

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:06,000

The usual wager?

2

00:00:06,000 --> 00:00:08,000

Sure, the loser cleans the shop, right?

3

00:00:08,000 --> 00:00:09,000

Yeah.

4

00:00:09,000 --> 00:00:10,000

Okay.

5

00:00:10,000 --> 00:00:11,000

Count it in.

6

00:00:11,000 --> 00:00:13,000

I'm ready.

7

00:00:13,000 --> 00:00:15,000

Three, two...

8

00:00:15,000 --> 00:00:16,000

One.

9

00:00:16,000 --> 00:00:18,000

Hey, wait a second.

10

00:00:18,000 --> 00:00:23,000

There we go.

11

00:00:23,000 --> 00:00:25,000

Hello.

12

00:00:25,000 --> 00:00:27,000

Hi, Mom.

13

00:00:27,000 --> 00:00:31,000

No, no, not you, not you.

14

00:00:31,000 --> 00:00:33,000

Don't it...

15

00:00:33,000 --> 00:00:36,000

Hold on, Mom, it's not really the best time for me to talk.

16

00:00:36,000 --> 00:00:38,000

I'm sorry.

17

00:00:38,000 --> 00:00:40,000

It's all right.

18

00:00:40,000 --> 00:00:42,000

I'm sorry.

19

00:00:42,000 --> 00:00:44,000

I'm sorry.

20

00:00:44,000 --> 00:00:46,000

I'm sorry, I'm sorry.

21

00:00:46,000 --> 00:00:48,000

It's time for me to talk.

22

00:00:48,000 --> 00:00:50,000

Ah!

23

00:00:50,000 --> 00:00:52,000

Saturday?

24

00:00:52,000 --> 00:00:54,000

Hold on, Mom, hold on.

25

00:00:54,000 --> 00:00:56,000

I gotta go, I gotta go.

26

00:00:56,000 --> 00:00:58,000

Okay, I'll talk to you later.

27

00:00:58,000 --> 00:01:00,000

Ah!

28

00:01:00,000 --> 00:01:02,000

I lost.

29

00:01:02,000 --> 00:01:04,000

You're looking a little distracted there.

30

00:01:04,000 --> 00:01:06,000

Yeah, but I did pretty good in reverse.

31

00:01:06,000 --> 00:01:08,000

Ah, all right.

32

00:01:08,000 --> 00:01:10,000

Ha ha ha.

33

00:01:16,000 --> 00:01:18,000

Ha ha ha.

34

00:01:36,000 --> 00:01:37,000

All right, sir.

35

00:01:37,000 --> 00:01:39,000

Time to get your racing gloves on.

36

00:01:39,000 --> 00:01:41,000

We have an entire episode that puts the word dangerous

37

00:01:41,000 --> 00:01:43,000

into the phrase, dangerous driving.

38

00:01:43,000 --> 00:01:44,000

Like what?

39

00:01:44,000 --> 00:01:47,000

Well, we've got a Hollywood car chase story to tackle

40

00:01:47,000 --> 00:01:49,000

that driving at high speed through traffic

41

00:01:49,000 --> 00:01:52,000

evading your enemies in reverse is easy.

42

00:01:52,000 --> 00:01:55,000

But first up, we have a story all about the dangers

43

00:01:55,000 --> 00:01:58,000

of driving while talking on your cell phone.

44

00:01:58,000 --> 00:02:00,000

Well, there's law against that,

45

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

at least as far as holding it in your hand.

46

00:02:02,000 --> 00:02:04,000

Exactly, but what is the solution

47

00:02:04,000 --> 00:02:06,000

for someone who wants to talk on their phone?

48

00:02:06,000 --> 00:02:07,000

Hands-free?

49

00:02:07,000 --> 00:02:08,000

Hello?

50

00:02:08,000 --> 00:02:10,000

Yep, but there's a myth

51

00:02:10,000 --> 00:02:12,000

that there is no improvement in safety

52

00:02:12,000 --> 00:02:15,000

by holding hands-free versus holding on to your phone,

53

00:02:15,000 --> 00:02:17,000

that they both distract you just as much.

54

00:02:17,000 --> 00:02:19,000

And I think we should test that.

55

00:02:19,000 --> 00:02:21,000

Absolutely.

56

00:02:21,000 --> 00:02:24,000

Talking on a handheld phone leaves a driver

57

00:02:24,000 --> 00:02:28,000

both mentally and physically compromised.

58

00:02:28,000 --> 00:02:32,000

Going hands-free does eliminate half the problem.

59

00:02:32,000 --> 00:02:34,000

But with the other half still there,

60

00:02:34,000 --> 00:02:37,000

some say that it's just as dangerous.

61

00:02:42,000 --> 00:02:44,000

To find out, the Mythbusters crew

62

00:02:44,000 --> 00:02:46,000

have constructed a classified course

63

00:02:46,000 --> 00:02:50,000

designed by drive expert Dave Storten.

64

00:02:52,000 --> 00:02:54,000

The first section here is a slalom,

65

00:02:54,000 --> 00:02:57,000

so that's going to test their steering ability

66

00:02:57,000 --> 00:02:58,000

while talking on the phone.

67

00:02:58,000 --> 00:03:02,000

Right now, Adam and Jamie are being deliberately kept in the dark.

68

00:03:02,000 --> 00:03:03,000

Coming out of the slalom,

69

00:03:03,000 --> 00:03:05,000

they'll immediately have to get on the brakes

70

00:03:05,000 --> 00:03:09,000

for a low-speed exercise called the offset lane.

71

00:03:09,000 --> 00:03:12,000

Because any pre-existing knowledge of the route

72

00:03:12,000 --> 00:03:14,000

could discredit their data.

73

00:03:14,000 --> 00:03:18,000

Once through that, we'll head over to what's called a T-box.

74

00:03:18,000 --> 00:03:22,000

Instead, all they know is that they must stick to the speed limits

75

00:03:22,000 --> 00:03:27,000

and not clip any cones if they're to achieve a perfect score.

76

00:03:28,000 --> 00:03:29,000

Right.

77

00:03:29,000 --> 00:03:30,000

If you bolt the two together,

78

00:03:30,000 --> 00:03:32,000

maybe some sticky tape in the middle,

79

00:03:32,000 --> 00:03:33,000

and that should totally...

80

00:03:33,000 --> 00:03:34,000

Okay, hold on, hold on, hold on.

81

00:03:34,000 --> 00:03:35,000

I got a thing to do.

82

00:03:35,000 --> 00:03:36,000

Okay, wait right there.

83

00:03:36,000 --> 00:03:38,000

Okay, so while we know that driving in a car

84

00:03:38,000 --> 00:03:40,000

while holding onto a cell phone and talking is bad,

85

00:03:40,000 --> 00:03:41,000

sorry that wasn't for you,

86

00:03:41,000 --> 00:03:45,000

the myth is that driving hands-free is just as bad.

87

00:03:45,000 --> 00:03:48,000

That there is no difference between hands-full and hands-free.

88

00:03:48,000 --> 00:03:51,000

And we are just about to test it on the course behind me.

89

00:03:51,000 --> 00:03:52,000

I can see it from a distance,

90

00:03:52,000 --> 00:03:54,000

but that's as close as I'm going to get

91

00:03:54,000 --> 00:03:58,000

because my ignorance of this course is intrinsic to our test.

92

00:04:00,000 --> 00:04:03,000

Like Adam, Jamie's also going that extra mile

93

00:04:03,000 --> 00:04:05,000

to make sure their science is sound.

94

00:04:05,000 --> 00:04:07,000

Adam's going to run this test twice.

95

00:04:07,000 --> 00:04:09,000

First with the phone held in his hand,

96

00:04:09,000 --> 00:04:11,000

and then secondly, hands-free.

97

00:04:11,000 --> 00:04:13,000

Then I'm also going to run the test twice,

98

00:04:13,000 --> 00:04:16,000

but I'm going to do it in the inverse order.

99

00:04:16,000 --> 00:04:20,000

The idea here is that we're going to be able to remove any bias

100

00:04:20,000 --> 00:04:22,000

as far as learning and getting better

101

00:04:22,000 --> 00:04:24,000

every time we do the test.

102

00:04:24,000 --> 00:04:25,000

Indeed.

