

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:02,540

Don't try what you're about to see at home.

2

00:00:02,540 --> 00:00:04,340

We're what you call experts.

3

00:00:04,340 --> 00:00:05,540

Okay, go.

4

00:00:05,540 --> 00:00:07,540

Oh!

5

00:00:07,540 --> 00:00:10,880

-■

6

00:00:10,880 --> 00:00:16,420

-■

7

00:00:16,420 --> 00:00:18,520

I hate traffic.

8

00:00:18,520 --> 00:00:19,320

Yeah.

9

00:00:19,320 --> 00:00:22,360

You know, that could be something we should test.

10

00:00:22,360 --> 00:00:24,320

I don't need to test it. I hate traffic.

11

00:00:24,320 --> 00:00:25,360

No, no, no. I'm saying,

12

00:00:25,360 --> 00:00:27,760

what if we did a whole Mythbusters on traffic?

13

00:00:27,780 --> 00:00:30,720

Like, we investigated how traffic jams form,

14

00:00:30,720 --> 00:00:33,060

ways of getting around them, ways of navigating them.

15

00:00:33,060 --> 00:00:34,560

A whole episode on traffic.

16

00:00:34,560 --> 00:00:36,160

Oh, hold on. I love this song.

17

00:00:36,160 --> 00:00:37,160

Oh, cool.

18

00:00:37,160 --> 00:00:40,440

-■

19

00:00:40,440 --> 00:00:43,500

Yep, it's music to every motorist's ears.

20

00:00:43,500 --> 00:00:45,000

Let's drive!

21

00:00:45,000 --> 00:00:47,440

The highway Holy Grail.

22

00:00:47,440 --> 00:00:50,980

The keys to unlock gridlock.

23

00:00:50,980 --> 00:00:53,840

The team is testing traffic tricks.

24

00:00:53,840 --> 00:00:55,580

Traffic might suck to sit in,

25

00:00:55,600 --> 00:00:57,800

but it's really fun to experiment with.

26

00:00:57,800 --> 00:00:59,700

From unexpected jams

27

00:00:59,700 --> 00:01:01,980

to intersection efficiency.

28

00:01:01,980 --> 00:01:03,980

From constantly changing lanes...

29

00:01:03,980 --> 00:01:05,180

Sorry, sorry.

30

00:01:05,180 --> 00:01:06,780

...to switching for a plane.

31

00:01:06,780 --> 00:01:08,180

Tears to fly.

32

00:01:08,180 --> 00:01:10,420

The Mythbusters are guaranteed

33

00:01:10,420 --> 00:01:12,420

to get your freeway flowing.

34

00:01:12,420 --> 00:01:14,260

I'm gonna pee so bad.

35

00:01:14,260 --> 00:01:15,260

Oh!

36

00:01:15,260 --> 00:01:16,260

Oh, my God.

37

00:01:16,260 --> 00:01:17,760

Oh, my God.

38

00:01:17,760 --> 00:01:19,760

Who are the Mythbusters?

39

00:01:19,760 --> 00:01:21,760

Adam Savage.

40

00:01:21,760 --> 00:01:23,060

That's all I do for...

41

00:01:23,060 --> 00:01:24,460

And Jamie Heineman.

42

00:01:24,480 --> 00:01:25,980

We're gonna have an adventure.

43

00:01:25,980 --> 00:01:28,180

Between them more than 30 years

44

00:01:28,180 --> 00:01:30,180

of special effects experience...

45

00:01:30,180 --> 00:01:33,180

Together with Tori Belichi.

46

00:01:33,180 --> 00:01:35,180

We're gonna die!

47

00:01:35,180 --> 00:01:36,680

Grant Imahara.

48

00:01:36,680 --> 00:01:38,180

A little hotter than I expected.

49

00:01:38,180 --> 00:01:39,680

And Carrie Byron.

50

00:01:39,680 --> 00:01:41,180

Fire!

51

00:01:41,180 --> 00:01:44,180

They don't just tell the myths.

52

00:01:44,180 --> 00:01:46,180

They put them to the test.

53

00:01:46,900 --> 00:01:48,900

Buckle up.

54

00:01:48,900 --> 00:01:50,900

The Mythbusters are waging war

55

00:01:50,900 --> 00:01:52,900

on the scourge of modern motoring.

56

00:01:52,900 --> 00:01:54,900

Traffic.

57

00:01:54,900 --> 00:01:56,900

The enemy of all

58

00:01:56,900 --> 00:01:58,900

and friend of none.

59

00:01:58,900 --> 00:02:00,900

Where you going, you half-wit?

60

00:02:00,900 --> 00:02:02,900

To understand its cause and chaos,

61

00:02:02,900 --> 00:02:04,900

the science of the jams,

62

00:02:04,900 --> 00:02:06,900

the team is tackling the foremost requested

63

00:02:06,900 --> 00:02:08,900

congestion questions.

64

00:02:08,900 --> 00:02:10,900

The Mythbusters are waging war

65

00:02:10,900 --> 00:02:12,900

on the scourge of modern motoring.

66

00:02:12,900 --> 00:02:14,900

Traffic.

67

00:02:15,620 --> 00:02:17,620

So where do we start?

68

00:02:17,620 --> 00:02:19,620

Well, let me ask you a question.

69

00:02:19,620 --> 00:02:21,620

How do traffic jams like this form?

70

00:02:21,620 --> 00:02:23,620

I thought it was like when a cop pulled somebody over

71

00:02:23,620 --> 00:02:25,620

or there's an accident.

72

00:02:25,620 --> 00:02:27,620

Well, there's a theory out there

73

00:02:27,620 --> 00:02:29,620

that a traffic jam can form from something as simple

74

00:02:29,620 --> 00:02:31,620

and innocuous as somebody stepping on their brakes.

75

00:02:31,620 --> 00:02:33,620

But that would cause the person behind them

76

00:02:33,620 --> 00:02:35,620

to step on their brakes and so on and so on

77

00:02:35,620 --> 00:02:37,620

in a wave like a butterfly effect

78

00:02:37,620 --> 00:02:39,620

that would cause a huge traffic jam.

79

00:02:39,620 --> 00:02:41,620

Well, that's interesting.

80

00:02:41,620 --> 00:02:43,620

Sounds like something for us to investigate.

81

00:02:44,340 --> 00:02:46,340

That's what I thought.

82

00:02:46,340 --> 00:02:48,340

It's an interesting theory that if a car

83

00:02:48,340 --> 00:02:50,340

lightly breaks for no apparent reason,

84

00:02:50,340 --> 00:02:52,340

it can supposedly form a major

85

00:02:52,340 --> 00:02:54,340

shockwave jam that continues

86

00:02:54,340 --> 00:02:56,340

to propagate long after

87

00:02:56,340 --> 00:02:58,340

the initial cause is moved on.

88

00:02:58,340 --> 00:03:00,340

But is it fact or freeway fable?

89

00:03:02,340 --> 00:03:04,340

To get to the bottom of this traffic myth,

90

00:03:04,340 --> 00:03:06,340

we're going to need some wide open space.

91

00:03:06,340 --> 00:03:08,340

With that in mind,

92

00:03:08,340 --> 00:03:10,340

we've come to our favorite place in the Bay Area,

93

00:03:10,340 --> 00:03:12,340

the Alameda Runway.

94

00:03:13,060 --> 00:03:15,060

We'll be using this wide open space

95

00:03:15,060 --> 00:03:17,060

to make our own road for testing.

96

00:03:17,060 --> 00:03:19,060

And away we go.

97

00:03:19,060 --> 00:03:21,060

That road will be circular.

98

00:03:21,060 --> 00:03:23,060

It will be 250 feet in diameter

99

00:03:23,060 --> 00:03:25,060

and we'll be building that of these

100

00:03:25,060 --> 00:03:27,060

traffic delineators.

101

00:03:27,060 --> 00:03:29,060

Hopefully, with all of that,

102

00:03:29,060 --> 00:03:31,060

we'll be able to look into the black soul of traffic.

103

00:03:31,060 --> 00:03:35,060

A view into the depths of traffic hell

104

00:03:35,060 --> 00:03:37,060

helped by a heavenly vantage point.

105

00:03:37,060 --> 00:03:39,060

While our track is all laid out,

106

00:03:39,060 --> 00:03:41,060

it is almost time to bring in our volunteers.

107

00:03:41,780 --> 00:03:43,780

So how is all this supposed to work?

108

00:03:43,780 --> 00:03:45,780

When I hit the brakes...

109

00:03:47,780 --> 00:03:49,780

Presumably, the car is following Jamie.

110

00:03:49,780 --> 00:03:51,780

We'll also step on their brakes.

111

00:03:51,780 --> 00:03:53,780

And we hope by watching this happen

112

00:03:53,780 --> 00:03:55,780

in real time to understand something

113

00:03:55,780 --> 00:03:57,780

about how traffic propagates.

114

00:03:57,780 --> 00:03:59,780

So fasten your seatbelts

115

00:03:59,780 --> 00:04:01,780

and let the games begin.

116

00:04:01,780 --> 00:04:03,780

One circular road a traffic jam does not make.

117

00:04:03,780 --> 00:04:05,780

All right, Jamie,

118

00:04:05,780 --> 00:04:07,780

in my mind, you're number one.

119

00:04:07,780 --> 00:04:09,780

Oh, jeez.

120

00:04:10,500 --> 00:04:12,500

Jamming behind Jamie's lead car

121

00:04:12,500 --> 00:04:14,500

will be a bunch of numbered volunteer vehicles.

122

00:04:14,500 --> 00:04:16,500

And they'll be tricked out

123

00:04:16,500 --> 00:04:18,500

for traffic tricks with rooftop brake lights.

124

00:04:18,500 --> 00:04:20,500

This is how our brake monitoring system works.

125

00:04:20,500 --> 00:04:22,500

The driver puts his foot on the pressure switch

126

00:04:22,500 --> 00:04:24,500

that we've mounted onto the brake pedal.

127

00:04:24,500 --> 00:04:26,500

These guys will come on

128

00:04:26,500 --> 00:04:28,500

and that'll allow us to see overhead

129

00:04:28,500 --> 00:04:30,500

exactly what's happening

130

00:04:30,500 --> 00:04:32,500

to all the cars at once.

131

00:04:32,500 --> 00:04:34,500

Time to get the ducklings rolling.

132

00:04:34,500 --> 00:04:36,500

So Jamie, tailed by his troop of volunteers,

133

00:04:36,500 --> 00:04:38,500

hits the track.

134

00:04:39,220 --> 00:04:41,220

And with everyone settled into a comfortable rhythm,

135

00:04:41,220 --> 00:04:43,220

it's go slow time.

136

00:04:43,220 --> 00:04:45,220

What happens when an irresponsible driver

137

00:04:45,220 --> 00:04:47,220

unnecessarily hits the brakes?

138

00:04:47,220 --> 00:04:49,220

Okay, and three,

139

00:04:49,220 --> 00:04:51,220

two, one,

140

00:04:51,220 --> 00:04:53,220

I'm hitting my brake slightly.

141

00:04:53,220 --> 00:04:55,220

There goes,

142

00:04:55,220 --> 00:04:57,220

there goes three,

143

00:04:57,220 --> 00:04:59,220

there goes one,

144

00:04:59,220 --> 00:05:01,220

and one,

145

00:05:01,220 --> 00:05:03,220

and one,

146

00:05:03,220 --> 00:05:05,220

and one,

147

00:05:05,220 --> 00:05:07,220

and one,

148

00:05:07,940 --> 00:05:09,940

and three,

149

00:05:09,940 --> 00:05:11,940

there goes four,

150

00:05:11,940 --> 00:05:13,940

there goes five.

