Intro: Ever since I was a young boy, I have loved cars. As I have grown up, I have started to gain interest in other things such as technology. In the last few years, I have found a sport that encompasses all the things above….That sport is… Formula 1. Over the last 6 years that I have been watching F1, I have watched nearly every race, kept up with all of the news, and learnt so much about the sport. I’m sure most of you have at least heard of F1. It is in the top ten most watched sports in the worlds. It is immensely popular all around the world…except for here in the United States. Over this speech, I will talk about what F1 is, the history of F1, and what makes it so fast.

Now moving on to my first point, what is Formula 1.

Formula 1 is the pinnacle of motorsport, there is no other series in the world that comes close to F1 in terms of Prestige and speed, not NASCAR, and not Indycar. Every racing driver aspires to be Formula 1 World Champion. The amount of competition is insanely high. Ten teams and 20 drivers fight each other for 22 weekends of the year in order to try and win the championship. There isn’t time to go over the current teams, some of the famous ones are Mercedes who have dominated in the last few years, Red Bull, McLaren, and of course, the most famous team of them all…Scuderia Ferrari. Some current drivers are Daniel Ricciardo, Max Verstappen, and perhaps the most famous one ever, Lewis Hamilton. Across the season, they race across all corners of the Earth, from Sau Paulo Brazil to the Netherlands, and from Austin Texas to Shanghai. With the most famous being the Monaco grand prix. Which is the famous race in the middle of a city. What makes Formula 1 special is it’s a Formula, the teams are given a set of rules that they must adhere to. That means it gives the engineers an opportunity to bend the rules. Thus, all the cars are different, each team has a different interpretation of the rules. Furthermore, these are the most efficient ICE ever made. This technology furthers the development of many things, such as road cars, and F1 technology can even be found in hospitals. (Ted Talk by Peter van Manen)

The second thing that I will be talking about is the history of Formula 1

The first championship season was held in 1950 at the Silverstone in the UK. The first champion was Giuseppe Antonio Farina. (According to a telegraph article written by Sean Gibson) Right now, we are at the eve of the 2020 season, which marks 70 years of Formula 1. Over these years, there have been many different drivers and teams that have a made a name for themselves. Some notable drivers are Juan Manuel Fangio, who won 5 titles in the 1950s, and 3rd on the all time of list of championships. Another is a guy by the name of Ayrton Senna. He won three championships; his career was cut short because is he was killed at the 1994 San Marino Grand Prix. (According to the New York Times article written by Joseph Siano) Even though his career was cut short, he is regarded as one of the best of all time. The driver with the most championships is Michael Schumacher. He and Ferrari dominated in the early 2000’s. He hold every record except for one…Pole Positions. Lewis Hamilton holds that record. In 2020, Hamilton could match or break every single one of Schumacher records. It could be season for the history books. Backtracking a little bit, the death Senna can be attributed to many things, but one thing remains. F1 is a dangerous sport. In the last 70 years, 52 drivers have died while racing. Most recently Antoine Hubert last August in Belgium during a Formula 2 race, and 6 years ago Jules Bianchi at the 2014 Japanese Grand Prix.

Onto the final thing, is why is F1 so fast.

The main reason F1 is so fast due to something called downforce. The extremely complex aerodynamics push and suck the car to keep it stuck to the racetrack. I think everyone has stuck there hand of a car window and moved the angle and watch in go up and down. This is basics of downforce, like and airplane wing, except upside down. This is the reason why F1 cars and corner in excess of 180 miles per hour.(According to NASA/gov) Play Eau Rouge video. Another reason F1 is fast is because of the mechanical grip. The huge tires and suspension geometry allow the cars to put their huge horsepower down to the ground. These are the reasons and F1 car can do 0-125mph-0 in about 5 seconds.

Conclusion: In conclusion, I hoped you have found my speech about Formula 1 to be both insightful and entertaining. Over this speech, I explained what F1 is, went through its history, and explained why it is so fast. If you liked what you have heard about Formula 1, there is new season of Netflix, Formula 1 Drive to Survive coming out soon, give it a watch if you’re interested, and catch the first race of the season on March 14th in Melbourne Australia. Next time your watching any kind of motorsport, remember that is so much more than driving in circles, and that these drivers are risking their lives for your entertainment.