103

00:04:25,000 --> 00:04:27,000

And while Adam warms up in the test car...

104

00:04:27,000 --> 00:04:29,000

Brigger, brigger, we got a 5x5 and an MTV.

105

00:04:29,000 --> 00:04:30,000

I'll take care of it.

106

00:04:32,000 --> 00:04:34,000

Jamie sits down in mission control.

107

00:04:34,000 --> 00:04:36,000

All right, I've got my questions.

108

00:04:36,000 --> 00:04:37,000

I've got my phone.

109

00:04:37,000 --> 00:04:41,000

We'll see what we can do to mess with Adam's world.

110

00:04:44,000 --> 00:04:45,000

Hello, sir. Hello.

111

00:04:45,000 --> 00:04:48,000

With Dave riding shotgun to mark Adam's moves,

112

00:04:48,000 --> 00:04:50,000

it's time to hold the phone.

113

00:04:54,000 --> 00:04:55,000

Hello.

114

00:04:55,000 --> 00:04:56,000

Hello, Adam.

115

00:04:56,000 --> 00:04:59,000

I've got my questions ready for you, and we're good to go.

116

00:05:00,000 --> 00:05:03,000

Three, two, one. Here we go.

117

00:05:04,000 --> 00:05:07,000

Okay, so if you could compete with the Olympics,

118

00:05:07,000 --> 00:05:09,000

what event would you want to be in?

119

00:05:09,000 --> 00:05:13,000

If I could compete with the Olympics, I would...

120

00:05:13,000 --> 00:05:14,000

Hold on a second.

121

00:05:14,000 --> 00:05:15,000

There we go.

122

00:05:15,000 --> 00:05:16,000

Hold on, sorry.

123

00:05:16,000 --> 00:05:18,000

I think I would do the luge.

124

00:05:18,000 --> 00:05:24,000

It requires, I think, the least amount of physical acuity.

125

00:05:24,000 --> 00:05:25,000

Okay, that's great.

126

00:05:25,000 --> 00:05:28,000

Now, I need you to add the first two given numbers

127

00:05:28,000 --> 00:05:32,000

and then add the next number to the last number given.

128

00:05:32,000 --> 00:05:33,000

Okay.

129

00:05:33,000 --> 00:05:34,000

Eight and seven.

130

00:05:34,000 --> 00:05:37,000

Eight and seven equals 15.

131

00:05:37,000 --> 00:05:38,000

Okay, three.

132

00:05:40,000 --> 00:05:41,000

Ten.

133

00:05:42,000 --> 00:05:43,000

Excellent.

134

00:05:43,000 --> 00:05:45,000

Okay, for the next test, I'm going to read you a list of words

135

00:05:45,000 --> 00:05:48,000

and ask you to repeat them in reverse order.

136

00:05:48,000 --> 00:05:49,000

Hold on a second.

137

00:05:49,000 --> 00:05:51,000

Now, at this point, you might be wondering about the complexity

138

00:05:51,000 --> 00:05:54,000

of the questions we are asking each other while driving.

139

00:05:54,000 --> 00:05:56,000

Flamethrower, fire hydrant, water.

140

00:05:56,000 --> 00:05:59,000

Why aren't we just reading war and peace over the phone?

141

00:05:59,000 --> 00:06:01,000

Water, fire hydrant, flamethrower.

142

00:06:01,000 --> 00:06:04,000

Well, each of our questions falls into a category

143

00:06:04,000 --> 00:06:06,000

that activates the cognitive portions of the brain.

144

00:06:06,000 --> 00:06:10,000

General knowledge, which country has the longest coastline?

145

00:06:10,000 --> 00:06:14,000

The longest coastline of any country, China,

146

00:06:14,000 --> 00:06:17,000

all require the driver to use the part of their brain to listen.

147

00:06:17,000 --> 00:06:21,000

At the same time as they're trying to use another part of their brain to drive.

148

00:06:21,000 --> 00:06:25,000

Adam isn't being judged on how well he answers the questions.

149

00:06:25,000 --> 00:06:27,000

Add one and seven.

150

00:06:27,000 --> 00:06:28,000

Hold on.

151

00:06:28,000 --> 00:06:31,000

This is ten.

152

00:06:31,000 --> 00:06:33,000

It's how well he's driving.

153

00:06:33,000 --> 00:06:35,000

That's the only metric.

154

00:06:36,000 --> 00:06:38,000

Whoa, whoa, whoa.

155

00:06:38,000 --> 00:06:41,000

And the answer to that is not very well.

156

00:06:41,000 --> 00:06:42,000

Hold on.

157

00:06:42,000 --> 00:06:43,000

Sorry.

158

00:06:43,000 --> 00:06:48,000

The combination of one hand on the wheel and a brain that's multi-tasking

159

00:06:48,000 --> 00:06:51,000

into meltdown means that by the end of the test,

160

00:06:51,000 --> 00:06:54,000

Adam's flunked with flying colors.

161

00:06:54,000 --> 00:06:55,000

Jamie, I'm done.

162

00:06:55,000 --> 00:06:57,000

That was awful.

163

00:06:57,000 --> 00:07:03,000

Well, let's reset and see whether you're still a menace on the next one.

164

00:07:03,000 --> 00:07:05,000

All right.

165

00:07:05,000 --> 00:07:07,000

Okay.

166

00:07:11,000 --> 00:07:18,000

Well, I completed my first test and talking on the phone was absolutely awful.

167

00:07:18,000 --> 00:07:20,000

And then the car stopped working.

168

00:07:20,000 --> 00:07:25,000

So we are actually going to transfer all of the cameras and microphones from inside this car

169

00:07:25,000 --> 00:07:30,000

to one of our production vehicles, and I'm going to run the test a second time, hands-free.

170

00:07:30,000 --> 00:07:32,000

I mean, we still consider my first test valid.

171

00:07:32,000 --> 00:07:34,000

I just have to do the second one in a different car.

172

00:07:34,000 --> 00:07:39,000

So while the team pushes on, what else is on the docket?

173

00:07:39,000 --> 00:07:41,000

So driving in reverse.

174

00:07:41,000 --> 00:07:42,000

Paint me a picture.

175

00:07:42,000 --> 00:07:45,000

Well, look, our hero, let's say, is driving down a one-way street.

176

00:07:45,000 --> 00:07:49,000

He thinks he's home-free, but blocking his path is a villain in a car.

177

00:07:49,000 --> 00:07:53,000

He's got nowhere to go, so using the only avenue open to him,

178

00:07:53,000 --> 00:07:56,000

the hero throws the car into reverse and backs up,

179

00:07:56,000 --> 00:08:02,000

bobbing and weaving through traffic at high speed to eventually evade his chase.

180

00:08:02,000 --> 00:08:04,000

And you want to know if this is possible?

181

00:08:04,000 --> 00:08:05,000

I totally do.

182

00:08:05,000 --> 00:08:07,000

We've been trained to drive in a lot of different ways over the years,

183

00:08:07,000 --> 00:08:11,000

but backwards isn't one of them, and it involves a lot of different skills,

184

00:08:11,000 --> 00:08:16,000

not only driving ability and spatial awareness, but also really proprioception.

185

00:08:16,000 --> 00:08:18,000

Yeah, yeah, let's get to driving.

186

00:08:18,000 --> 00:08:19,000

Okay.

187

00:08:24,000 --> 00:08:29,000

Beautiful day.

188

00:08:29,000 --> 00:08:31,000

Wide open, empty runway.

189

00:08:31,000 --> 00:08:34,000

The conditions are perfect.

190

00:08:34,000 --> 00:08:36,000

Oh, wait, we need a car.

191

00:08:46,000 --> 00:08:47,000

You ordered a car?

192

00:08:47,000 --> 00:08:48,000

Indeed I did, sir.

193

00:08:48,000 --> 00:08:50,000

Perfect timing.

194

00:08:54,000 --> 00:08:57,000

Now the movies are packed with people who can drive well,

195

00:08:57,000 --> 00:09:02,000

but they would lead you to believe that you could drive forward or reverse however you choose.

196

00:09:02,000 --> 00:09:06,000

We're constantly seeing our movie heroes racing away from the bad guys,

197

00:09:06,000 --> 00:09:10,000

avoiding obstacles and driving all over the place with the rear end of the car

198

00:09:10,000 --> 00:09:13,000

facing the direction that they are actually going.