151

00:05:13,940 --> 00:05:15,940

Jamie's stepping his brakes right there

152

00:05:15,940 --> 00:05:17,940

and every car that hit that,

153

00:05:17,940 --> 00:05:19,940

up to car number seven,

154

00:05:19,940 --> 00:05:21,940

had to slow down a little bit.

155

00:05:21,940 --> 00:05:23,940

There is clearly a chain reaction

156

00:05:23,940 --> 00:05:25,940

to account for the lead car slowing down.

157

00:05:25,940 --> 00:05:27,940

This is so cool.

158

00:05:27,940 --> 00:05:29,940

But crucially,

159

00:05:29,940 --> 00:05:31,940

it has no significant

160

00:05:31,940 --> 00:05:33,940

or lasting effect on the flow of traffic.

161

00:05:33,940 --> 00:05:35,940

It's back to normal

162

00:05:36,660 --> 00:05:38,660

and it's going to have to be encouraged.

163

00:05:38,660 --> 00:05:40,660

That was really, really cool.

164

00:05:40,660 --> 00:05:42,660

Even in those conditions,

165

00:05:42,660 --> 00:05:44,660

we were able to watch it progress

166

00:05:44,660 --> 00:05:46,660

all the way back through almost all 10 cars.

167

00:05:46,660 --> 00:05:48,660

That tells me that there really

168

00:05:48,660 --> 00:05:50,660

might be something to this myth.

169

00:05:50,660 --> 00:05:52,660

It's a little something Adam likes to call

170

00:05:52,660 --> 00:05:54,660

Jamie Jammon.

171

00:05:54,660 --> 00:05:56,660

This traffic, it sucks.

172

00:05:56,660 --> 00:05:58,660

Ha ha ha.

173

00:05:58,660 --> 00:06:00,660

Next up,

174

00:06:00,660 --> 00:06:02,660

will lane picking patients really

175

00:06:02,660 --> 00:06:04,660

cut your commute?

176

00:06:05,380 --> 00:06:07,380

It's a little bit of a mess,

177

00:06:07,380 --> 00:06:09,380

but the myth is,

178

00:06:09,380 --> 00:06:11,380

it is better to stay in one lane

179

00:06:11,380 --> 00:06:13,380

in heavy traffic than to lane change.

180

00:06:13,380 --> 00:06:15,380

You'll get to your destination

181

00:06:15,380 --> 00:06:17,380

in the same amount of time.

182

00:06:17,380 --> 00:06:19,380

I don't know, dude.

183

00:06:19,380 --> 00:06:21,380

When I'm in traffic,

184

00:06:21,380 --> 00:06:23,380

I change lanes all the time.

185

00:06:23,380 --> 00:06:25,380

I think it works.

186

00:06:25,380 --> 00:06:27,380

All right, so lane weaving doesn't work.

187

00:06:27,380 --> 00:06:29,380

I like it.

188

00:06:29,380 --> 00:06:31,380

The myth states that picking

189

00:06:31,380 --> 00:06:33,380

and sticking with a lone lane

190

00:06:34,100 --> 00:06:36,100

is the best you can do.

191

00:06:36,100 --> 00:06:38,100

You can't get to the lane you were.

192

00:06:38,100 --> 00:06:40,100

Now to test this myth

193

00:06:40,100 --> 00:06:42,100

of weaving in and out of traffic

194

00:06:42,100 --> 00:06:44,100

versus staying in one lane,

195

00:06:44,100 --> 00:06:46,100

we are going to be driving

196

00:06:46,100 --> 00:06:48,100

down to San Jose Tech Museum.

197

00:06:48,100 --> 00:06:50,100

It is exactly 46 miles from our shop.

198

00:06:50,100 --> 00:06:52,100

Now, Kari and Grant,

199

00:06:52,100 --> 00:06:54,100

they're going to be weaving in and out of the lanes

200

00:06:54,100 --> 00:06:56,100

to see if they can find the fastest moving lane.

201

00:06:56,100 --> 00:06:58,100

Me, I'm going to pick one lane

202

00:06:58,100 --> 00:07:00,100

and stay on it until I get to my destination.

203

00:07:00,100 --> 00:07:02,100

And we'll see which one gets there faster.

204

00:07:02,820 --> 00:07:04,820

We're going to be driving

205

00:07:04,820 --> 00:07:06,820

30 miles of motoring mayhem.

206

00:07:06,820 --> 00:07:08,820

On clear roads,

207

00:07:08,820 --> 00:07:10,820

it would take less than an hour.

208

00:07:10,820 --> 00:07:12,820

At 7.30 a.m.

209

00:07:12,820 --> 00:07:14,820

Whoa!

210

00:07:14,820 --> 00:07:16,820

We're in luck!

211

00:07:16,820 --> 00:07:18,820

It's going to take a lot longer.

212

00:07:18,820 --> 00:07:20,820

And this is where the rubber meets the road.

213

00:07:20,820 --> 00:07:22,820

Is it best to stay put,

214

00:07:22,820 --> 00:07:24,820

as the myth suggests?

215

00:07:24,820 --> 00:07:26,820

Okay, I'm aggressive.

216

00:07:26,820 --> 00:07:28,820

I'm aggressive.

217

00:07:28,820 --> 00:07:30,820

I'm a lane changer.

218

00:07:31,540 --> 00:07:33,540

Because if you signal, they speak up.

219

00:07:33,540 --> 00:07:35,540

One thing's for sure,

220

00:07:35,540 --> 00:07:37,540

Tori in the blue car has the easiest job.

221

00:07:37,540 --> 00:07:39,540

So I'm just going to go ahead

222

00:07:39,540 --> 00:07:41,540

and get here in the middle lane.

223

00:07:41,540 --> 00:07:43,540

And I'm just going to stay here.

224

00:07:43,540 --> 00:07:45,540

You're right.

225

00:07:45,540 --> 00:07:47,540

My job is done.

226

00:07:47,540 --> 00:07:49,540

Sure, he can relax,

227

00:07:49,540 --> 00:07:51,540

but how's he going to beat team weave

228

00:07:51,540 --> 00:07:53,540

when his lane changing hands are tight?

229

00:07:53,540 --> 00:07:55,540

Right now,

230

00:07:55,540 --> 00:07:57,540

they have taken the lead.

231

00:07:57,540 --> 00:07:59,540

This is very frustrating

232

00:08:00,260 --> 00:08:02,260

because here I am,

233

00:08:02,260 --> 00:08:04,260

now stuck behind traffic,

234

00:08:04,260 --> 00:08:06,260

and I got to stay in this lane.

235

00:08:06,260 --> 00:08:08,260

I don't like staying in this lane.

236

00:08:08,260 --> 00:08:10,260

Carrie's freedom to choose

237

00:08:10,260 --> 00:08:12,260

may have given her an early advantage.

238

00:08:12,260 --> 00:08:14,260

I'm going to give it the wave.

239

00:08:14,260 --> 00:08:16,260

I'm going to do it and give it the wave.

240

00:08:16,260 --> 00:08:18,260

Thanks!

241

00:08:18,260 --> 00:08:20,260

But it's come at an adrenaline-burning cost.

242

00:08:20,260 --> 00:08:22,260

Oh!

243

00:08:22,260 --> 00:08:24,260

Oh!

244

00:08:24,260 --> 00:08:26,260

Plus, not only does Carrie have to constantly

245

00:08:26,260 --> 00:08:28,260

make strategically stressful decisions...

246

00:08:28,980 --> 00:08:30,980

Sorry, sorry, sorry!

247

00:08:30,980 --> 00:08:32,980

I'm not a nice person.

248

00:08:32,980 --> 00:08:34,980

Sorry.

249

00:08:34,980 --> 00:08:36,980

They don't always come off.

250

00:08:36,980 --> 00:08:38,980

Oh, look down!

251

00:08:38,980 --> 00:08:40,980

Bad move!

252

00:08:40,980 --> 00:08:42,980

Oh, no, they're going!

253

00:08:42,980 --> 00:08:44,980

You can't win.

254

00:08:44,980 --> 00:08:46,980

You can't win!

255

00:08:46,980 --> 00:08:48,980

Yep, in a mere 15 minutes

256

00:08:48,980 --> 00:08:50,980

and 17 lane changes into the test,

257

00:08:50,980 --> 00:08:52,980

there's been a lot of sweat,

258

00:08:52,980 --> 00:08:54,980

near blood,

259

00:08:54,980 --> 00:08:56,980

and fears.

260

00:08:57,700 --> 00:08:59,700

Are you kidding me right now?

261

00:08:59,700 --> 00:09:01,700

I think I see Carrie and Grant.

262

00:09:01,700 --> 00:09:03,700

They're like two cars ahead of me.

263

00:09:03,700 --> 00:09:05,700

It's neck and neck.

264

00:09:05,700 --> 00:09:07,700

Hey, look! I'm passing!

265

00:09:07,700 --> 00:09:09,700

Hi there!

266

00:09:09,700 --> 00:09:11,700

I'm in the same lane,

267

00:09:11,700 --> 00:09:13,700

and I've just passed Carrie.

268

00:09:13,700 --> 00:09:15,700

And Tori just passed us.

269

00:09:15,700 --> 00:09:17,700

Shut up!

270

00:09:17,700 --> 00:09:19,700

Yeah.

271

00:09:19,700 --> 00:09:21,700

And that's how it goes until the halfway mark.

272

00:09:21,700 --> 00:09:23,700

Calm and constant versus stress and dearest.

273

00:09:23,700 --> 00:09:25,700

Uh-huh, uh-huh, uh-huh!

274

00:09:26,420 --> 00:09:28,420

But with Team Weave once again

275

00:09:28,420 --> 00:09:30,420

in a narrow, hard-earned lead...

276

00:09:30,420 --> 00:09:32,420

Oh, shoot!

277

00:09:32,420 --> 00:09:34,420

Oh, yeah!

278

00:09:34,420 --> 00:09:36,420

...the traffic conditions

279

00:09:36,420 --> 00:09:38,420

alter radically.

280

00:09:38,420 --> 00:09:40,420

Traffic's really cleared up.

281

00:09:40,420 --> 00:09:42,420

I don't need to do anything here.

282

00:09:42,420 --> 00:09:44,420

For the final 20 miles,

283

00:09:44,420 --> 00:09:46,420

vehicle density is reduced to the point

284

00:09:46,420 --> 00:09:48,420

where both cars are cruising along

285

00:09:48,420 --> 00:09:50,420

at the speed limit,

286

00:09:50,420 --> 00:09:52,420

meaning Carrie and Grant

287

00:09:52,420 --> 00:09:54,420

maintain their lead to the finish line.

288

00:09:55,140 --> 00:09:57,140

That was a great hour and 11 minutes.

289

00:09:57,140 --> 00:09:59,140

But the bad news for Carrie is...

290

00:09:59,140 --> 00:10:01,140

Ah!

291

00:10:01,140 --> 00:10:03,140

It was a lot of risky road maneuvering

292

00:10:03,140 --> 00:10:05,140

for no reward.

293

00:10:05,140 --> 00:10:07,140

That was so stressful.

294

00:10:07,140 --> 00:10:09,140

Yeah.

295

00:10:09,140 --> 00:10:11,140

That was so stressful.

296

00:10:11,140 --> 00:10:13,140

It was not worth it.

297

00:10:13,140 --> 00:10:15,140

That was awful.

298

00:10:15,140 --> 00:10:17,140

And the bad news keeps coming.

299

00:10:17,140 --> 00:10:19,140

That's Tori!

