Last week, Tesla opened its first factory in Europe. After 19 years since the company started, it opened factories on all **continents**. The newest factory opened near Berlin, Germany, which cost more than 5.5 billion dollars.

The plan was to open the factory eight months ago, but local authorities had problems. The Tesla CEO Elon Musk gave the first 30 electric cars to **customers**. Tesla's Model Y could drive 514 kilometers, and its price was 70,590 dollars.

Currently, there were 3,500 workers in the factory, but the number would reach 12,000 in the next few years. Musk said that the factory would make 500,000 electric cars every year. Tesla's German **rival** Volkswagen sold 450,000 electric cars in 2021.

Difficult words: continent (a large area of land on Earth), **customer** (a person who buys something), **rival** (a person or company who competes with others in the same activity or area).

Discussion Questions

Topic Talk

1. Define the following words: *continent, customer and rival*

2. How long did it take before Tesla started to open factories on other continents?

3. How much did the new Tesla factory in Berlin, Germany cost?

4. Why was the opening of the first Tesla factory in Europe delayed for eigth months?

5. What did Tesla CEO, Elon Musk, give to customers during the opening in Germany?

6. How many cars does the Tesla factory in Berlin, Germany plan to make every year?

7. Which automobile manufacturer sold 450,000 eletric cars in 2021?

Express Your Thoughts

1. What is Tesla company known for?

2. Does your country produce cars? Do they have branches abroad?

3. Which is the most famous automobile manufacturer in your country?

4. Which among the automobile manufacturers in your country is known for producing electric vehicles?