199

00:09:14,000 --> 00:09:17,000

But before trying out any twists or turns...

200

00:09:17,000 --> 00:09:20,000

And that's a quarter mile.

201

00:09:20,000 --> 00:09:26,000

The guys first want to know if cars can even reverse Hollywood fast in real life.

202

00:09:26,000 --> 00:09:29,000

And for that, they're hitting the straightaway.

203

00:09:29,000 --> 00:09:33,000

We've set up a course that's measured, and we're going to test out these cars,

204

00:09:33,000 --> 00:09:38,000

see how fast they go in forward, and compare that to how fast they go in reverse.

205

00:09:41,000 --> 00:09:43,000

Alright, Mr. Hanuman, are you ready?

206

00:09:43,000 --> 00:09:45,000

I'm good to go.

207

00:09:45,000 --> 00:09:50,000

Alright, commence, quarter mile test in 3, 2, 1, go.

208

00:09:54,000 --> 00:09:55,000

Here we go.

209

00:09:57,000 --> 00:09:59,000

80 miles per hour.

210

00:10:02,000 --> 00:10:08,000

It's a good start for their converted cab, but how will that speed compare when it's back to front?

211

00:10:08,000 --> 00:10:11,000

Most cars you're ever going to run into have only one reverse gear,

212

00:10:11,000 --> 00:10:15,000

which means that the top speed of your car in reverse is ultimately limited

213

00:10:15,000 --> 00:10:19,000

by the reverse gearing and the speed at which the engine is turning over.

214

00:10:19,000 --> 00:10:23,000

Now, will our car be able to go as fast as they seem to go in the movies?

215

00:10:23,000 --> 00:10:25,000

That is just what we're about to find out.

216

00:10:27,000 --> 00:10:32,000

Okay, commence backwards, quarter mile in 3, 2, 1, go.

217

00:10:34,000 --> 00:10:38,000

Jamie's off, but from the get-go, it's clear that he's less fast and furious.

218

00:10:41,000 --> 00:10:44,000

And more driving Miss Daisy.

219

00:10:46,000 --> 00:10:49,000

But that's because he's using this run to get his eye in.

220

00:10:49,000 --> 00:10:54,000

31 miles per hour. I think he can do better. I think he's got more.

221

00:10:54,000 --> 00:10:58,000

Yep, it's test two, where the rubber will meet the road.

222

00:10:58,000 --> 00:11:01,000

Okay, Adam, I'm in place and ready to go in reverse.

223

00:11:01,000 --> 00:11:05,000

As Jamie this time plans to put the pedal to the metal.

224

00:11:05,000 --> 00:11:09,000

Alright, Mr. Hanuman, in 3, 2, 1, go.

225

00:11:12,000 --> 00:11:21,000

49-50, 52, 53.

226

00:11:25,000 --> 00:11:27,000

54 miles per hour.

227

00:11:27,000 --> 00:11:29,000

Now that's more like it.

228

00:11:29,000 --> 00:11:33,000

Reaching freeway speeds is more than a match for a Hollywood hero.

229

00:11:33,000 --> 00:11:35,000

But it's not all good news.

230

00:11:35,000 --> 00:11:39,000

The trick with driving at a high speed in reverse was to not do very much.

231

00:11:39,000 --> 00:11:43,000

Just kind of hold still and try and keep the car in a straight line.

232

00:11:43,000 --> 00:11:46,000

But unfortunately, we're not going to have that option now

233

00:11:46,000 --> 00:11:49,000

because now we've got to drive through a slalom in reverse.

234

00:11:49,000 --> 00:11:53,000

And that's all about steering. That's going to be really hard.

235

00:11:55,000 --> 00:11:57,000

Still to come.

236

00:11:57,000 --> 00:12:00,000

Back up the Loni gets a movie makeover.

237

00:12:00,000 --> 00:12:02,000

Yeah!

238

00:12:02,000 --> 00:12:04,000

And, hello.

239

00:12:04,000 --> 00:12:06,000

Hands free goes high tech.

240

00:12:06,000 --> 00:12:08,000

Ah!

241

00:12:16,000 --> 00:12:20,000

Is driving at speed in reverse as easy as the movies may count?

242

00:12:22,000 --> 00:12:25,000

Well, not if Adam's straight line test...

243

00:12:25,000 --> 00:12:27,000

Coming up fast...

244

00:12:27,000 --> 00:12:29,000

...is anything to go by.

245

00:12:32,000 --> 00:12:34,000

Whoa!

246

00:12:34,000 --> 00:12:38,000

There are a couple of reasons that cars are difficult to drive at high speed in reverse.

247

00:12:38,000 --> 00:12:41,000

Yeah, you started to lose it at about 50.

248

00:12:41,000 --> 00:12:45,000

And the first is that the steering is not self-centering.

249

00:12:45,000 --> 00:12:49,000

If you let go of the wheel of a car going forward for just a second,

250

00:12:49,000 --> 00:12:52,000

it'll tend to self-correct because of the offset of the wheels.

251

00:12:52,000 --> 00:12:55,000

If you're going in reverse, it does the opposite.

252

00:12:55,000 --> 00:12:58,000

If you let go of that wheel, they're going to go hard to the side,

253

00:12:58,000 --> 00:13:01,000

and you're going to do a 180, and that's dangerous.

254

00:13:01,000 --> 00:13:04,000

If you don't correct a little too much, you're going to lose it.

255

00:13:05,000 --> 00:13:07,000

The other thing is all about perspective.

256

00:13:07,000 --> 00:13:10,000

When you're going forwards with your head in a line with the steering wheel,

257

00:13:10,000 --> 00:13:12,000

driving is really intuitive.

258

00:13:12,000 --> 00:13:15,000

But in reverse, you're either looking into the mirror or over your shoulder,

259

00:13:15,000 --> 00:13:18,000

meaning your brain's having to make complex decisions from a viewpoint

260

00:13:18,000 --> 00:13:20,000

that it's just not used to.

261

00:13:21,000 --> 00:13:26,000

And so, when things go wrong, you're going to flip the car or something back.

262

00:13:28,000 --> 00:13:30,000

Given their struggles on the straightaway,

263

00:13:30,000 --> 00:13:32,000

today's test looks terrifying.

264

00:13:33,000 --> 00:13:36,000

This is what we call the diving in at the deep end test.

265

00:13:36,000 --> 00:13:40,000

We've got a course that's full of the kind of challenges a Hollywood hero has to face,

266

00:13:40,000 --> 00:13:45,000

and we're going to see if we can reverse through it at high speeds without crashing.

267

00:13:45,000 --> 00:13:48,000

This is why we have insurance.

268

00:13:48,000 --> 00:13:52,000

It's a course that a movie maestro would finish in a flash.

269

00:13:52,000 --> 00:13:54,000

But how will the mythbusters manage?

270

00:13:54,000 --> 00:14:04,000

All right, first run in three, two, one, go.

271

00:14:05,000 --> 00:14:07,000

Adam's off.

272

00:14:07,000 --> 00:14:10,000

And from the outset, he's ignoring the mirrors.

273

00:14:12,000 --> 00:14:14,000

Oh, there goes a cone.

274

00:14:14,000 --> 00:14:17,000

And going with the over-the-shoulder technique.

275

00:14:18,000 --> 00:14:19,000

Ah!

276

00:14:22,000 --> 00:14:25,000

But it's hardly paying dividends.

277

00:14:26,000 --> 00:14:30,000

Because not only does poor steering cripple his cone count,

278

00:14:35,000 --> 00:14:39,000

but his slow speed means his time is terrible.

279

00:14:41,000 --> 00:14:42,000

How did I do?

280

00:14:42,000 --> 00:14:44,000

One minute, seven seconds.

281

00:14:44,000 --> 00:14:46,000

One minute, seven seconds?

282

00:14:46,000 --> 00:14:48,000

I'll tell you what that does.

283

00:14:48,000 --> 00:14:50,000

It wreaks havoc on my neck.

284

00:14:54,000 --> 00:14:58,000

Well, I had a couple of scrubs on that one.

