

Elon Musk's Highs and Lows: PayPal, SpaceX, Tesla

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Link: <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/08/16/business/elon-musk-interview-tesla.html>

KEY

1. Where is Elon Musk from?
He is from South Africa. (0.05)
2. Was Elon Musk's career always successful?
No, he is no stranger to turmoil. On his Twitter account he writes that his career has been full with highs and lows and also a lot of stress. (0.12)
3. What did he want to do with the banking system?
He wanted to transform it. (0.40)
4. What happened to him at PayPal?
When the company lost hundreds of millions of dollars, he was ousted as a CEO. (0.44)
5. How did this failure turn into a success for him?
When PayPal went public and was bought by eBay, as the biggest shareholder, he walked away with two hundred million dollars. (0.50)
6. Which was the next project that he was involved with?
SpaceX. (1.16)
7. What was his desire related to this project?
One of his ambitions is to send people to Mars. (1.31)
8. What happened to this project?
The first three rocket launches failed and burnt through almost all the assets the company had. (1.39)
9. What object did they carry to outer space?
A Tesla car with a dummy astronaut in it. (1.54)
10. What were the failures TESLA encountered?
Car batteries caught on fire, recalls and production delays. (2.33)

11. What was Elon Musk's contribution to the renewable energy industry?
Setting up Solarcity, which had a bright future. (2.30)
12. What happened to this company?
After investors raised doubts about its business model, Solarcity shares quickly lost value and TESLA had to take it over. (2.56)
13. Which are the companies that Elon Musk has been involved with?
PayPal, SpaceX, TESLA and Solarcity.

DISCUSSION POINTS

"Life has to be more than solving problems. There have to be things that make you proud to be member of humanity." (Elon Musk)

How would you define "collective imagination"?

Think about these points and you can add your ideas to the **Comments** section, or prepare for a discussion during our next face-to-face session.