300

00:10:19,140 --> 00:10:21,140

That is Tori!

301

00:10:21,140 --> 00:10:23,140

You are kidding me right now!

302

00:10:23,860 --> 00:10:25,860

Look, you guys beeped me by a whole minute and a half.

303

00:10:25,860 --> 00:10:27,860

Yep.

304

00:10:27,860 --> 00:10:29,860

There was a whole lot of stress

305

00:10:29,860 --> 00:10:31,860

for a time difference of just 2%.

306

00:10:31,860 --> 00:10:33,860

So although the Weaver won,

307

00:10:33,860 --> 00:10:35,860

the test was compromised

308

00:10:35,860 --> 00:10:37,860

with less than congested conditions.

309

00:10:37,860 --> 00:10:39,860

And the team is tending towards

310

00:10:39,860 --> 00:10:41,860

confirmed.

311

00:10:41,860 --> 00:10:43,860

Okay, so far, it's looking really good for the myth.

312

00:10:43,860 --> 00:10:45,860

Not so much for my mental health.

313

00:10:45,860 --> 00:10:47,860

We beat Tori by a minute and a half.

314

00:10:47,860 --> 00:10:49,860

Not worth it.

315

00:10:49,860 --> 00:10:51,860

The weaving, the stress,

316

00:10:52,580 --> 00:10:54,580

the strategizing, it was crazy.

317

00:10:54,580 --> 00:10:56,580

Still, this was supposed to be

318

00:10:56,580 --> 00:10:58,580

a really congested freeway,

319

00:10:58,580 --> 00:11:00,580

a really congested time,

320

00:11:00,580 --> 00:11:02,580

and it wasn't congested the whole way.

321

00:11:02,580 --> 00:11:04,580

Which means we have to test this further.

322

00:11:04,580 --> 00:11:06,580

Which means I might go gray

323

00:11:06,580 --> 00:11:08,580

by the end of this episode.

324

00:11:08,580 --> 00:11:10,580

No!

325

00:11:10,580 --> 00:11:12,580

Whoo!

326

00:11:12,580 --> 00:11:14,580

Later on Mythbusters, Adam and Jamie

327

00:11:14,580 --> 00:11:16,580

answer your intersection questions.

328

00:11:16,580 --> 00:11:18,580

I love the roundabout.

329

00:11:18,580 --> 00:11:20,580

And the road-raging lane weavers

330

00:11:21,300 --> 00:11:23,300

get wired.

331

00:11:23,300 --> 00:11:25,300

What the f***?

332

00:11:25,300 --> 00:11:27,300

Hey!

333

00:11:31,300 --> 00:11:33,300

Traffic.

334

00:11:33,300 --> 00:11:35,300

You either hate it, or you really hate it.

335

00:11:35,300 --> 00:11:37,300

Its causes and

336

00:11:37,300 --> 00:11:39,300

chaotic patterns are

337

00:11:39,300 --> 00:11:41,300

seemingly out of our control.

338

00:11:41,300 --> 00:11:43,300

Or are they?

339

00:11:43,300 --> 00:11:45,300

Because Jamie and Adam

340

00:11:45,300 --> 00:11:47,300

are asking if a lapse in concentration

341

00:11:47,300 --> 00:11:49,300

and sudden unexpected breaking

342

00:11:50,020 --> 00:11:52,020

can cause the genesis of a jam.

343

00:11:53,540 --> 00:11:55,540

I'm hitting my brakes lightly.

344

00:11:55,540 --> 00:11:57,540

And so far in life density

345

00:11:57,540 --> 00:11:59,540

traffic, the answer is no.

346

00:11:59,540 --> 00:12:01,540

But it's not over yet.

347

00:12:01,540 --> 00:12:03,540

They're ramping it up to rush hour.

348

00:12:03,540 --> 00:12:05,540

Now we want to go for broke.

349

00:12:05,540 --> 00:12:07,540

We're going to load this circle up with 22 cars

350

00:12:07,540 --> 00:12:09,540

and see just how long

351

00:12:09,540 --> 00:12:11,540

that wave might propagate

352

00:12:11,540 --> 00:12:13,540

when Jamie stamps on the brakes.

353

00:12:13,540 --> 00:12:15,540

That's all 22. It looks great.

354

00:12:15,540 --> 00:12:17,540

Just remember, folks, if you are watching this

355

00:12:17,780 --> 00:12:19,780

car while driving, you're part of the problem.

356

00:12:19,780 --> 00:12:21,780

As before, here we go.

357

00:12:21,780 --> 00:12:23,780

The goal is for Jamie to lead

358

00:12:23,780 --> 00:12:25,780

the flow of traffic at a steady

359

00:12:25,780 --> 00:12:27,780

20 miles an hour.

360

00:12:27,780 --> 00:12:29,780

This might take a little bit to get them up to 20.

361

00:12:29,780 --> 00:12:31,780

And then suddenly and unnecessarily

362

00:12:31,780 --> 00:12:33,780

hit the brakes.

363

00:12:33,780 --> 00:12:35,780

But there's a problem.

364

00:12:35,780 --> 00:12:37,780

I got up to nine.

365

00:12:37,780 --> 00:12:39,780

Oh, I'm back down to five.

366

00:12:41,780 --> 00:12:43,780

With 22 cars on our circular track,

367

00:12:43,780 --> 00:12:45,780

they've been driving for half an hour

368

00:12:46,020 --> 00:12:48,020

and we're going to be driving for about

369

00:12:48,020 --> 00:12:50,020

15 miles per hour.

370

00:12:50,020 --> 00:12:52,020

It seems that our traffic density

371

00:12:52,020 --> 00:12:54,020

is just too darn high.

372

00:12:54,020 --> 00:12:56,020

You know, this is kind of bumming me out, man.

373

00:12:56,020 --> 00:12:58,020

I hate sitting in traffic.

374

00:12:58,020 --> 00:13:00,020

So we're going to pull a couple cars out

375

00:13:00,020 --> 00:13:02,020

and see if that does the trick.

376

00:13:02,020 --> 00:13:04,020

All right, everyone, we're going to run this again.

377

00:13:04,020 --> 00:13:06,020

Honk your horn if you're ready.

378

00:13:06,020 --> 00:13:08,020

That's the sound of

379

00:13:08,020 --> 00:13:10,020

traffic being experimented on.

380

00:13:10,020 --> 00:13:12,020

Remember, folks, our goal

381

00:13:12,020 --> 00:13:14,020

is about 20 miles per hour.

382

00:13:14,260 --> 00:13:16,260

And we're going to be on the road to nowhere.

383

00:13:16,260 --> 00:13:18,260

It's mission accomplished.

384

00:13:18,260 --> 00:13:20,260

Heavy, yet free-flowing, freeway traffic.

385

00:13:20,260 --> 00:13:22,260

Well, pulling two cars out

386

00:13:22,260 --> 00:13:24,260

totally did the trick.

387

00:13:24,260 --> 00:13:26,260

Okay, now we're reaching 20.

388

00:13:26,260 --> 00:13:28,260

They've been driving now for 15 minutes

389

00:13:28,260 --> 00:13:30,260

and they're going at a steady 20 miles per hour.

390

00:13:30,260 --> 00:13:32,260

It seems that we've accidentally

391

00:13:32,260 --> 00:13:34,260

stumbled on the exact threshold

392

00:13:34,260 --> 00:13:36,260

of traffic density,

393

00:13:36,260 --> 00:13:38,260

which is just perfect for our testing purposes.

394

00:13:38,260 --> 00:13:40,260

Here we go.

395

00:13:40,260 --> 00:13:42,260

Will the consistent current of cars

396

00:13:42,500 --> 00:13:44,500

be able to drive under the slightest of provocations?

397

00:13:44,500 --> 00:13:46,500

Jamie, we're going to do

398

00:13:46,500 --> 00:13:48,500

the gentle stepping on the brakes.

399

00:13:48,500 --> 00:13:50,500

I'll count you in.

400

00:13:50,500 --> 00:13:52,500

Three, two, one, go.

401

00:13:52,500 --> 00:13:54,500

Now.

402

00:13:54,500 --> 00:13:56,500

Here it comes.

403

00:13:56,500 --> 00:13:58,500

Four, five, six, seven, eight.

404

00:13:58,500 --> 00:14:00,500

Look, it's affecting 12, 13, 14.

405

00:14:00,500 --> 00:14:02,500

Moving back through.

406

00:14:02,500 --> 00:14:04,500

16, 18, 19, 20.

407

00:14:04,500 --> 00:14:06,500

Jamie's going to get stuck

408

00:14:06,500 --> 00:14:08,500

in his own traffic jam.

409

00:14:08,500 --> 00:14:10,500

Uh-oh.

410

00:14:10,740 --> 00:14:12,740

Look at what we wanted to see.

411

00:14:12,740 --> 00:14:14,740

Look at this.

412

00:14:14,740 --> 00:14:16,740

Now it's back 18.

413

00:14:16,740 --> 00:14:18,740

There it is, starting over here again.

414

00:14:18,740 --> 00:14:20,740

It's already on its third revolution.

415

00:14:20,740 --> 00:14:22,740

Ha-ha-ha-ha.

416

00:14:22,740 --> 00:14:24,740

And Jamie got stuck again.

417

00:14:24,740 --> 00:14:26,740

Yep, when the traffic density

418

00:14:26,740 --> 00:14:28,740

is high enough,

419

00:14:28,740 --> 00:14:30,740

a minor braking incident

420

00:14:30,740 --> 00:14:32,740

can clearly cause major congestion.

421

00:14:32,740 --> 00:14:34,740

With enough vehicles joining the back of the line,

422

00:14:34,740 --> 00:14:36,740

the jam continues to propagate.

423

00:14:36,740 --> 00:14:38,740

We've got a little bit of a problem here at Houston.

424

00:14:38,980 --> 00:14:40,980

Not that Adam cares.

425

00:14:40,980 --> 00:14:42,980

Traffic might suck to sit in,

426

00:14:42,980 --> 00:14:44,980

but it's really fun to experiment with.

427

00:14:44,980 --> 00:14:46,980

Despite the fact the vehicle density

428

00:14:46,980 --> 00:14:48,980

is optimized for 20 miles an hour,

429

00:14:48,980 --> 00:14:50,980

minor incidents continue

430

00:14:50,980 --> 00:14:52,980

the clogging, confirming the result,

431

00:14:52,980 --> 00:14:54,980

and Jamie's opinion of traffic.

432

00:14:54,980 --> 00:14:56,980

That's just wrong.

433

00:14:56,980 --> 00:14:58,980

I'm going like two miles an hour there.

434

00:14:58,980 --> 00:15:00,980

Jamie, you're complaining about

435

00:15:00,980 --> 00:15:02,980

being in experimental traffic, you realize.

436

00:15:02,980 --> 00:15:04,980

Experimental, real world,

437

00:15:04,980 --> 00:15:06,980

who cares?

438

00:15:07,220 --> 00:15:09,220

Real world, who cares?

439

00:15:09,220 --> 00:15:11,220

It's traffic, it sucks.

440

00:15:11,220 --> 00:15:13,220

As Mark Twain almost said,

441

00:15:13,220 --> 00:15:15,220

there are two certainties in life.

442

00:15:15,220 --> 00:15:17,220

Traffic sucks,

443

00:15:17,220 --> 00:15:19,220

and this myth is confirmed.

444

00:15:19,220 --> 00:15:21,220

Turns out that in heavy traffic,

445

00:15:21,220 --> 00:15:23,220

you don't have to have an accident

446

00:15:23,220 --> 00:15:25,220

to cause a problem.

