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MET 321

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Chapter 19

Power Hungry: The Myths of “Green” Energy and the Real Fuels of the Future

Short Summary:

Energy storage techniques must improve to make electric cars a viable alternative to internal combustion propelled vehicles.

Review Questions:

Are electric cars today with modern battery technology a viable replacement to conventional propelled vehicles?

According to Bryce and the DOE, they are not. Many might dispute this claim but for most consumers internal combustion propelled vehicles are much more practical.

Bryce claims the energy density of gasoline is eighty times that of modern Lithium-ion batteries. Explain what “energy density” means.

Energy density is measured as the amount of energy held in a particular fuel or battery per kilogram or liter. This measure allows for the direct comparison of fuels and batteries on a per density basis.