quotas-after-biggest-car-production-fall-in-73-years-13525842> (Accessed: 27 February 2026).