447

00:15:25,220 --> 00:15:27,220

All somebody has to do is blink,

448

00:15:27,220 --> 00:15:29,220

and they can set off a massive traffic jam.

449

00:15:29,220 --> 00:15:31,220

All right, Jamie, step on your brakes right now.

450

00:15:31,460 --> 00:15:33,460

Yeah!

451

00:15:33,460 --> 00:15:35,460

Yeah, let it out!

452

00:15:35,460 --> 00:15:37,460

Let it out!

453

00:15:37,460 --> 00:15:39,460

Ha ha ha ha!

454

00:16:01,460 --> 00:16:03,460

Next up, the Rider Cup of the Roads.

455

00:16:05,460 --> 00:16:07,460

Have you ever driven through Europe?

456

00:16:07,460 --> 00:16:09,460

I have.

457

00:16:09,460 --> 00:16:11,460

What did you think of the roundabouts?

458

00:16:11,460 --> 00:16:13,460

I liked them.

459

00:16:13,460 --> 00:16:15,460

There's a myth that a roundabout

460

00:16:15,460 --> 00:16:17,460

is a far more effective way

461

00:16:17,460 --> 00:16:19,460

to move cars through an intersection

462

00:16:19,460 --> 00:16:21,460

than the four-way stop signs we have here in the United States.

463

00:16:21,460 --> 00:16:23,460

The cars get through quicker.

464

00:16:23,460 --> 00:16:25,460

Apparently.

465

00:16:25,460 --> 00:16:27,460

Let's test it.

466

00:16:27,460 --> 00:16:29,460

Totally.

467

00:16:29,700 --> 00:16:31,700

Are they a triumph of efficiency

468

00:16:31,700 --> 00:16:33,700

or compared to the good old American four-way

469

00:16:33,700 --> 00:16:35,700

a catastrophic circus of congestion?

470

00:16:35,700 --> 00:16:37,700

So we're gonna set them both up,

471

00:16:37,700 --> 00:16:39,700

run them through the paces,

472

00:16:39,700 --> 00:16:41,700

and see which one comes out on top.

473

00:16:41,700 --> 00:16:43,700

It's as simple as that.

474

00:16:43,700 --> 00:16:45,700

They'll mark out a four-way intersection

475

00:16:45,700 --> 00:16:47,700

with traffic barriers.

476

00:16:47,700 --> 00:16:49,700

Ha ha ha ha!

477

00:16:49,700 --> 00:16:51,700

Woo!

478

00:16:51,700 --> 00:16:53,700

And then compare the efficiency...

479

00:16:53,700 --> 00:16:55,700

I believe I've reached my peak laziness.

480

00:16:55,700 --> 00:16:57,700

...of traffic flow between the two systems.

481

00:16:57,940 --> 00:16:59,940

For a little added realism,

482

00:16:59,940 --> 00:17:01,940

we've decided to give each of the four streets

483

00:17:01,940 --> 00:17:03,940

in our intersection a real name.

484

00:17:03,940 --> 00:17:05,940

There's plausible parkway,

485

00:17:05,940 --> 00:17:07,940

shadow drive, boom boom boulevard.

486

00:17:07,940 --> 00:17:09,940

And then there's my personal favorite,

487

00:17:09,940 --> 00:17:11,940

C4 Avenue.

488

00:17:11,940 --> 00:17:13,940

Oh, we've got our course set up,

489

00:17:13,940 --> 00:17:15,940

and except for all the barriers and cones,

490

00:17:15,940 --> 00:17:17,940

as you can see, it's a pretty normal four-way stop.

491

00:17:17,940 --> 00:17:19,940

So how's this gonna work?

492

00:17:19,940 --> 00:17:21,940

Well, our drivers are gonna be driving

493

00:17:21,940 --> 00:17:23,940

up to one of these four stop signs.

494

00:17:23,940 --> 00:17:25,940

And we're gonna be driving

495

00:17:26,180 --> 00:17:28,180

up to one of these four stop signs.

496

00:17:28,180 --> 00:17:30,180

And so, of course, they're going to be lawfully stopping.

497

00:17:30,180 --> 00:17:32,180

At each of our stop signs,

498

00:17:32,180 --> 00:17:34,180

we're gonna have an operator

499

00:17:34,180 --> 00:17:36,180

operating one of these split cards,

500

00:17:36,180 --> 00:17:38,180

which will direct our drivers,

501

00:17:38,180 --> 00:17:40,180

either right, left, or straight ahead.

502

00:17:40,180 --> 00:17:42,180

No U-turns.

503

00:17:42,180 --> 00:17:44,180

And every time somebody drives through the intersection,

504

00:17:44,180 --> 00:17:46,180

I'll be counting it with this handy little clicker.

505

00:17:46,180 --> 00:17:48,180

And after a measured period of time,

506

00:17:48,180 --> 00:17:50,180

we'll see how many cars are able

507

00:17:50,180 --> 00:17:52,180

to make it through our four-way stop safely.

508

00:17:52,180 --> 00:17:54,180

Our first test is gonna run for 15 minutes.

509

00:17:54,420 --> 00:17:56,420

I'm gonna hit the siren and start counting.

510

00:17:58,420 --> 00:18:00,420

We are starting the first test.

511

00:18:00,420 --> 00:18:02,420

And now, it's a numbers game.

512

00:18:02,420 --> 00:18:04,420

Gonna have to focus on this.

513

00:18:04,420 --> 00:18:06,420

Jamie and his trusty clicker

514

00:18:06,420 --> 00:18:08,420

count each car

515

00:18:08,420 --> 00:18:10,420

that makes it through the intersection.

516

00:18:10,420 --> 00:18:12,420

Okay, we're up to 123.

517

00:18:12,420 --> 00:18:14,420

And so far, with little

518

00:18:14,420 --> 00:18:16,420

or no waiting time,

519

00:18:16,420 --> 00:18:18,420

it seems like the American way

520

00:18:18,420 --> 00:18:20,420

is as good as it gets.

521

00:18:20,420 --> 00:18:22,420

Four-way stop.

522

00:18:22,660 --> 00:18:24,660

Four-way stop seems like

523

00:18:24,660 --> 00:18:26,660

it works pretty well, actually,

524

00:18:26,660 --> 00:18:28,660

from where I'm standing.

525

00:18:28,660 --> 00:18:30,660

You know, it's efficient.

526

00:18:30,660 --> 00:18:32,660

I feel like I've been driving forever.

527

00:18:32,660 --> 00:18:34,660

Oh, that's it.

528

00:18:34,660 --> 00:18:36,660

Time's up.

529

00:18:36,660 --> 00:18:38,660

And time for the result.

530

00:18:38,660 --> 00:18:41,660

378 intersection crossings.

531

00:18:41,660 --> 00:18:43,660

15 minutes.

532

00:18:43,660 --> 00:18:45,660

That couldn't have gone better.

533

00:18:45,660 --> 00:18:47,660

That felt exactly like I was in real traffic,

534

00:18:47,660 --> 00:18:49,660

even down the little hitches at the intersection.

535

00:18:49,660 --> 00:18:51,660

I'm gonna go. I'm gonna go.

536

00:18:51,900 --> 00:18:53,900

There we go.

537

00:18:53,900 --> 00:18:55,900

I'm not sure it was my turn,

538

00:18:55,900 --> 00:18:57,900

but I think he gave me difference,

539

00:18:57,900 --> 00:18:59,900

because, well, I'm the host.

540

00:18:59,900 --> 00:19:01,900

I think this is an excellent metric,

541

00:19:01,900 --> 00:19:03,900

but just to make sure,

542

00:19:03,900 --> 00:19:05,900

we're gonna run this test one more time

543

00:19:05,900 --> 00:19:07,900

and average the results.

544

00:19:07,900 --> 00:19:09,900

Yep, and second time around,

545

00:19:09,900 --> 00:19:11,900

it runs just as smoothly.

546

00:19:11,900 --> 00:19:13,900

Oh, I'm making a right-hand turn now.

547

00:19:13,900 --> 00:19:15,900

But the repetition is clearly getting to Adam.

548

00:19:15,900 --> 00:19:17,900

You know, Jamie used to be a doorman

549

00:19:17,900 --> 00:19:19,900

at Studio 54 in New York.

550

00:19:20,140 --> 00:19:23,140

He once kept Cher from getting into Studio 54.

551

00:19:23,140 --> 00:19:25,140

He was like,

552

00:19:25,140 --> 00:19:27,140

not you, Cher.

553

00:19:27,140 --> 00:19:29,140

Delirious rambling aside,

554

00:19:29,140 --> 00:19:31,140

the result is in.

555

00:19:31,140 --> 00:19:33,140

391.

556

00:19:33,140 --> 00:19:35,140

What we need now is a summary.

557

00:19:35,140 --> 00:19:37,140

Adam?

558

00:19:37,140 --> 00:19:39,140

We had an average of 385 drivers

559

00:19:39,140 --> 00:19:41,140

cross through this intersection

560

00:19:41,140 --> 00:19:43,140

in just 15 minutes.

561

00:19:43,140 --> 00:19:46,140

That's more than one car every two and a half seconds.

562

00:19:46,140 --> 00:19:48,140

That's a pretty high level of throughput

563

00:19:48,380 --> 00:19:50,380

for this intersection.

564

00:19:50,380 --> 00:19:52,380

But before we proceed all the way

565

00:19:52,380 --> 00:19:54,380

to resetting everything for a roundabout,

566

00:19:54,380 --> 00:19:56,380

it occurs to me that there is one more way

567

00:19:56,380 --> 00:19:58,380

that a four-way intersection can work.

568

00:19:58,380 --> 00:20:00,380

Without stop signs.

569

00:20:00,380 --> 00:20:02,380

And with a cop.

570

00:20:02,380 --> 00:20:04,380

Where's my badge?

571

00:20:04,380 --> 00:20:06,380

And a gun. I want a gun. Where's my gun?

572

00:20:06,380 --> 00:20:08,380

Yep, before they check out the roundabout.

573

00:20:08,380 --> 00:20:10,380

Here we go, commencing traffic cop test.

574

00:20:10,380 --> 00:20:12,380

Adam wants to know

575

00:20:12,380 --> 00:20:14,380

if a former member of the village people

576

00:20:14,380 --> 00:20:16,380

can move traffic faster

577

00:20:16,620 --> 00:20:18,620

than they would in a public service

578

00:20:18,620 --> 00:20:20,620

that is covered in stop signs.

579

00:20:20,620 --> 00:20:22,620

There are a number of different ways

580

00:20:22,620 --> 00:20:24,620

we make it through intersections.

581

00:20:24,620 --> 00:20:26,620

There are stop signs, there are roundabouts.

582

00:20:26,620 --> 00:20:28,620

But then there are also traffic lights.

583

00:20:28,620 --> 00:20:30,620

This is my favorite test of this episode so far.

584

00:20:30,620 --> 00:20:32,620

And so we want to know

585

00:20:32,620 --> 00:20:34,620

if the decision making that the traffic cop

586

00:20:34,620 --> 00:20:36,620

is doing is more efficient

587

00:20:36,620 --> 00:20:38,620

and quicker at getting people

588

00:20:38,620 --> 00:20:40,620

through an intersection

589

00:20:40,620 --> 00:20:42,620

than the decision making that all those individual

590

00:20:42,620 --> 00:20:44,620

drivers can do by themselves.

591

00:20:44,860 --> 00:20:46,860

289.

592

00:20:46,860 --> 00:20:48,860

About 30% slower.

593

00:20:48,860 --> 00:20:50,860

Yep, the good old four-way stop sign

594

00:20:50,860 --> 00:20:52,860

governed by the people

595

00:20:52,860 --> 00:20:54,860

for the people

596

00:20:54,860 --> 00:20:56,860

is clearly more efficient.