285

00:14:58,000 --> 00:15:03,000

It's very hard to gauge how hard you need to hit a turn in reverse,

286

00:15:03,000 --> 00:15:08,000

because all of your metrics for reaction in terms of how the car moves are way off kilter.

287

00:15:08,000 --> 00:15:11,000

It's a far more sensitive device in reverse.

288

00:15:12,000 --> 00:15:18,000

Indeed, but can Jamie master the method and reverse this myth's fortunes?

289

00:15:19,000 --> 00:15:20,000

All right, cowboy, here we go.

290

00:15:20,000 --> 00:15:23,000

And three, two, one, go.

291

00:15:26,000 --> 00:15:28,000

I love that this is our job.

292

00:15:28,000 --> 00:15:33,000

Unlike Adam, Jamie's using the mirrors and the over-the-shoulder system,

293

00:15:33,000 --> 00:15:35,000

but it's not a winning combination.

294

00:15:36,000 --> 00:15:43,000

Because his crash course is even worse than Adam's.

295

00:15:46,000 --> 00:15:52,000

But eventually he crawls to the finish line in a sluggish 72 seconds.

296

00:15:56,000 --> 00:15:58,000

Which is not good news for the myth.

297

00:15:59,000 --> 00:16:00,000

Okay, you win.

298

00:16:02,000 --> 00:16:04,000

But all is not lost.

299

00:16:04,000 --> 00:16:07,000

Look, there is no doubt this test was hard.

300

00:16:08,000 --> 00:16:13,000

The course was difficult and we are at the novice end of the reverse driving spectrum,

301

00:16:13,000 --> 00:16:17,000

but with some expert training, will we be able to bring this myth back from the brink?

302

00:16:18,000 --> 00:16:19,000

That's what's next.

303

00:16:20,000 --> 00:16:26,000

Actually, not quite, because next the guys are jumping ship back to Alameda.

304

00:16:28,000 --> 00:16:32,000

To find out if hands-free is as distracting as holding the phone,

305

00:16:32,000 --> 00:16:36,000

Adam started with a hands-full control.

306

00:16:39,000 --> 00:16:42,000

That went so badly, his car refused to continue.

307

00:16:46,000 --> 00:16:50,000

So it's out with the old, and in with the new.

308

00:16:51,000 --> 00:16:55,000

But will going hands-free really be just as bad?

309

00:16:57,000 --> 00:16:58,000

Why hello, this is Adam.

310

00:16:59,000 --> 00:17:00,000

Well, hello there, Adam.

311

00:17:00,000 --> 00:17:01,000

Should I start driving?

312

00:17:02,000 --> 00:17:03,000

Yes, go ahead.

313

00:17:03,000 --> 00:17:09,000

Like last time, Adam must complete the course while answering questions both easy.

314

00:17:09,000 --> 00:17:12,000

Okay, on which continent is the Sahara Desert?

315

00:17:12,000 --> 00:17:15,000

The Sahara Desert is on the African continent.

316

00:17:15,000 --> 00:17:16,000

And hard.

317

00:17:17,000 --> 00:17:21,000

If Buster walks halfway around a circle and then turns around and walks halfway back,

318

00:17:21,000 --> 00:17:23,000

is he now back where he started?

319

00:17:23,000 --> 00:17:24,000

Yes, he is.

320

00:17:25,000 --> 00:17:26,000

No, he's halfway back.

321

00:17:29,000 --> 00:17:30,000

Okay.

322

00:17:30,000 --> 00:17:35,000

But despite the obvious burden on his brain, his driving has got better.

323

00:17:35,000 --> 00:17:39,000

And although a clipped cone sees him marked down.

324

00:17:42,000 --> 00:17:44,000

Sorry, I just hit something.

325

00:17:44,000 --> 00:17:46,000

His final score has improved.

326

00:17:46,000 --> 00:17:48,000

But was it due to the phone?

327

00:17:49,000 --> 00:17:54,000

Well, I've completed my hands-free run of our driving course, and I did it a lot better.

328

00:17:56,000 --> 00:17:57,000

But here's the thing.

329

00:17:57,000 --> 00:18:02,000

I found taking the questions from Jamie just as distracting as I did the first time.

330

00:18:02,000 --> 00:18:09,000

I feel like my better performance on the second test could be chalked up to just understanding the course a little bit better.

331

00:18:09,000 --> 00:18:13,000

But that's why Jamie's gonna start hands-free and then go to hands-full.

332

00:18:13,000 --> 00:18:18,000

If that is an effect, we should cancel it out by changing the order that we do the test in.

333

00:18:18,000 --> 00:18:19,000

That's theory anyway.

334

00:18:23,000 --> 00:18:25,000

Want to see what you can do with it?

335

00:18:25,000 --> 00:18:27,000

I'm gonna suck, I can tell you already.

336

00:18:28,000 --> 00:18:33,000

Not only will Jamie increase their sample size, but by going hands-free first...

337

00:18:33,000 --> 00:18:36,000

Jamie and I almost never actually speak on the phone.

338

00:18:36,000 --> 00:18:38,000

So this actually has a bit of novelty to me.

339

00:18:38,000 --> 00:18:42,000

The guys are trying to eliminate any course-learning bias.

340

00:18:45,000 --> 00:18:46,000

This is Jamie.

341

00:18:46,000 --> 00:18:48,000

Ah, good afternoon, Jamie. It's Adam.

342

00:18:48,000 --> 00:18:51,000

Go ahead and start driving, and I'm gonna start asking you some questions.

343

00:18:51,000 --> 00:18:54,000

Adam starts with a simple icebreaker.

344

00:18:55,000 --> 00:19:02,000

All right, hey Jamie, if you could wake up tomorrow and gain any single quality or ability, what would it be and why?

345

00:19:04,000 --> 00:19:05,000

I could fly.

346

00:19:06,000 --> 00:19:07,000

Why?

347

00:19:07,000 --> 00:19:09,000

But even that proves too much for Jamie.

348

00:19:09,000 --> 00:19:12,000

Well, because then I could go...

349

00:19:12,000 --> 00:19:14,000

What was the question again?

350

00:19:14,000 --> 00:19:16,000

Why would you like to fly?

351

00:19:16,000 --> 00:19:19,000

Well, because that would...

352

00:19:19,000 --> 00:19:25,000

Hey, we saved a lot of gasoline actually, and you know, I could...

353

00:19:25,000 --> 00:19:28,000

Oh, look at that, I bumped over a whole bunch of things.

354

00:19:29,000 --> 00:19:31,000

With no improvement over the rest of the course...

355

00:19:31,000 --> 00:19:34,000

I'd like you to add the numbers 4 and 7.

356

00:19:34,000 --> 00:19:36,000

Let's see...

357

00:19:37,000 --> 00:19:39,000

4 and 7...

358

00:19:41,000 --> 00:19:43,000

Tic-tac grandpa.

359

00:19:43,000 --> 00:19:44,000

10.

360

00:19:44,000 --> 00:19:46,000

Or now 11.

361

00:19:46,000 --> 00:19:49,000

Jamie scores the worst result of the day.

362

00:19:49,000 --> 00:19:51,000

A disappointing 66.

363

00:19:51,000 --> 00:19:52,000

That was awesome.

364

00:19:52,000 --> 00:19:55,000

He starts every answer with, let's see.

365

00:19:57,000 --> 00:20:03,000

I'm sure I was doing the same things, but it's very enjoyable to listen to someone so distracted.

366

00:20:04,000 --> 00:20:09,000

A quick reset later, and they're set for the fourth and final run.

367

00:20:09,000 --> 00:20:10,000

Hello.

368

00:20:10,000 --> 00:20:11,000

All right, start your driving.

369

00:20:11,000 --> 00:20:13,000

Jamie hands full.

370

00:20:13,000 --> 00:20:17,000

I'm going to read you a list of words and ask you to repeat them in a reverse order.

371

00:20:17,000 --> 00:20:20,000

Crash, burn, demolish.

372

00:20:20,000 --> 00:20:23,000

Demolish, burn, crash.

373

00:20:23,000 --> 00:20:26,000

EMT ambulance doctor.

374

00:20:26,000 --> 00:20:28,000

Quite a narrative implied by these.

375

00:20:28,000 --> 00:20:30,000

Doctor, ambulance, EMT.

376

00:20:30,000 --> 00:20:31,000

Yes.

