### Background

In 1863, on the 30th of July, Henry Ford was born to his parents on their farm in Wayne County. Wayne County is a beautiful scenery, in Michigan near the Dearborn area. At around the age of thirteen, Ford was gifted a pocket watch by his father (Ref-f011992). However, Ford was in no rush to wear it, instead he took the piece apart and then proceeded to reassemble it. When neighbors and friends came to the knowing of this, most began asking him to fix their broken timepieces. It was not long until Ford became dissatisfied with his life on the farm, at sixteen Ford moved to Detroit and took up a machinist apprenticeship. From that point he never stopped learning or making aims to gain new skills, as a result he became skillful in steam engine operation and servicing – and complemented his knowledge with a bookkeeping course. By 1893, Ford was a married man with a son – Edsel Ford and together, in the years leading-up to the twenty-first century – they would make history (Ref-f011992).

## Early Work

Ford joined the Detroit Edison Company in 1890 as an engineer (Ref-u116920). By 1893 Ford had assumed promotion to chief engineer due to h is innate abilities. During this time, Ford worked on concepts for a vehicle without horses. The very first gasoline-propelled two-cylinder four horsepower engine of Ford was developed in 1892. In 1896, he went on to build his first vehicle – the Ford Quadricycle. During the same year he pitched concepts to Edison officials and later Thomas Edison himself. Edison urged Ford to construct a model superior to the one he had presented. In 1898, Ford was issued his first patent – it was for a carburetor.

### Ford Company and the Infamous Model T

Ford resigned from Edison Illuminating Company in 1899 to pursue his vehicle-making firm full-time. Ford incorporated the Ford Motor Company in 1903. Then, in October of 1908, Ford produced the Model T. The automobile became the first affordable vehicle to the majority of the American population. As a result, the Model T was produced from then until 1927 (Ref-s600855). The car was soon nicknamed 'Tin Lizzie' and was especially noted for its dependability and mobility (Ref-s600855). As a result, the Model T immediately became a success commercially. Ford Motor Company continued to see one-hundred percent gains for many years. Statistics provide that by the year 1918, approximately half of the automobiles driven and owned in America were Ford's Model Ts (Ref-s600855). One of the main reasons behind the rapid purchase of the automobiles was that the Model Ts were inexpensive and easy to drive.

Consequently, Ford was able to sell millions of automobiles during the twentieth century and establish itself as a global corporate leader. The corporation eventually lost market supremacy, however its imprint left behind unmatched impact on many technological advancements, resolutive steps in labor difficulties, and infrastructural beneficence in the United States (Ref-s418542). Henry Ford continues to be regarded as one of America's leading businesspeople and is often acknowledged for his input in the reconstruction of the country's economy during its tender years (Ref-s418542).

## Tenure

Ford introduced the first mass production automobile assembly line in 1913 (Ref-s305680). This innovative technology reduced the time required to produce a car from Twelve hours to a dramatically low of one-hundred and fifty minutes. This resulted in lowering the Model T's price from a hefty $850 in the year 1908 to a drastically low $310 eighteen years later (in 1926), for an even more improved model.

As a way of keeping the skilled staff devoted to his firm, Ford created the $5 wage for an eight-hour workday – this is equivalent to over a $110 as of 2011(Ref-s366502). Nonetheless, the amount was more than twice the amount laborers were making, on average, during the 1914 period (Ref-s366502). As a result, Ford became widely known for a revolutionary concept, which encompassed of the production of a low-cost automobiles by competent laborers who earned consistent wages and worked a five-day, 40-hour working week (Ref-s366502). Outside the business realm, Ford was a staunch pacifist who opposed World War I and even helped in the financial sponsorship of a 'peace ship' to the traditional west (Europe).

The Ford family went on to establish the Ford Foundation in the year 1936 (Ref-u823257). The primary function of the fund was to give ongoing contributions for research, development, and education within the American society at large. Complementary to this, Ford gave shares of his profits to employees who met a certain criterion. The requirements were quite relaxed, in fact the requirements were more of societal builders. What was required included, an individual having been employed with the Ford Company for a period exceeding 6 months and, most importantly, such individual being one who lived honorably. Simultaneously, the 'Social Department' of the company investigated any employee's drinking, gambling, or any other unsavory behaviors to determine whether such person was eligible.

## Conclusion

The contributions made by Ford to both American history and the economy remain celebrated to this is day. Most business analysts often exclaim that Ford demonstrated the art of ‘legacy and leadership’, and this is qualified given the contributions he made to society. Furthermore, Ford’s approach to life demonstrates that political views and ‘doing what is right for society’ do not have to ever cross and that is why his legacy remains one of the most respected globally.