597

00:20:56,860 --> 00:20:58,860

Question is, how will it fare

598

00:20:58,860 --> 00:21:00,860

against the roundabouts?

599

00:21:04,860 --> 00:21:06,860

Carrie Grant and Tori

600

00:21:06,860 --> 00:21:08,860

are testing the theory

601

00:21:08,860 --> 00:21:10,860

that the lane change is all pain

602

00:21:10,860 --> 00:21:12,860

for no real game.

603

00:21:13,100 --> 00:21:15,100

So today is the final experiment

604

00:21:15,100 --> 00:21:17,100

for our weaving versus

605

00:21:17,100 --> 00:21:19,100

staying in one lane myth.

606

00:21:19,100 --> 00:21:21,100

But there's going to be a difference

607

00:21:21,100 --> 00:21:23,100

and that difference is we're going to fill each

608

00:21:23,100 --> 00:21:25,100

lane with a car marked 1-4

609

00:21:25,100 --> 00:21:27,100

to correspond to their lane.

610

00:21:27,100 --> 00:21:29,100

And Tori will be the weaving driver.

611

00:21:29,100 --> 00:21:31,100

He'll be in a car marked X.

612

00:21:31,100 --> 00:21:33,100

Alvin car number one.

613

00:21:33,100 --> 00:21:35,100

Where's Carrie Byron, you ask?

614

00:21:35,100 --> 00:21:37,100

Oh yeah, it's a much nicer ride.

615

00:21:37,100 --> 00:21:39,100

Yep, Carrie's getting high in the sky

616

00:21:39,100 --> 00:21:41,100

to keep an eye on the road race below.

617

00:21:41,340 --> 00:21:43,340

Alright, Buster, let's do this.

618

00:21:45,340 --> 00:21:47,340

While X marks the silver car spot

619

00:21:47,340 --> 00:21:49,340

for road weavers Balachian Buster

620

00:21:49,340 --> 00:21:51,340

Get your weaving on, Tori.

621

00:21:51,340 --> 00:21:53,340

Grant and his three fellow lane stares

622

00:21:53,340 --> 00:21:55,340

will provide a comprehensive comparison

623

00:21:55,340 --> 00:21:57,340

to Tori's tactic

624

00:21:57,340 --> 00:21:59,340

by logging a time

625

00:21:59,340 --> 00:22:01,340

for all four lanes on the highway.

626

00:22:01,340 --> 00:22:03,340

Nice. Oh, those are good weave there.

627

00:22:03,340 --> 00:22:05,340

A time that will be earned

628

00:22:05,340 --> 00:22:07,340

the hard way.

629

00:22:07,340 --> 00:22:09,340

I thought driving in traffic was bad.

630

00:22:09,580 --> 00:22:11,580

I mean, trying to weave like this

631

00:22:11,580 --> 00:22:13,580

is very stressful.

632

00:22:13,580 --> 00:22:15,580

Stressful, but so far fruitful.

633

00:22:15,580 --> 00:22:17,580

A few minutes into the test

634

00:22:17,580 --> 00:22:19,580

and Tori's already leading.

635

00:22:19,580 --> 00:22:21,580

Dude, I can't even see Tori.

636

00:22:21,580 --> 00:22:23,580

He passed me.

637

00:22:23,580 --> 00:22:25,580

I went over two lanes to the right,

638

00:22:25,580 --> 00:22:27,580

passed me and he's gone.

639

00:22:27,580 --> 00:22:29,580

Grant can't see Tori,

640

00:22:29,580 --> 00:22:31,580

but Carrie can.

641

00:22:31,580 --> 00:22:33,580

Alright, I can see car X

642

00:22:33,580 --> 00:22:35,580

as Chosen Lane 2

643

00:22:35,580 --> 00:22:37,580

and is scurried ahead of the pack.

644

00:22:37,820 --> 00:22:39,820

A couple of car lengths that come

645

00:22:39,820 --> 00:22:41,820

at a high blood pressure cost.

646

00:22:41,820 --> 00:22:43,820

Let me in. Let me in.

647

00:22:43,820 --> 00:22:45,820

Oh, okay.

648

00:22:45,820 --> 00:22:47,820

Nice.

649

00:22:47,820 --> 00:22:49,820

F***.

650

00:22:49,820 --> 00:22:51,820

But moments later,

651

00:22:51,820 --> 00:22:53,820

Tori's lost the ground he so painfully gained.

652

00:22:53,820 --> 00:22:55,820

Car 1, car X

653

00:22:55,820 --> 00:22:57,820

and car 3 are neck and neck.

654

00:22:57,820 --> 00:22:59,820

Grant in the fast lane

655

00:22:59,820 --> 00:23:01,820

actually looks like he is making headway.

656

00:23:01,820 --> 00:23:03,820

Car X

657

00:23:03,820 --> 00:23:05,820

is going to have to weave around him.

658

00:23:06,060 --> 00:23:08,060

And that's just what Tori does.

659

00:23:08,060 --> 00:23:10,060

Right. We going for it.

660

00:23:10,060 --> 00:23:12,060

For the next 10 miles, living on the edge.

661

00:23:12,060 --> 00:23:14,060

Oh, f***.

662

00:23:14,060 --> 00:23:16,060

That's got killed by a truck.

663

00:23:16,060 --> 00:23:18,060

Feeling the strain of the lane change pain.

664

00:23:18,060 --> 00:23:20,060

Holy crap, almost got killed.

665

00:23:20,060 --> 00:23:22,060

He slowly,

666

00:23:22,060 --> 00:23:24,060

but surely,

667

00:23:24,060 --> 00:23:26,060

peeks out a significant 5-minute advantage.

668

00:23:26,060 --> 00:23:28,060

But interestingly,

669

00:23:28,060 --> 00:23:30,060

from his perspective,

670

00:23:30,060 --> 00:23:32,060

lane weaving is not working.

671

00:23:32,060 --> 00:23:34,060

This is the thing about switching lanes.

672

00:23:34,300 --> 00:23:36,300

The moment you think your lane is going slow,

673

00:23:36,300 --> 00:23:38,300

you get out of it.

674

00:23:38,300 --> 00:23:40,300

But it's right at that moment that it starts speeding up again.

675

00:23:40,300 --> 00:23:42,300

It's kind of counterintuitive.

676

00:23:42,300 --> 00:23:44,300

That's his subjective perception.

677

00:23:44,300 --> 00:23:46,300

But the result is down to one

678

00:23:46,300 --> 00:23:48,300

objective number.

679

00:23:48,300 --> 00:23:50,300

Time. And on the final leg,

680

00:23:50,300 --> 00:23:52,300

it's the toll plaza taking its toll on Tori.

681

00:23:56,300 --> 00:23:58,300

Gridlock. And Grant's lane suddenly closes in.

682

00:23:58,300 --> 00:24:00,300

See this right here?

683

00:24:00,300 --> 00:24:02,300

It's toll plaza.

684

00:24:02,540 --> 00:24:04,540

This is what we call the great equalizer.

685

00:24:04,540 --> 00:24:06,540

You might be ahead by,

686

00:24:06,540 --> 00:24:08,540

you know, I don't know, 15, 20 minutes.

687

00:24:08,540 --> 00:24:10,540

You get to this toll plaza.

688

00:24:10,540 --> 00:24:12,540

Everything grinds to a complete halt.

689

00:24:12,540 --> 00:24:14,540

Yep.

690

00:24:14,540 --> 00:24:16,540

With hundreds of cars jammed in,

691

00:24:16,540 --> 00:24:18,540

bumper to bumper, it's a luck.

692

00:24:18,540 --> 00:24:20,540

But Tori has picked the winning toll lane ticket.

693

00:24:20,540 --> 00:24:22,540

And has threw first

694

00:24:22,540 --> 00:24:24,540

an on the home stretch.

695

00:24:24,540 --> 00:24:26,540

Back to the shop, most of it.

696

00:24:26,540 --> 00:24:28,540

We relax.

697

00:24:28,540 --> 00:24:30,540

Question is, how far behind are the others?

698

00:24:30,780 --> 00:24:32,780

First to appear is Grant.

699

00:24:32,780 --> 00:24:34,780

What's your time?

700

00:24:34,780 --> 00:24:36,780

One hour and 19 minutes.

701

00:24:36,780 --> 00:24:38,780

I beat you by three minutes.

702

00:24:38,780 --> 00:24:40,780

A mere 4% time difference.

703

00:24:40,780 --> 00:24:42,780

And close behind by a minute

704

00:24:42,780 --> 00:24:44,780

is car number two.

705

00:24:44,780 --> 00:24:46,780

But while waiting for the third lane sticker,

706

00:24:46,780 --> 00:24:48,780

time takes on.

707

00:24:48,780 --> 00:24:50,780

And the gap is significantly larger.

708

00:24:50,780 --> 00:24:52,780

And he was 13 minutes behind me.

709

00:24:52,780 --> 00:24:54,780

And when the final of the four arrives,

710

00:24:54,780 --> 00:24:56,780

25% slower than Tori,

711

00:24:56,780 --> 00:24:58,780

the lane staying myth

712

00:24:59,020 --> 00:25:01,020

looks down and out.

713

00:25:01,020 --> 00:25:03,020

So, where do we stand with the sticker weave dilemma?

714

00:25:03,020 --> 00:25:05,020

Well, with every single test we've done,

715

00:25:05,020 --> 00:25:07,020

the weaver will beat the person

716

00:25:07,020 --> 00:25:09,020

staying in one lane every single time.

717

00:25:09,020 --> 00:25:11,020

In test one,

718

00:25:11,020 --> 00:25:13,020

in traffic that wasn't that heavy,

719

00:25:13,020 --> 00:25:15,020

the lane sticker lost by around 2%.

720

00:25:15,020 --> 00:25:17,020

And in the ultimate test,

721

00:25:17,020 --> 00:25:19,020

all the lane stickers lost by anywhere

722

00:25:19,020 --> 00:25:21,020

from 4% to 25%.

723

00:25:21,020 --> 00:25:23,020

So what does that mean?

724

00:25:23,020 --> 00:25:25,020

Well, the myth that staying in one lane

725

00:25:25,020 --> 00:25:27,020

will get you to your destination

726

00:25:27,260 --> 00:25:29,260

and the same time as weaving is busted.

727

00:25:29,260 --> 00:25:31,260

Weaving will get you there faster,

728

00:25:31,260 --> 00:25:33,260

but just barely.

729

00:25:33,260 --> 00:25:35,260

And it's not that safe.

730

00:25:35,260 --> 00:25:37,260

MUSIC

731

00:25:37,260 --> 00:25:39,260

Next on Mythbusters.

732

00:25:39,260 --> 00:25:41,260

Red Trick, Red Trick.

733

00:25:41,260 --> 00:25:43,260

Our trio of traffic triggers

734

00:25:43,260 --> 00:25:45,260

Escape to LA.

735

00:25:45,260 --> 00:25:47,260

City Dreams!

736

00:25:47,260 --> 00:25:49,260

MUSIC

737

00:25:49,260 --> 00:25:51,260

Please, don't try what you're about to see at home.

738

00:25:51,260 --> 00:25:53,260

We're what you would call experts.

739

00:25:53,260 --> 00:25:55,260

We're what you would call experts.

740

00:25:55,500 --> 00:25:57,500

MUSIC

741

00:25:57,500 --> 00:25:59,500

MUSIC

742

00:25:59,500 --> 00:26:01,500

OK, what's next?

743

00:26:01,500 --> 00:26:03,500

This one is another classic.