377

00:20:31,000 --> 00:20:39,000

Despite having only one hand on the wheel and swapping the phone mid-drive, Jamie scores 72.

378

00:20:39,000 --> 00:20:43,000

A fail by some distance, but an improvement nonetheless.

379

00:20:43,000 --> 00:20:45,000

So what does this mean for the myth?

380

00:20:45,000 --> 00:20:55,000

Okay, now for this myth to be true, Jamie's hands free score had to match his hands full score, and so did mine, but that didn't quite happen.

381

00:20:55,000 --> 00:20:57,000

Graphics, help me out.

382

00:20:57,000 --> 00:21:07,000

You can see that I drove better hands free while Jamie drove better hands full, but that data also shows that we both improved on our second runs because we had experience of the course.

383

00:21:07,000 --> 00:21:13,000

Now, if we remove that bias by averaging Jamie's and my data, what do we get?

384

00:21:13,000 --> 00:21:18,000

Beautiful, near identical scores for each of the two techniques.

385

00:21:18,000 --> 00:21:22,000

But we are not done yet for two particular reasons.

386

00:21:22,000 --> 00:21:25,000

One, our course isn't very real world.

387

00:21:25,000 --> 00:21:27,000

For starters, there's no traffic.

388

00:21:27,000 --> 00:21:30,000

Second, and perhaps more importantly, is Jamie's and my driving abilities.

389

00:21:30,000 --> 00:21:35,000

We've both received tons of training over the years in lots of different driving techniques.

390

00:21:36,000 --> 00:21:42,000

We are quite far from your average Joe's, and that is what we need next.

391

00:21:51,000 --> 00:21:54,000

Three, two, one, go!

392

00:21:55,000 --> 00:22:00,000

Now, Jamie and I have already gone pretty far teaching ourselves the rudiments of driving in reverse.

393

00:22:05,000 --> 00:22:09,000

But if we're going to get really good at this, we're going to need to get trained by an expert.

394

00:22:09,000 --> 00:22:13,000

Luckily, we have an expert in reverse tactical driving, right here.

395

00:22:14,000 --> 00:22:16,000

Hello, sir. Hello.

396

00:22:16,000 --> 00:22:21,000

Brian Frazier is a trainer at the Emergency Vehicle Operations course here in California.

397

00:22:21,000 --> 00:22:29,000

Now, we've used him repeatedly over past years, whenever we've had to learn how to deal with a particularly difficult driving situation.

398

00:22:29,000 --> 00:22:34,000

And driving at speed in reverse certainly qualifies.

399

00:22:36,000 --> 00:22:38,000

Alright, Brian, where do we start?

400

00:22:38,000 --> 00:22:41,000

We're going to put a barrel here, two barrels here, one on each side of the car.

401

00:22:41,000 --> 00:22:42,000

Alright.

402

00:22:42,000 --> 00:22:46,000

Brian's first job is to ignore the current course.

403

00:22:46,000 --> 00:22:49,000

Right there is good. Good in the car.

404

00:22:49,000 --> 00:22:51,000

That's why we can't have nice things.

405

00:22:51,000 --> 00:22:55,000

And set up something way more straightforward.

406

00:22:55,000 --> 00:22:58,000

Alright, that's the course. Now what do we do?

407

00:22:58,000 --> 00:22:59,000

Drive it.

408

00:22:59,000 --> 00:23:00,000

Okay, let's go.

409

00:23:00,000 --> 00:23:04,000

Because the technique he's going to teach is surprisingly simple.

410

00:23:04,000 --> 00:23:08,000

So I'm going to change my seating position now.

411

00:23:08,000 --> 00:23:16,000

I'm going to prop myself up, loosen my seat belt, turn yourself as far as you can around, get your body almost in the center of the car.

412

00:23:16,000 --> 00:23:21,000

Okay. I'm going to steer the car now with one hand, but this hand will never leave the steering wheel.

413

00:23:21,000 --> 00:23:25,000

Not the gun that can let the steering wheel shift in your hand to lock.

414

00:23:25,000 --> 00:23:27,000

You're palming the wheel the entire time.

415

00:23:27,000 --> 00:23:29,000

I see. Okay, cool.

416

00:23:29,000 --> 00:23:32,000

And believe it or not, that's apparently all there is to it.

417

00:23:32,000 --> 00:23:37,000

Three, two, one, go.

418

00:23:37,000 --> 00:23:42,000

By shifting his body to the center of the car.

419

00:23:42,000 --> 00:23:45,000

Wow.

420

00:23:45,000 --> 00:23:50,000

And keeping one hand on the wheel at all times.

421

00:23:50,000 --> 00:23:53,000

Wow, I can't believe how fast we're able to do this.

422

00:23:53,000 --> 00:23:59,000

Brian speeds through the course at an impressive 41 miles per hour.

423

00:23:59,000 --> 00:24:02,000

That is amazing.

424

00:24:02,000 --> 00:24:08,000

So Brian just showed me that something I thought was impossible is in fact totally possible.

425

00:24:08,000 --> 00:24:11,000

So I'm about to give that a shot.

426

00:24:11,000 --> 00:24:14,000

This is going to be cool.

427

00:24:14,000 --> 00:24:20,000

Like Brian, Adam slides to the center to give a viewpoint that's easier to process.

428

00:24:20,000 --> 00:24:22,000

Oh, look at that.

429

00:24:22,000 --> 00:24:23,000

Okay, so.

430

00:24:23,000 --> 00:24:26,000

Three, two, one.

431

00:24:26,000 --> 00:24:32,000

And like Brian, he then nails the course.

432

00:24:32,000 --> 00:24:34,000

Oh, that's so cool.

433

00:24:34,000 --> 00:24:39,000

To check it wasn't just beginner's luck, he tries again and goes even faster.

434

00:24:39,000 --> 00:24:40,000

Awesome.

435

00:24:40,000 --> 00:24:42,000

I gotta say, this is amazing.

436

00:24:42,000 --> 00:24:47,000

When we got here this morning, I thought Adam was going to be training for four, five, maybe six hours.

437

00:24:47,000 --> 00:24:49,000

But it's not been like that at all.

438

00:24:49,000 --> 00:24:55,000

Instead, in just 20 minutes, he's gone from being pretty average to being pretty great.

439

00:24:55,000 --> 00:25:04,000

And it seems to be all down to the central head position, which seems to be letting Adam's brain process the direction to turn much more accurately.

440

00:25:04,000 --> 00:25:08,000

So we're going to put him back on our original course to see how he does now.

441

00:25:08,000 --> 00:25:10,000

Should be interesting.

442

00:25:14,000 --> 00:25:17,000

It's the course that guys couldn't crack.

443

00:25:17,000 --> 00:25:19,000

So you're ready to put what you learned into practice?

444

00:25:19,000 --> 00:25:23,000

I am. In fact, I can't wait to try this course now.

445

00:25:25,000 --> 00:25:29,000

Three, two, one, go.

446

00:25:29,000 --> 00:25:34,000

But with his 20 minutes of training, let Adam turn it around.

447

00:25:34,000 --> 00:25:36,000

It's off to a good start.

448

00:25:37,000 --> 00:25:39,000

Turns are a lot smoother this time. He's looking really good.

449

00:25:39,000 --> 00:25:41,000

Yeah.

450

00:25:41,000 --> 00:25:44,000

Well, yeah, he's moving pretty quick.

451

00:25:44,000 --> 00:25:46,000

I'm doing good.

452

00:25:46,000 --> 00:25:48,000

Yeah.

453

00:25:48,000 --> 00:25:51,000

Tell me, tell me, tell me, tell me, tell me, tell me how it did.

454

00:25:51,000 --> 00:25:53,000

57.25.

455

00:25:53,000 --> 00:25:55,000

Boom. That was cool.

456

00:25:58,000 --> 00:26:03,000

It's close to an astounding result with just two minor modifications.

457

00:26:03,000 --> 00:26:04,000

Yeah.

458

00:26:04,000 --> 00:26:07,000

Adam's bettered his best by over 15%.

459

00:26:07,000 --> 00:26:10,000

All right. Guess it's time to bring on the next event.

460

00:26:11,000 --> 00:26:16,000

And what that means is it's time for some real life movie mayhem.

