Elon Musk was born on June 28, 1971, in Pretoria, South Africa. At the age of 10, he developed an interest in computing and taught himself how to program. He attended Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, and then transferred to the University of Pennsylvania, where he earned two bachelor's degrees in physics and economics. After completing his education, Musk co-founded Zip2, a software company that provided business directories and maps for newspapers. He later sold the company for $307 million and used the proceeds to co-found X.com, an online payment company that eventually became PayPal after a merger. PayPal was acquired by eBay for $1.5 billion in stock. Musk's most notable ventures include founding SpaceX, an aerospace manufacturer and space transportation company, and co-founding Tesla, Inc., an electric vehicle and clean energy company. He also founded Neuralink, a neurotechnology company focused on developing brain–computer interfaces, and The Boring Company, a tunnel construction and infrastructure company. In 2008, SpaceX's Falcon 1 became the first privately funded liquid-fueled rocket to reach orbit. In 2012, SpaceX's Dragon spacecraft became the first commercial spacecraft to deliver cargo to and from the International Space Station. In 2020, SpaceX launched the first crewed mission to the ISS. Musk has set ambitious goals for SpaceX, including the colonization of Mars and the establishment of a self-sustaining city on the planet. He has also expressed a desire to reduce the cost of space travel and enable the colonization of other planets. In addition to his work with SpaceX, Musk has been a vocal advocate for the development and use of sustainable energy. Tesla's electric vehicles have gained widespread popularity, and the company has made significant advancements in battery technology and solar power. Musk has made headlines for his unconventional and sometimes controversial behavior, including his use of social media. He has been known to make bold predictions and statements, such as his claim that Tesla's stock price was too high, which led to a significant drop in the company's stock value. Musk has faced criticism and legal challenges related to his business practices and public statements. He has been involved in several high-profile lawsuits, including a defamation case brought against him by a British cave diver whom Musk referred to as a 'pedo guy' on Twitter. Despite the challenges and controversies, Musk's influence and impact on technology, space exploration, and clean energy are undeniable. He has been recognized as one of the most innovative and influential figures of the 21st century, and his work continues to inspire and shape the future of humanity. Musk's vision and determination have earned him a net worth of over $200 billion, making him one of the wealthiest individuals in the world. He has pledged to donate the majority of his wealth to charitable causes and has signed The Giving Pledge, a commitment to give away the majority of his fortune during his lifetime.