744

00:26:03,500 --> 00:26:05,500

The myth is that for journeys less than 400 miles,

745

00:26:05,500 --> 00:26:07,500

like San Francisco to Los Angeles,

746

00:26:07,500 --> 00:26:09,500

that it's actually faster to drive

747

00:26:09,500 --> 00:26:11,500

than it is to fly.

748

00:26:11,500 --> 00:26:13,500

No way.

749

00:26:13,500 --> 00:26:15,500

I can see it.

750

00:26:15,500 --> 00:26:17,500

I mean, you have to get to the airport

751

00:26:17,500 --> 00:26:19,500

an hour and a half ahead of your flight.

752

00:26:19,500 --> 00:26:21,500

Then you have to check your bag, get through security,

753

00:26:21,500 --> 00:26:23,500

and then on the other end, go and rent a car.

754

00:26:23,740 --> 00:26:25,740

And then you can only see how driving could be

755

00:26:25,740 --> 00:26:27,740

faster than flying.

756

00:26:27,740 --> 00:26:29,740

OK, I see a race coming on.

757

00:26:29,740 --> 00:26:31,740

To fly or to drive,

758

00:26:31,740 --> 00:26:33,740

this modern version of hare versus tortoise

759

00:26:33,740 --> 00:26:35,740

proposed by a prestigious NASA director

760

00:26:35,740 --> 00:26:39,740

is that for journeys of less than 400 miles,

761

00:26:39,740 --> 00:26:41,740

driving is surprisingly faster.

762

00:26:41,740 --> 00:26:43,740

But surely the tortoise

763

00:26:43,740 --> 00:26:45,740

can't compete with a 500-mile-an-hour

764

00:26:45,740 --> 00:26:47,740

flying hair.

765

00:26:47,740 --> 00:26:49,740

To find out, it's a pre-dawn showdown.

766

00:26:49,740 --> 00:26:51,740

We're testing the myth

767

00:26:51,980 --> 00:26:53,980

that it's faster to drive than to fly

768

00:26:53,980 --> 00:26:55,980

on a journey that's less than 400 miles.

769

00:26:55,980 --> 00:26:57,980

So we drew straws,

770

00:26:57,980 --> 00:26:59,980

tortoise is going to fly,

771

00:26:59,980 --> 00:27:01,980

grand and I are going to drive.

772

00:27:01,980 --> 00:27:03,980

We're starting San Francisco 7 a.m.

773

00:27:03,980 --> 00:27:05,980

Driving 380 miles

774

00:27:05,980 --> 00:27:07,980

to the Natural History Museum in Los Angeles

775

00:27:07,980 --> 00:27:09,980

in three, two, one, go.

776

00:27:09,980 --> 00:27:11,980

Ah!

777

00:27:11,980 --> 00:27:13,980

You're going to fly?

778

00:27:13,980 --> 00:27:15,980

You should probably give him a head start.

779

00:27:15,980 --> 00:27:17,980

I mean, after all, I am flying.

780

00:27:17,980 --> 00:27:19,980

Tortoise confident because he knows

781

00:27:20,220 --> 00:27:22,220

his ride will be traveling approximately

782

00:27:22,220 --> 00:27:24,220

430 miles-an-hour faster.

783

00:27:24,220 --> 00:27:26,220

A fact that has failed to

784

00:27:26,220 --> 00:27:28,220

dampen team cars' enthusiasm.

785

00:27:28,220 --> 00:27:30,220

Red trip, red trip!

786

00:27:30,220 --> 00:27:32,220

Because road trips are,

787

00:27:32,220 --> 00:27:34,220

well, road trips.

788

00:27:34,220 --> 00:27:36,220

This will be fun!

789

00:27:36,220 --> 00:27:38,220

There's the camaraderie.

790

00:27:38,220 --> 00:27:40,220

If we need to urinate,

791

00:27:40,220 --> 00:27:42,220

should we urinate inside

792

00:27:42,220 --> 00:27:44,220

of container in the car?

793

00:27:44,220 --> 00:27:46,220

And there's the open road

794

00:27:46,220 --> 00:27:48,220

and freedom from waiting around.

795

00:27:48,460 --> 00:27:50,460

Or not.

796

00:27:50,460 --> 00:27:52,460

Totally in the middle of community traffic.

797

00:27:52,460 --> 00:27:54,460

Yeah.

798

00:27:54,460 --> 00:27:56,460

Oh, it's going to bone us!

799

00:27:56,460 --> 00:27:58,460

Meanwhile, on his way to the airport,

800

00:27:58,460 --> 00:28:00,460

Tortoise realizing

801

00:28:00,460 --> 00:28:02,460

it may not be as simple

802

00:28:02,460 --> 00:28:04,460

as his main mode of transport's top speed.

803

00:28:04,460 --> 00:28:06,460

Now, the things that are going to hold me up

804

00:28:06,460 --> 00:28:08,460

are, one, I have to drive to the airport,

805

00:28:08,460 --> 00:28:10,460

park the car.

806

00:28:10,460 --> 00:28:12,460

Parking, I need parking.

807

00:28:12,460 --> 00:28:14,460

Check my bags.

808

00:28:14,460 --> 00:28:16,460

I got to get to the flight two hours before

809

00:28:16,700 --> 00:28:18,700

so I can get through security.

810

00:28:18,700 --> 00:28:20,700

That's going to slow me down.

811

00:28:20,700 --> 00:28:22,700

Now I'm starting to get nervous.

812

00:28:22,700 --> 00:28:24,700

And then on the other side,

813

00:28:24,700 --> 00:28:26,700

I have to go pick up a rent a car,

814

00:28:26,700 --> 00:28:28,700

get my bags,

815

00:28:28,700 --> 00:28:30,700

then drive to the location.

816

00:28:30,700 --> 00:28:32,700

This is going to be a close race.

817

00:28:32,700 --> 00:28:34,700

It's the key to this myth.

818

00:28:34,700 --> 00:28:36,700

Having to get to the airport in time

819

00:28:36,700 --> 00:28:38,700

to go through the time-consuming

820

00:28:38,700 --> 00:28:40,700

process of boarding gives our roadies a chance.

821

00:28:40,700 --> 00:28:42,700

And back on the road,

822

00:28:42,700 --> 00:28:44,700

our four-wheel tortoises are not stuck anymore.

823

00:28:44,940 --> 00:28:46,940

They've hit the highway.

824

00:28:46,940 --> 00:28:48,940

This is for our good people.

825

00:28:48,940 --> 00:28:50,940

However, they do have to stick with the

826

00:28:50,940 --> 00:28:52,940

legal speed limit.

827

00:28:52,940 --> 00:28:54,940

Oh, no, no!

828

00:28:54,940 --> 00:28:56,940

And they are stuck with each other.

829

00:28:56,940 --> 00:28:58,940

It's going to be a long trip.

830

00:28:58,940 --> 00:29:00,940

Do you have any good road trip stories?

831

00:29:00,940 --> 00:29:02,940

Let's see.

832

00:29:02,940 --> 00:29:04,940

Not really.

833

00:29:04,940 --> 00:29:06,940

But they have already covered 70 miles

834

00:29:06,940 --> 00:29:08,940

and Tori...

835

00:29:08,940 --> 00:29:10,940

Thank you.

836

00:29:10,940 --> 00:29:12,940

Having only just checked in,

837

00:29:13,180 --> 00:29:15,180

we have to shut the cameras down

838

00:29:15,180 --> 00:29:17,180

because they won't allow us to film in there.

839

00:29:17,180 --> 00:29:19,180

Besides, I might get script-searched.

840

00:29:19,180 --> 00:29:21,180

There's some benefits to driving.

841

00:29:21,180 --> 00:29:23,180

I mean, I am carrying things

842

00:29:23,180 --> 00:29:25,180

that are over three ounces and in liquid form.

843

00:29:25,180 --> 00:29:27,180

Ha-ha-ha!

844

00:29:27,180 --> 00:29:29,180

All right, so I just made it through security

845

00:29:29,180 --> 00:29:31,180

and actually went pretty smoothly.

846

00:29:31,180 --> 00:29:33,180

Not too many hold-ups,

847

00:29:33,180 --> 00:29:35,180

but this part always takes up time.

848

00:29:35,180 --> 00:29:37,180

Putting yourself back together

849

00:29:37,180 --> 00:29:39,180

before you get on a plane.

850

00:29:39,180 --> 00:29:41,180

All right, let's go catch a plane.

851

00:29:41,420 --> 00:29:43,420

Out on the road, Grant and Kerry

852

00:29:43,420 --> 00:29:45,420

are eating up the miles at a steady 70 miles an hour.

853

00:29:45,420 --> 00:29:47,420

Turned it to 90 miles to go.

854

00:29:47,420 --> 00:29:49,420

I think I just ran over a skunk.

855

00:29:49,420 --> 00:29:51,420

I thought it was all that beef jerky, right?

856

00:29:51,420 --> 00:29:53,420

They may be bored.

857

00:29:53,420 --> 00:29:55,420

99 bottles of beer on the wall.

858

00:29:55,420 --> 00:29:57,420

99 bottles of beer.

859

00:29:57,420 --> 00:29:59,420

But they are always moving.

860

00:29:59,420 --> 00:30:01,420

99 bottles of beer on the wall.

861

00:30:01,420 --> 00:30:03,420

99 bottles of beer.

862

00:30:03,420 --> 00:30:05,420

Unlike Tori, who, after getting through security

863

00:30:05,420 --> 00:30:07,420

in reasonable time,

864

00:30:07,420 --> 00:30:09,420

is still in the middle of the road.

865

00:30:09,660 --> 00:30:11,660

I hope I make it to my gate in time.

866

00:30:11,660 --> 00:30:13,660

Has come up against another air travel bottleneck.

867

00:30:13,660 --> 00:30:15,660

All right, so I made it to my gate.

868

00:30:15,660 --> 00:30:17,660

Now I have another half hour

869

00:30:17,660 --> 00:30:19,660

to wait before we actually board.

870

00:30:19,660 --> 00:30:21,660

Now this is killing me because this is eating up time

871

00:30:21,660 --> 00:30:23,660

where I could actually be traveling.

872

00:30:23,660 --> 00:30:25,660

Kerry and Grant, they are flying on the freeway.

873

00:30:25,660 --> 00:30:27,660

I have to sit here and wait.

874

00:30:27,660 --> 00:30:29,660

And that's the key to the potential

875

00:30:29,660 --> 00:30:31,660

of the flight.

876

00:30:31,660 --> 00:30:33,660

I'm going to go get my car.

877

00:30:33,660 --> 00:30:35,660

I'm going to get my car.

878

00:30:35,660 --> 00:30:37,660

I'm going to get my car.

879

00:30:37,900 --> 00:30:39,900

And that's the key to the potential

880

00:30:39,900 --> 00:30:41,900

plausibility of this myth.

881

00:30:41,900 --> 00:30:43,900

78 bottles of beer on the wall.

882

00:30:43,900 --> 00:30:45,900

78 bottles of beer.

883

00:30:45,900 --> 00:30:47,900

Do the logistics and the waiting around

884

00:30:47,900 --> 00:30:49,900

required for air travel

885

00:30:49,900 --> 00:30:51,900

offset the difference in speed?

886

00:30:51,900 --> 00:30:53,900

Take the window and you're passing around.

887

00:30:53,900 --> 00:30:55,900

Take the window and you're passing around.

888

00:30:55,900 --> 00:30:57,900

With team tortoise 130 miles ahead

889

00:30:57,900 --> 00:30:59,900

but only inching their way down the highway.