461

00:26:16,000 --> 00:26:21,000

But first, hold the phone.

462

00:26:23,000 --> 00:26:31,000

Because in driving distracted, neither Adam nor Jamie could drive safely while talking hands-free.

463

00:26:31,000 --> 00:26:47,000

But now in a location way more sophisticated, it's time to up the ante.

464

00:26:47,000 --> 00:26:53,000

Jamie and I have realized we need much more controlled, scientific and realistic conditions,

465

00:26:53,000 --> 00:26:59,000

which is why we've come here to enlist the help of the experts at the Stanford University Automotive Innovation Facility.

466

00:26:59,000 --> 00:27:04,000

When we asked for their help in getting more realistic, they showed us a virtual world.

467

00:27:04,000 --> 00:27:06,000

Come here.

468

00:27:06,000 --> 00:27:09,000

This is their state-of-the-art driving simulator.

469

00:27:09,000 --> 00:27:10,000

It is awesome.

470

00:27:10,000 --> 00:27:16,000

From the front seat of this car, you are completely immersed in a world controlled and designed by a computer,

471

00:27:16,000 --> 00:27:22,000

into which we can add all sorts of traffic, pedestrians, obstacles and surprises for all of our test subjects.

472

00:27:22,000 --> 00:27:26,000

That's right, many, many test subjects while we get to the bottom of this myth.

473

00:27:27,000 --> 00:27:31,000

It's a multi-million dollar machine.

474

00:27:31,000 --> 00:27:35,000

All right then, going for a drive in the simulator.

475

00:27:35,000 --> 00:27:39,000

Which Jamie can't resist turning up to 11.

476

00:27:39,000 --> 00:27:40,000

Okay, here we go.

477

00:27:44,000 --> 00:27:45,000

I want to go the other way.

478

00:27:45,000 --> 00:27:46,000

Whoa!

479

00:27:46,000 --> 00:27:48,000

This is crazy.

480

00:27:48,000 --> 00:27:49,000

Ah!

481

00:27:49,000 --> 00:27:53,000

Ha ha ha ha!

482

00:27:53,000 --> 00:27:58,000

Crazy driving aside, this driving simulator is actually very good.

483

00:27:58,000 --> 00:28:00,000

Yeah, get out of here.

484

00:28:02,000 --> 00:28:12,000

The way the screen wraps around, the visuals are convincing enough that you have to remind yourself that this isn't a real driving scenario.

485

00:28:12,000 --> 00:28:15,000

He's doing like 95, interesting.

486

00:28:15,000 --> 00:28:17,000

Let's see how he likes this.

487

00:28:19,000 --> 00:28:25,000

In fact, it's so good that I was starting to get a little carsick.

488

00:28:25,000 --> 00:28:32,000

So, I think as far as testing distracted driving, it's as good a simulation as we're going to get.

489

00:28:33,000 --> 00:28:40,000

As well as the freeway, there's also a detailed cityscape.

490

00:28:40,000 --> 00:28:43,000

I guess I better put it in reverse.

491

00:28:43,000 --> 00:28:46,000

So that all driving environments are tested.

492

00:28:46,000 --> 00:28:50,000

Ha ha ha ha!

493

00:28:50,000 --> 00:28:57,000

The 30 volunteer drivers will be judged on whether they pay attention to the GPS instructions.

494

00:28:57,000 --> 00:28:59,000

At the next intersection, turn left.

495

00:28:59,000 --> 00:29:01,000

And whether or not they crash.

496

00:29:01,000 --> 00:29:03,000

Ah!

497

00:29:03,000 --> 00:29:10,000

But that's not the only data, because drivers will also wear the latest in eye tracking technology.

498

00:29:10,000 --> 00:29:15,000

This eye tracking system records precisely where and how long I'm looking at something.

499

00:29:15,000 --> 00:29:21,000

Now, that's going to give us hard data as to the level of distraction that I'm experiencing while I'm driving.

500

00:29:21,000 --> 00:29:26,000

With Eagle Eye Jamie all wired up, he's going to be the first data of the day.

501

00:29:26,000 --> 00:29:28,000

Alright, calling him now.

502

00:29:29,000 --> 00:29:31,000

Starting after the break.

503

00:29:31,000 --> 00:29:32,000

Hello.

504

00:29:41,000 --> 00:29:44,000

Using a phone on the road is bad news.

505

00:29:45,000 --> 00:29:49,000

But he's going hands free just as foolish.

506

00:29:51,000 --> 00:29:55,000

To find out, the Mythbusters have a simulator that's second to none.

507

00:29:55,000 --> 00:29:56,000

Ha ha ha!

508

00:29:56,000 --> 00:29:58,000

I love this thing.

509

00:29:58,000 --> 00:30:00,000

Alright, calling him now.

510

00:30:00,000 --> 00:30:03,000

And a Heinemann that's got his hands full.

511

00:30:03,000 --> 00:30:04,000

Hello.

512

00:30:04,000 --> 00:30:05,000

Good morning, Mr. Heinemann.

513

00:30:05,000 --> 00:30:07,000

Are you ready to start this test?

514

00:30:07,000 --> 00:30:08,000

I'm ready.

515

00:30:08,000 --> 00:30:13,000

Okay, kick the car into drive, start driving, and I'll start asking you some questions.

516

00:30:13,000 --> 00:30:16,000

The questions are similar to those posed before.

517

00:30:16,000 --> 00:30:18,000

Did you play a musical instrument as a child, Jamie?

518

00:30:18,000 --> 00:30:27,000

I had a tuba in the bathroom right next to the toilet that I would play when I was doing number two or something.

519

00:30:27,000 --> 00:30:29,000

Ha ha ha ha!

520

00:30:29,000 --> 00:30:34,000

But what's interesting is that on the freeway, speed underwater camera.

521

00:30:34,000 --> 00:30:36,000

Jamie's driving.

522

00:30:36,000 --> 00:30:38,000

Hold on, yeah, somebody just pulled in front of me.

523

00:30:38,000 --> 00:30:40,000

And answers...

524

00:30:40,000 --> 00:30:41,000

Camera under water speed.

525

00:30:41,000 --> 00:30:43,000

...are surprisingly solid.

526

00:30:43,000 --> 00:30:49,000

In fact, it's only when he hits the streets, 12 and 7, that he starts to waver.

527

00:30:49,000 --> 00:30:51,000

Okay, uh...

528

00:30:53,000 --> 00:30:55,000

Let's see, 19.

529

00:30:55,000 --> 00:31:01,000

With so many distractions, it's no surprise when Jamie takes a turn for the worse.

530

00:31:01,000 --> 00:31:04,000

At the next intersection, turn left.

531

00:31:06,000 --> 00:31:09,000

Jamie, you have taken a wrong turn.

532

00:31:09,000 --> 00:31:13,000

And that means that the test is over, you have failed.

533

00:31:13,000 --> 00:31:14,000

Okay.

534

00:31:14,000 --> 00:31:19,000

With no rest for the wicked, Jamie immediately moves on to the hands-free test.

535

00:31:19,000 --> 00:31:20,000

Hello.

536

00:31:20,000 --> 00:31:24,000

What is the longest running race in the Olympic Games called?

537

00:31:24,000 --> 00:31:31,000

The longest running race in the Olympic Games is called a marathon.

538

00:31:31,000 --> 00:31:33,000

A marathon?

539

00:31:33,000 --> 00:31:34,000

Marathon.

540

00:31:34,000 --> 00:31:35,000

You mean marathon?

541

00:31:35,000 --> 00:31:36,000

Okay.

542

00:31:36,000 --> 00:31:46,000

Once again, Jamie's focused on the freeway, but struggles in the city, as his brain tries to process the traffic and the conversation.

543

00:31:46,000 --> 00:31:49,000

The earth is located in what galaxy?

544

00:31:49,000 --> 00:31:51,000

Uh, the...

545

00:31:51,000 --> 00:31:53,000

Um...

546

00:31:55,000 --> 00:31:57,000

You know, I don't know the answer to that question.

547

00:31:57,000 --> 00:31:58,000

Like last time...

548

00:31:58,000 --> 00:32:00,000

At the next intersection, turn left.

549

00:32:00,000 --> 00:32:04,000

Jamie doesn't crash, but he does ignore the GPS.