890

00:30:59,900 --> 00:31:01,900

With team tortoise 130 miles ahead but only inching their way down the highway.

891

00:31:01,900 --> 00:31:03,900

37 bottles of beer on the wall.

892

00:31:03,900 --> 00:31:05,900

37 bottles of beer on the wall.

893

00:31:06,140 --> 00:31:08,140

The airborne hair.

894

00:31:08,140 --> 00:31:10,140

Thank you.

895

00:31:10,140 --> 00:31:12,140

Is settling in for a relaxing 500 mile an hour sprint.

896

00:31:12,140 --> 00:31:14,140

Hello.

897

00:31:14,140 --> 00:31:16,140

Hello.

898

00:31:16,140 --> 00:31:18,140

You know what, normally I don't like sitting in the middle seat

899

00:31:18,140 --> 00:31:20,140

but today's a different story.

900

00:31:20,140 --> 00:31:22,140

We like having you in the middle.

901

00:31:22,140 --> 00:31:24,140

30 bottles of beer on the wall.

902

00:31:24,140 --> 00:31:26,140

30 bottles of beer.

903

00:31:26,140 --> 00:31:28,140

I'll take one down.

904

00:31:28,140 --> 00:31:30,140

You'll pass it all around.

905

00:31:30,140 --> 00:31:32,140

I wonder where Kerry and Grant are.

906

00:31:32,140 --> 00:31:34,140

Oh look, I think I see them.

907

00:31:34,380 --> 00:31:36,380

Adam and Jeannie are asking an intersection question.

908

00:31:36,380 --> 00:31:38,380

You sneaked me.

909

00:31:38,380 --> 00:31:40,380

It was my turn.

910

00:31:40,380 --> 00:31:42,380

You should have waited for me.

911

00:31:42,380 --> 00:31:44,380

That could cut congestion.

912

00:31:44,380 --> 00:31:46,380

Well there you have it.

913

00:31:46,380 --> 00:31:48,380

The good old fashioned four way stop.

914

00:31:48,380 --> 00:31:50,380

We ran two tests.

915

00:31:50,380 --> 00:31:52,380

We got almost identical numbers of cars to go through it.

916

00:31:52,380 --> 00:31:54,380

And it worked.

917

00:31:54,380 --> 00:31:56,380

It does the job.

918

00:31:56,380 --> 00:31:58,380

We ran two tests.

919

00:31:58,380 --> 00:32:00,380

We got almost identical numbers of cars to go through it.

920

00:32:00,380 --> 00:32:02,380

And it worked.

921

00:32:02,620 --> 00:32:04,620

It does the job. There's no drama.

922

00:32:04,620 --> 00:32:06,620

Now however, we want to see if there's any substance to the myth

923

00:32:06,620 --> 00:32:08,620

that the roundabout is actually a more efficient way

924

00:32:08,620 --> 00:32:10,620

of getting cars through an intersection.

925

00:32:10,620 --> 00:32:12,620

This was our previous test.

926

00:32:12,620 --> 00:32:14,620

This is our current test.

927

00:32:14,620 --> 00:32:16,620

The roundabout.

928

00:32:16,620 --> 00:32:18,620

You might know it from Europe.

929

00:32:18,620 --> 00:32:20,620

With the circular setup set up,

930

00:32:20,620 --> 00:32:22,620

the volunteers are wheeled in.

931

00:32:22,620 --> 00:32:24,620

And Adam, wearing a silly hat on a segue,

932

00:32:24,620 --> 00:32:26,620

takes the time to read your mind.

933

00:32:26,620 --> 00:32:28,620

I'm going to go ahead and get it.

934

00:32:28,620 --> 00:32:30,620

I'm going to go ahead and get it.

935

00:32:30,860 --> 00:32:32,860

The roundabout takes the time to read your mind.

936

00:32:32,860 --> 00:32:34,860

I know what you're thinking.

937

00:32:34,860 --> 00:32:36,860

You're thinking, wait a minute, Mythbusters.

938

00:32:36,860 --> 00:32:38,860

You're volunteers.

939

00:32:38,860 --> 00:32:40,860

Your test subjects are Americans.

940

00:32:40,860 --> 00:32:42,860

And Americans don't regularly experience and drive on roundabouts.

941

00:32:42,860 --> 00:32:44,860

Well, you're right.

942

00:32:44,860 --> 00:32:46,860

But we've also already thought of that.

943

00:32:46,860 --> 00:32:48,860

Commencing practice session now.

944

00:32:48,860 --> 00:32:50,860

Before we commence with our experiment,

945

00:32:50,860 --> 00:32:52,860

we're going to give our test subjects a good half hour

946

00:32:52,860 --> 00:32:54,860

to get used to the roundabout

947

00:32:54,860 --> 00:32:56,860

and circulate on our course.

948

00:32:56,860 --> 00:32:58,860

Well, I think they're doing great.

949

00:32:59,100 --> 00:33:01,100

We don't want their lack of experience to skew our results,

950

00:33:01,100 --> 00:33:03,100

so we're going to give them that experience

951

00:33:03,100 --> 00:33:05,100

right here, right now.

952

00:33:05,100 --> 00:33:07,100

With the drivers up to speed and a spin,

953

00:33:07,100 --> 00:33:09,100

here's how the actual test is going to work.

954

00:33:09,100 --> 00:33:11,100

Because of the way the roundabout is configured,

955

00:33:11,100 --> 00:33:13,100

it's harder for one person to keep track

956

00:33:13,100 --> 00:33:15,100

of how many people are passing through it.

957

00:33:15,100 --> 00:33:17,100

So for this test,

958

00:33:17,100 --> 00:33:19,100

we will have four people counting off

959

00:33:19,100 --> 00:33:21,100

placed strategically in each of the X's,

960

00:33:21,100 --> 00:33:23,100

clicking off one number every time a car leaves the roundabout.

961

00:33:23,100 --> 00:33:25,100

And now, we're going to start the experiment.

962

00:33:25,100 --> 00:33:27,100

We're going to start with the first roundabout.

963

00:33:27,340 --> 00:33:29,340

And just like last time,

964

00:33:29,340 --> 00:33:31,340

I'll be up in the lift monitoring everything that's going on

965

00:33:31,340 --> 00:33:33,340

and running the timer.

966

00:33:33,340 --> 00:33:35,340

Yeah, it's time.

967

00:33:35,340 --> 00:33:37,340

Whoo!

968

00:33:37,340 --> 00:33:39,340

A slightly over-excited Adam...

969

00:33:39,340 --> 00:33:41,340

Let's drive!

970

00:33:41,340 --> 00:33:43,340

Whoo!

971

00:33:43,340 --> 00:33:45,340

Test and traffic!

972

00:33:45,340 --> 00:33:47,340

...leads his car-driving cohorts

973

00:33:47,340 --> 00:33:49,340

around the roundabout for the two 15-minute sessions.

974

00:33:49,340 --> 00:33:51,340

Ha-ha-ha!

975

00:33:51,340 --> 00:33:53,340

Yeah, baby!

976

00:33:53,340 --> 00:33:55,340

The human-powered randomizers

977

00:33:55,580 --> 00:33:57,580

randomly direct the drivers through the intersection.

978

00:33:57,580 --> 00:33:59,580

Every time I approach, it's like an adventure.

979

00:33:59,580 --> 00:34:01,580

Yeah, here we go, another radiant turn!

980

00:34:01,580 --> 00:34:03,580

And while the counters count,

981

00:34:03,580 --> 00:34:05,580

I love the roundabout.

982

00:34:05,580 --> 00:34:07,580

Jamie observes from above.

983

00:34:07,580 --> 00:34:09,580

See, at any given time,

984

00:34:09,580 --> 00:34:11,580

there's like three, four,

985

00:34:11,580 --> 00:34:13,580

sometimes five or six cars

986

00:34:13,580 --> 00:34:15,580

in the intersection.

987

00:34:15,580 --> 00:34:17,580

Whether that adds up to a final count that's higher,

988

00:34:17,580 --> 00:34:19,580

I don't know yet.

989

00:34:19,580 --> 00:34:21,580

It's an observation that could hold the key

990

00:34:21,580 --> 00:34:23,580

to the final tally.

991

00:34:23,820 --> 00:34:25,820

I think that this test is moving quite efficiently.

992

00:34:25,820 --> 00:34:27,820

By allowing more than one car

993

00:34:27,820 --> 00:34:29,820

through the intersection at a time...

994

00:34:29,820 --> 00:34:31,820

It is like a ballet!

995

00:34:31,820 --> 00:34:33,820

...the overlap could result

996

00:34:33,820 --> 00:34:35,820

in a considerably higher count.

997

00:34:35,820 --> 00:34:37,820

Adam certainly seems to think so.

998

00:34:37,820 --> 00:34:39,820

From a driving perspective,

999

00:34:39,820 --> 00:34:41,820

this is dreamy.

1000

00:34:41,820 --> 00:34:43,820

To find out if he's right, the siren sounds.

1001

00:34:43,820 --> 00:34:45,820

Whoo!

1002

00:34:45,820 --> 00:34:47,820

And it's time to crunch the crucial numbers.

1003

00:34:47,820 --> 00:34:49,820

Whoo!

1004

00:34:49,820 --> 00:34:51,820

Yes, the results are finally in.

1005

00:34:52,060 --> 00:34:54,060

At the four-way stop,

1006

00:34:54,060 --> 00:34:56,060

over a period of time of exactly 15 minutes,

1007

00:34:56,060 --> 00:34:58,060

we counted an average number of...

1008

00:34:58,060 --> 00:35:00,060

385 cars.

1009

00:35:00,060 --> 00:35:02,060

Mmm!

1010

00:35:02,060 --> 00:35:04,060

And the roundabout, on the other hand,

1011

00:35:04,060 --> 00:35:06,060

allowed a whopping

1012

00:35:06,060 --> 00:35:08,060

460 cars to pass through it.

1013

00:35:08,060 --> 00:35:10,060

That's an improvement of almost 20%.

1014

00:35:10,060 --> 00:35:12,060

I'm calling it.

1015

00:35:12,060 --> 00:35:14,060

I'm saying the roundabout wins

1016

00:35:14,060 --> 00:35:16,060

and that this myth is confirmed.

1017

00:35:16,060 --> 00:35:18,060

The roundabout is a more efficient way

1018

00:35:18,060 --> 00:35:20,060

to move cars through an intersection.

1019

00:35:20,300 --> 00:35:22,300

Totally. Confirmed.

1020

00:35:22,300 --> 00:35:24,300

Time to adopt America.

1021

00:35:24,300 --> 00:35:26,300

MUSIC

1022

00:35:26,300 --> 00:35:28,300

Coming up on Mythbusters...

1023

00:35:28,300 --> 00:35:30,300

There might be a chance we beat him.

1024

00:35:30,300 --> 00:35:32,300

Who will win the freeway fable?

1025

00:35:32,300 --> 00:35:34,300

Get out! Get out! Get out!

1026

00:35:34,300 --> 00:35:36,300

MUSIC

1027

00:35:40,300 --> 00:35:42,300

I think Tori's probably at the gate by now.

1028

00:35:42,300 --> 00:35:44,300

Headphones on, listening to music.

1029

00:35:44,300 --> 00:35:46,300

He's probably drinking with the pilot.

1030

00:35:46,300 --> 00:35:48,300

Dude! Ha ha ha ha!

1031

00:35:48,540 --> 00:35:50,540

We're from the valley.

1032

00:35:50,540 --> 00:35:52,540

So you guys are like original valley girls?

1033

00:35:52,540 --> 00:35:54,540

Yes. Like totally.

1034

00:35:54,540 --> 00:35:56,540

This is a finely tuned vegetarian machine.

1035

00:35:56,540 --> 00:35:58,540

If you put junk food into this machine...

1036

00:35:58,540 --> 00:36:00,540

Is it hot in here?

1037

00:36:00,540 --> 00:36:02,540

It is hot.

1038

00:36:02,540 --> 00:36:04,540

Turn on mine too while you're at it.

1039

00:36:04,540 --> 00:36:06,540

Ha ha ha ha!

1040

00:36:06,540 --> 00:36:08,540

Good thing we got a convertible.

1041

00:36:08,540 --> 00:36:10,540

Ha ha ha ha ha!

1042

00:36:10,540 --> 00:36:12,540

MUSIC

1043

00:36:12,780 --> 00:36:14,780

Tori Grant and Carrie.

1044

00:36:14,780 --> 00:36:16,780

185 miles to Los Angeles.

1045

00:36:16,780 --> 00:36:18,780

A racing 380 miles for science.

1046

00:36:18,780 --> 00:36:20,780

City dreams!

1047

00:36:20,780 --> 00:36:22,780

And while Team Car is only halfway to LA...

1048

00:36:22,780 --> 00:36:24,780

Oh!

1049

00:36:24,780 --> 00:36:26,780

Cheers!

1050

00:36:26,780 --> 00:36:28,780

Jet-setter Tori's taken off and sitting pretty.

1051

00:36:28,780 --> 00:36:30,780

We're trying to find out which is faster.

1052

00:36:30,780 --> 00:36:32,780

Is it faster to drive to LA or fly to LA?

1053

00:36:32,780 --> 00:36:34,780

To get to LA.

1054

00:36:34,780 --> 00:36:36,780

To get to LA.

1055

00:36:36,780 --> 00:36:38,780

To get to LA.

1056

00:36:38,780 --> 00:36:40,780

To get to LA.

1057

00:36:40,780 --> 00:36:42,780

To drive to LA or fly to LA?

1058

00:36:42,780 --> 00:36:44,780

Tori, should be flying over now.

1059

00:36:44,780 --> 00:36:46,780

Because a lot of people think

1060

00:36:46,780 --> 00:36:48,780

checking your bags, going through security,

1061

00:36:48,780 --> 00:36:50,780

getting your rent a car, that it's actually

1062

00:36:50,780 --> 00:36:52,780

faster if you drive to LA than it is to fly.

1063

00:36:52,780 --> 00:36:54,780

And with Tori leaving

1064

00:36:54,780 --> 00:36:56,780

his earthbound competition

1065

00:36:56,780 --> 00:36:58,780

in his contrail...

1066

00:36:58,780 --> 00:37:00,780

100 miles to Los Angeles.

1067

00:37:00,780 --> 00:37:02,780

Still?

1068

00:37:02,780 --> 00:37:04,780

He's clearly more comfortable

1069

00:37:04,780 --> 00:37:06,780

than his car bound competition.

1070

00:37:06,780 --> 00:37:08,780

Oh, no!

1071

00:37:08,780 --> 00:37:10,780

I'm just tired. I'm tired.

1072

00:37:10,780 --> 00:37:12,780

I gotta...

1073

00:37:12,780 --> 00:37:14,780

With our road warriors weary,

1074

00:37:14,780 --> 00:37:16,780

cramped and cranky...

1075

00:37:16,780 --> 00:37:18,780

Stop your faking.

1076

00:37:18,780 --> 00:37:20,780

Tori's short 90-minute flight

1077

00:37:20,780 --> 00:37:22,780

has already complete.

1078

00:37:22,780 --> 00:37:24,780

But although he's well in the lead,

1079

00:37:24,780 --> 00:37:26,780

doubts are creeping in.

1080

00:37:26,780 --> 00:37:28,780

I just landed in the Burbank airport

1081

00:37:28,780 --> 00:37:30,780

and we are now four hours into this experiment

1082

00:37:30,780 --> 00:37:32,780

and I am just now getting into LA.

1083

00:37:32,780 --> 00:37:34,780

But I am a long ways away from the location.

1084

00:37:34,780 --> 00:37:36,780

I still need to get my bag.

1085

00:37:36,780 --> 00:37:38,780

Now this is definitely going to eat into my time.

1086

00:37:38,780 --> 00:37:40,780

I need to get my rent a car

1087

00:37:40,780 --> 00:37:42,780

and then I have another 40-minute drive

1088

00:37:42,780 --> 00:37:44,780

till I get to the destination.

1089

00:37:44,780 --> 00:37:46,780

Carrie and Grant might have a chance of beating me.

1090

00:37:46,780 --> 00:37:48,780

All right, let's go.

1091

00:37:48,780 --> 00:37:50,780

And speaking of going...

1092

00:37:50,780 --> 00:37:52,780

I got a piece so bad!

1093

00:37:52,780 --> 00:37:54,780

Just hang on, just a little bit more.

1094

00:37:54,780 --> 00:37:56,780

Team car requires relief,

1095

00:37:56,780 --> 00:37:58,780

refreshments and refuel.

1096

00:37:58,780 --> 00:38:00,780

Ready, set...

1097

00:38:00,780 --> 00:38:02,780

Go!

1098

00:38:02,780 --> 00:38:04,780

Ready, set...

1099

00:38:04,780 --> 00:38:06,780

Go!

1100

00:38:06,780 --> 00:38:08,780

Having to stop is a major disadvantage.

1101

00:38:08,780 --> 00:38:10,780

Oh!

1102

00:38:10,780 --> 00:38:12,780

Oh, God!

1103

00:38:12,780 --> 00:38:14,780

Feel better?

1104

00:38:14,780 --> 00:38:16,780

Pew!

1105

00:38:16,780 --> 00:38:18,780

But it's worth pointing out

1106

00:38:18,780 --> 00:38:20,780

they'll complete the journey

1107

00:38:20,780 --> 00:38:22,780

on 80 bucks of gas and drive-thru.

1108

00:38:22,780 --> 00:38:24,780

Mmm!

1109

00:38:24,780 --> 00:38:26,780

And Tori's flight was more than

1110

00:38:26,780 --> 00:38:28,780

twice as expensive,

1111

00:38:28,780 --> 00:38:30,780

not to mention the cost of car rental.

1112

00:38:30,780 --> 00:38:32,780

Right now I'm waiting for my shuttle

1113

00:38:32,780 --> 00:38:34,780

to pick me up so I can go over and get my rent a car.

1114

00:38:34,780 --> 00:38:36,780

Again, burning time.

1115

00:38:36,780 --> 00:38:38,780

Time in which Carrie and Grant

1116

00:38:38,780 --> 00:38:40,780

grind ever closer.

1117

00:38:40,780 --> 00:38:42,780

And with Tori's time delays

1118

00:38:42,780 --> 00:38:44,780

continuing to add up...

1119

00:38:44,780 --> 00:38:46,780

Team Tordis is back in the race.

1120

00:38:46,780 --> 00:38:48,780

That's perfect, therefore.

1121

00:38:48,780 --> 00:38:50,780

I have my rent a car.

1122

00:38:50,780 --> 00:38:52,780

Now it's off to the final destination.

1123

00:38:52,780 --> 00:38:54,780

There might be a chance we beat him.

1124

00:38:54,780 --> 00:38:56,780

Now it's only 17 miles away,

1125

00:38:56,780 --> 00:38:58,780

but this is LA.

1126

00:38:58,780 --> 00:39:00,780

If there's traffic, this could be

1127

00:39:00,780 --> 00:39:02,780

the longest leg of the trip.

1128

00:39:02,780 --> 00:39:04,780

Yep, after five hours, it's down to the wire

1129

00:39:04,780 --> 00:39:06,780

and the lottery of LA's freeways.

1130

00:39:06,780 --> 00:39:08,780

Why are we going so slow?

1131

00:39:08,780 --> 00:39:10,780

There's an accident.

1132

00:39:10,780 --> 00:39:12,780

No!

1133

00:39:12,780 --> 00:39:14,780

Oh, we're doing so well!

1134

00:39:14,780 --> 00:39:16,780

Oh, shut up!

1135

00:39:16,780 --> 00:39:18,780

No!

1136

00:39:18,780 --> 00:39:20,780

And with both teams caught in the mess of the metropolis,

1137

00:39:20,780 --> 00:39:22,780

the nearest minutes matter.

1138

00:39:22,780 --> 00:39:24,780

Right.

1139

00:39:24,780 --> 00:39:26,780

Back in the game, back in the game.

1140

00:39:26,780 --> 00:39:28,780

All right, here's my exit.

1141

00:39:28,780 --> 00:39:30,780

The destination will be on your left.

1142

00:39:30,780 --> 00:39:32,780

I don't see any sign of Carrie and Grant.

1143

00:39:32,780 --> 00:39:34,780

All right, all right. Turn right in here.

1144

00:39:34,780 --> 00:39:36,780

Okay. All right, all right.

1145

00:39:36,780 --> 00:39:38,780

That's the steps.

1146

00:39:38,780 --> 00:39:40,780

I don't see him. I don't see him.

1147

00:39:40,780 --> 00:39:42,780

I think we beat him.

1148

00:39:42,780 --> 00:39:44,780

Get out, get out, get out!

1149

00:39:44,780 --> 00:39:46,780

Ha ha ha ha!

1150

00:39:46,780 --> 00:39:48,780

Come on!

1151

00:39:48,780 --> 00:39:50,780

No way! That's amazing!

1152

00:39:50,780 --> 00:39:52,780

What's our time?

1153

00:39:52,780 --> 00:39:54,780

5.23.

1154

00:39:54,780 --> 00:39:56,780

Yes, we beat him!

1155

00:39:56,780 --> 00:39:58,780

Ha ha ha ha!

1156

00:39:58,780 --> 00:40:00,780

It's awesome!

1157

00:40:00,780 --> 00:40:02,780

Hey, what took you guys so long? Did you guys hit traffic?

1158

00:40:02,780 --> 00:40:04,780

Shut up!

1159

00:40:04,780 --> 00:40:06,780

What did you get here?

1160

00:40:06,780 --> 00:40:08,780

Took me 5 hours and 15 minutes.

1161

00:40:08,780 --> 00:40:10,780

It's like 7 minutes fast.

1162

00:40:10,780 --> 00:40:12,780

You thought that's crazy.

1163

00:40:12,780 --> 00:40:14,780

Dude, if we hadn't stopped for you to pee, we could have made it.

1164

00:40:14,780 --> 00:40:16,780

You picked a more fuel efficient car, so we'd have to stop for gas.

1165

00:40:16,780 --> 00:40:18,780

Wow, sounds like a real relaxing trip.

1166

00:40:18,780 --> 00:40:20,780

Ha ha ha!

1167

00:40:20,780 --> 00:40:22,780

Oh, what is that smell?

1168

00:40:22,780 --> 00:40:24,780

Oh, God!

1169

00:40:24,780 --> 00:40:28,780

But yeah, when it comes to enjoying the journey, there's a clear winner.

1170

00:40:28,780 --> 00:40:30,780

But as for the race itself...

1171

00:40:30,780 --> 00:40:36,780

The myth that if you have a journey under 400 miles, it's actually faster to drive than to fly is plausible.

1172

00:40:36,780 --> 00:40:42,780

We left at the same time this morning from San Francisco and arrived within 10 minutes of each other down in LA.

1173

00:40:42,780 --> 00:40:44,780

Now that's 380 miles.

1174

00:40:44,780 --> 00:40:50,780

If anything had been slightly different, one of us could have gotten here faster than the other.

1175

00:40:50,780 --> 00:40:52,780

So, walking away plausible.