550

00:32:04,000 --> 00:32:05,000

Oh, sorry.

551

00:32:05,000 --> 00:32:07,000

I screwed this up.

552

00:32:07,000 --> 00:32:09,000

Meaning he's failed again.

553

00:32:09,000 --> 00:32:17,000

Well, the long and the short of it is that Jamie has done this test twice in our virtual environment, once holding the phone, once hands-free, and he has failed both times.

554

00:32:17,000 --> 00:32:20,000

It's looking pretty good for this, but we are not leaving it here.

555

00:32:20,000 --> 00:32:31,000

No, no, no, we're going to funnel a whole bunch of volunteers through this testing procedure to get some real numbers to back up our potential conclusion.

556

00:32:35,000 --> 00:32:40,000

First of the 30 volunteers is Tiffany, who will be driving hands full.

557

00:32:40,000 --> 00:32:46,000

The first thing I want to know is what musical instrument you played as a child.

558

00:32:46,000 --> 00:32:47,000

None.

559

00:32:47,000 --> 00:32:50,000

On the freeway, her driving is solid.

560

00:32:50,000 --> 00:32:51,000

Logic questions.

561

00:32:51,000 --> 00:32:53,000

And her answers are perfect.

562

00:32:53,000 --> 00:32:55,000

Name four days to start with the letter T.

563

00:32:55,000 --> 00:32:58,000

Today, tomorrow, Tuesday, and Thursday.

564

00:32:58,000 --> 00:32:59,000

Excellent.

565

00:32:59,000 --> 00:33:04,000

But moments after hitting the city, how much of your case?

566

00:33:06,000 --> 00:33:07,000

Uh-oh.

567

00:33:07,000 --> 00:33:09,000

We just ran down a cyclist.

568

00:33:09,000 --> 00:33:11,000

This test is over.

569

00:33:14,000 --> 00:33:15,000

Next up is Michael.

570

00:33:15,000 --> 00:33:16,000

Hello?

571

00:33:16,000 --> 00:33:19,000

And hands-free, he's fine on the freeway.

572

00:33:19,000 --> 00:33:24,000

What is something you have at home that you should throw away, but you can't?

573

00:33:25,000 --> 00:33:26,000

Oh, my old computer.

574

00:33:26,000 --> 00:33:29,000

I still have one that got built in like 95.

575

00:33:29,000 --> 00:33:31,000

But deadly downtown.

576

00:33:31,000 --> 00:33:33,000

Which country?

577

00:33:33,000 --> 00:33:39,000

Oh, I believe that might be the end of our test there, Michael.

578

00:33:39,000 --> 00:33:41,000

Where did that come from?

579

00:33:43,000 --> 00:33:45,000

Thank you very much, sir.

580

00:33:48,000 --> 00:33:51,000

When the next four volunteers also crash and burn.

581

00:33:54,000 --> 00:33:56,000

It's looking good for the myth.

582

00:33:56,000 --> 00:34:00,000

Stop the car and please license and registration.

583

00:34:00,000 --> 00:34:04,000

And although driver seven does make it through the course intact.

584

00:34:04,000 --> 00:34:05,000

All right.

585

00:34:05,000 --> 00:34:06,000

Congratulations.

586

00:34:06,000 --> 00:34:08,000

You have successfully completed the test.

587

00:34:08,000 --> 00:34:13,000

Nearly all other drivers, whatever their phone fashion, either get lost.

588

00:34:13,000 --> 00:34:19,000

Ron, I am sorry to inform you that you have now missed a turn and thus the test is over.

589

00:34:19,000 --> 00:34:20,000

Or worse.

590

00:34:20,000 --> 00:34:25,000

Oh, we had a crash, didn't we?

591

00:34:25,000 --> 00:34:29,000

Undeterred, the guys plow on through two full days of testing.

592

00:34:29,000 --> 00:34:33,000

And when volunteer 30 takes dramatic evasive action.

593

00:34:33,000 --> 00:34:36,000

I suck at this.

594

00:34:36,000 --> 00:34:39,000

The guys have all the data they could hope for.

595

00:34:39,000 --> 00:34:42,000

All right, we have run a lot of volunteers through this experiment.

596

00:34:42,000 --> 00:34:44,000

We've got a lot of data to take a look at.

597

00:34:44,000 --> 00:34:48,000

So it's time to leave this virtual world, drive through the real world,

598

00:34:48,000 --> 00:34:50,000

back to our shop and crunch the numbers.

599

00:34:55,000 --> 00:34:56,000

No way.

600

00:34:56,000 --> 00:34:57,000

They said that.

601

00:34:57,000 --> 00:34:59,000

That is hilarious.

602

00:34:59,000 --> 00:35:00,000

Hold on just a second.

603

00:35:00,000 --> 00:35:01,000

What?

604

00:35:01,000 --> 00:35:03,000

We were waiting for the results on distracted driving.

605

00:35:03,000 --> 00:35:04,000

Okay.

606

00:35:04,000 --> 00:35:06,000

I got to call you back.

607

00:35:06,000 --> 00:35:07,000

Yes, we have results.

608

00:35:07,000 --> 00:35:12,000

We tested 30 drivers out in Stanford, 15 hands full, 15 hands free.

609

00:35:12,000 --> 00:35:13,000

Here is the result.

610

00:35:13,000 --> 00:35:17,000

Hands full, one passed, five failed by driving the wrong way,

611

00:35:17,000 --> 00:35:19,000

nine failed by crashing.

612

00:35:19,000 --> 00:35:22,000

Hands free, one passed, six failed by getting lost,

613

00:35:22,000 --> 00:35:24,000

and eight failed by crashing.

614

00:35:24,000 --> 00:35:25,000

What's that mean statistically?

615

00:35:25,000 --> 00:35:28,000

Statistically it means no difference.

616

00:35:28,000 --> 00:35:29,000

And what about eye tracking?

617

00:35:29,000 --> 00:35:31,000

The eye tracker was very interesting.

618

00:35:31,000 --> 00:35:36,000

Across all 30 drivers, the amount of time they spent looking at something other than the road

619

00:35:36,000 --> 00:35:40,000

was identical between hands free and hands full.

620

00:35:40,000 --> 00:35:42,000

Well, there you have it.

621

00:35:42,000 --> 00:35:44,000

Don't use your cell phone while you're driving.

622

00:35:44,000 --> 00:35:45,000

Yeah, I'm done.

623

00:35:45,000 --> 00:35:47,000

Okay, so where do you want to meet for lunch?

624

00:35:47,000 --> 00:35:48,000

Absolutely.

625

00:35:55,000 --> 00:35:59,000

Coming right up, the guys rev in reverse.

626

00:35:59,000 --> 00:36:00,000

Yeah!

627

00:36:00,000 --> 00:36:03,000

For a confounding conclusion.

628

00:36:03,000 --> 00:36:04,000

Ah!

629

00:36:12,000 --> 00:36:13,000

There's a problem.

630

00:36:13,000 --> 00:36:16,000

We can't catch a break today.

631

00:36:16,000 --> 00:36:20,000

We just rolled up the windows because the wind's so diabolical,

632

00:36:20,000 --> 00:36:22,000

and we locked the keys inside.

633

00:36:24,000 --> 00:36:28,000

Luckily, for once there's a cop around when you need them.

634

00:36:31,000 --> 00:36:32,000

Hey!

635

00:36:32,000 --> 00:36:33,000

See you.

636

00:36:34,000 --> 00:36:38,000

Mythbusters, repossessing cars since 1979.

637

00:36:43,000 --> 00:36:44,000

Come on.

638

00:36:47,000 --> 00:36:50,000

It's all about reverse driving in this episode,

639

00:36:50,000 --> 00:36:53,000

and how easy it is versus how easy Hollywood makes it seem.

640

00:36:53,000 --> 00:36:54,000

Whoa!

641

00:36:54,000 --> 00:36:57,000

Jamie and I have tried out some courses ourselves.

642

00:37:00,000 --> 00:37:04,000

We've been trained by a cop who's an expert in driving in reverse.

643

00:37:04,000 --> 00:37:05,000

Here we go.

644

00:37:05,000 --> 00:37:06,000

Three, two.

645

00:37:06,000 --> 00:37:07,000

Reverse.

646

00:37:07,000 --> 00:37:08,000

Oh, there we go.

647

00:37:08,000 --> 00:37:09,000

Thank you.

648

00:37:09,000 --> 00:37:12,000

So now it's time for me to take all the skills I've thus far learned

649

00:37:12,000 --> 00:37:14,000

and put them to a real test.

650

00:37:14,000 --> 00:37:17,000

I'm here in an abandoned neighborhood in Marina, California,

651

00:37:17,000 --> 00:37:19,000

where my crew has set up a course,

652

00:37:19,000 --> 00:37:23,000

and I'm just supposed to drive as fast as I can in reverse.

653

00:37:23,000 --> 00:37:26,000

I'm actually pretty curious how this is going to turn out.

654

00:37:28,000 --> 00:37:31,000

This final farewell is a half mile of twists and turns,

655

00:37:31,000 --> 00:37:34,000

but it's got a whole lot more besides.

656

00:37:34,000 --> 00:37:38,000

As the guys have put the movie mayhem back into this myth,

657

00:37:38,000 --> 00:37:41,000

and that's not just the props.

658

00:37:41,000 --> 00:37:43,000

We're going to put a little pressure on Adam,

659

00:37:43,000 --> 00:37:47,000

because I'm going to be in a cop car on his ass the whole way

660

00:37:47,000 --> 00:37:51,000

with the sole exception that when he sees me and takes off,

661

00:37:51,000 --> 00:37:53,000

I'm going to be outside my car.

662

00:37:53,000 --> 00:37:56,000

So he's going to have just a little bit of a head start.

663

00:37:57,000 --> 00:38:00,000

Adam's goal, like the classic Hollywood hero,

664

00:38:00,000 --> 00:38:02,000

is to make a living.

665

00:38:02,000 --> 00:38:05,000

The classic Hollywood hero is to make it to the finish line

666

00:38:05,000 --> 00:38:07,000

before those pesky police.

667

00:38:07,000 --> 00:38:09,000

That is a cop. That's bad.

668

00:38:09,000 --> 00:38:12,000

But with reverse gear, his only option

669

00:38:12,000 --> 00:38:14,000

will he escape to victory.

670

00:38:14,000 --> 00:38:16,000

Here we go. Bye cop.

671

00:38:18,000 --> 00:38:20,000

The chase is on.

672

00:38:20,000 --> 00:38:22,000

Here we go. Getting the heck out of here.

673

00:38:22,000 --> 00:38:24,000

And by the time Jamie's got going,

674

00:38:24,000 --> 00:38:26,000

Adam's already out of sight.

675

00:38:26,000 --> 00:38:28,000

I'm going to make a right hand turn here.

676

00:38:28,000 --> 00:38:30,000

Don't let go of that wheel.

677

00:38:30,000 --> 00:38:32,000

By shifting to the central position,

678

00:38:32,000 --> 00:38:34,000

he's able to navigate with skill.

679

00:38:34,000 --> 00:38:36,000

Whoa, flaming car.

680

00:38:36,000 --> 00:38:38,000

Dude. Oh, man.

681

00:38:38,000 --> 00:38:40,000

Close to the block clubs.

682

00:38:40,000 --> 00:38:42,000

At least when he wants to.

683

00:38:42,000 --> 00:38:45,000

I want those boxes. Come on. Yeah.

684

00:38:45,000 --> 00:38:48,000

But while his steering is supreme,

685

00:38:48,000 --> 00:38:50,000

I don't know where he is.

686

00:38:50,000 --> 00:38:52,000

I hope he's not close.

687

00:38:52,000 --> 00:38:55,000

His speed, while fast, is no match for Jamie.

688

00:38:55,000 --> 00:38:57,000

Oh, fruit stand.

689

00:38:57,000 --> 00:38:59,000

I'm not going to miss the fruit stand.

690

00:39:08,000 --> 00:39:10,000

Ah!

691

00:39:10,000 --> 00:39:12,000

Ah!

692

00:39:12,000 --> 00:39:14,000

Adam may be down,

693

00:39:14,000 --> 00:39:17,000

but he's not out as he reverses back uphill.

694

00:39:17,000 --> 00:39:19,000

Ah! I'm going still.

695

00:39:19,000 --> 00:39:22,000

A strategy that the Heinemann then copies.

696

00:39:22,000 --> 00:39:25,000

With both drivers now revving in reverse,

697

00:39:25,000 --> 00:39:28,000

it's a case of booze going to blink first.

698

00:39:32,000 --> 00:39:34,000

Oh!

699

00:39:34,000 --> 00:39:36,000

Yet another in a long line of things

700

00:39:36,000 --> 00:39:38,000

that we should just set up for the public

701

00:39:38,000 --> 00:39:40,000

and charge money for.

702

00:39:40,000 --> 00:39:42,000

That was awesome.

703

00:39:42,000 --> 00:39:44,000

Step out of the car with your hands up.

704

00:39:44,000 --> 00:39:46,000

Oh, man.

705

00:39:46,000 --> 00:39:48,000

I'm going to get out of here.

706

00:39:48,000 --> 00:39:50,000

I'm going to get out of here.

707

00:39:50,000 --> 00:39:52,000

Oh!

708

00:39:52,000 --> 00:39:54,000

Ah!

709

00:39:54,000 --> 00:39:56,000

That was so much fun.

710

00:39:56,000 --> 00:39:58,000

Oh, my God.

711

00:39:58,000 --> 00:40:00,000

That was the best thing ever.

712

00:40:03,000 --> 00:40:06,000

Well, that went pretty much as good as I could have imagined.

713

00:40:06,000 --> 00:40:08,000

First off, the course was amazing,

714

00:40:08,000 --> 00:40:10,000

full of all sorts of really interesting obstacles,

715

00:40:10,000 --> 00:40:12,000

from fruit stands to dudes fixing their cars,

716

00:40:12,000 --> 00:40:15,000

to, come on, a flaming car.

717

00:40:15,000 --> 00:40:18,000

I also was able to go through it really fast.

718

00:40:18,000 --> 00:40:21,000

I mean, fast enough where I almost lost control of the car

719

00:40:21,000 --> 00:40:23,000

on a couple of the straightaways.

720

00:40:23,000 --> 00:40:26,000

It started fishtailing, but because of Brian's training,

721

00:40:26,000 --> 00:40:28,000

I was able to bring the car back under control.

722

00:40:28,000 --> 00:40:30,000

Oh!

723

00:40:30,000 --> 00:40:32,000

Almost lost control there.

724

00:40:32,000 --> 00:40:35,000

Then, I actually spun out and Jamie hit me,

725

00:40:35,000 --> 00:40:38,000

but again, in reverse, I bolted back up the hill

726

00:40:38,000 --> 00:40:41,000

and Jamie chased me, and it was all going pretty good.

727

00:40:41,000 --> 00:40:43,000

But I was going too fast on the accelerator,

728

00:40:43,000 --> 00:40:46,000

and I spun out, he jammed into my front wheel

729

00:40:46,000 --> 00:40:48,000

and I could not move.

730

00:40:48,000 --> 00:40:50,000

Test over.

731

00:40:52,000 --> 00:40:54,000

So, how do you want to call it?

732

00:40:54,000 --> 00:40:56,000

I have to say, I started this story thinking

733

00:40:56,000 --> 00:40:58,000

it was going to be handily busted,

734

00:40:58,000 --> 00:41:00,000

and I am now thinking that it's actually plausible.

735

00:41:00,000 --> 00:41:03,000

It's not unreasonable how much speed and maneuverability

736

00:41:03,000 --> 00:41:05,000

you can get going in reverse.

737

00:41:05,000 --> 00:41:08,000

Yeah, I mean, both of us, I think,

738

00:41:08,000 --> 00:41:12,000

if we had our choice, would go, you know, front-forward.

739

00:41:12,000 --> 00:41:14,000

Yeah.

740

00:41:14,000 --> 00:41:17,000

It's a better option, but surprising how good it can be.

741

00:41:17,000 --> 00:41:19,000

Let's call it plausible.

742

00:41:19,000 --> 00:41:20,000

Alright.

743

00:41:20,000 --> 00:41:22,000

I'm going to drive forward home though.

744

00:41:22,000 --> 00:41:24,000

If you can.

