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Subject: Thoughts on this challenge - hehe  
Posted by [Anonymous](#) on Wed, 30 Oct 2002 20:49:16 GMT  
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See link.<http://www.talkaudio.co.uk/vbb/showthread.php?s=&threadid=188151> find this test amusing because many of the variables that give an amplifier its sonic signature are removed from the test and only pure circuit topology is in question. Furthermore he adds some resistors to a solid state amplifier to mimic the sound of tube amplifiers when someone wants to test tubes vs. solid state. Someone wanted to challenge by comparing class d to class a, the reply was sure you can, but you must limit the bandwidth of the class a to equal the class d. HeHEE.. To win, you must get all 12 guesses correct. To win for the \$10k prize, you need 24 guesses correct. Before the test begins for the big prize, you need to pass the preliminary 8 rounds.. shhheshh.. Any amplifiers can be tested as long as it meets his requirements, even home amplifiers are now open to the challenge. I never like to play cards with a magician in his own home when he holds the deck. I don't like playing games that have a score when the magician controls the score sheet. LOL

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Subject: Amusing  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Thu, 31 Oct 2002 03:38:02 GMT  
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I agree with some of the stated views of the author, but I'm not sure how useful it is. It appears to be mostly just argumentative.

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Subject: I can always tell mine apart.  
Posted by [ToFo\\_](#) on Thu, 31 Oct 2002 12:38:55 GMT  
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Crown and Adcom are great, but they sound different. They are both known to do ruler flat response. Crown = start and stop on a dime Adcom = bigger deeper seeming bass. I like them both a lot but, I can tell them apart with earplugs in. I am not itching to test it, I know it. What does he do to compensate for rise time and damping factor. seems a little silly really. He checks absolute phase of the amplifiers, but in some cases an eq is added to make them the same, hmmm. Can you tell flat paint from semi-gloss paint when the color, temperature, thickness and lighting are all scientifically proven to be the same? (I measured ALMOST everything!) Some

people would say it's shiny, some would say it has a different texture. Does he really believe that our ears can't do what all of our other senses do constantly? I guess parts quality and good design have just been rendered unimportant by a couple of resistors and an equalizer. (haven't I heard of this before?) The science in audio is vital, but is all too often used poorly or selectively. If the technician and or the tool are not of consistent and known high quality, you have no meaningful data! Meanwhile, I shall happily enjoy my great sounding tunes. It just doesn't matter why it sounds so good :) Thomas

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Subject: Re: Amusing  
Posted by [Anonymous](#) on Thu, 31 Oct 2002 13:36:20 GMT  
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He's been doing this challenge for a long time, even writing checks to amplifier vendors IF they can prove that their amplifiers have a sonic difference to any other brand, if they can prove, he would buy their stuff for this studio. So far, nobody has won the challenge. After reading all this (which is new to me), his debate is... a watt is a watt and all an amplifier does is amplify... BUT, he does admit that amplifiers do sound different, but to prove "a watt is a watt" he creates those esoteric conditions - hehe I don't know but most people DO buy amplifiers because of those "little things" that give it personality. His forum is right here; [http://www.carsound.com/cgi-bin/UBB\\_CGI/ultimatebb.cgi](http://www.carsound.com/cgi-bin/UBB_CGI/ultimatebb.cgi) Richard Clark is a long time car audio celebrity and winner of many car audio competitions. Audio IS fun stuff and I know Richard is having fun with this testing 1000's of people. Even if 100 people got it correct, he would still be doing the challenge since 100 is minority - hehe \$100 - \$300 to take the test.

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Subject: Re: Thoughts on this challenge - hehe  
Posted by [Jerry Parker](#) on Sat, 02 Nov 2002 01:11:16 GMT  
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I think he started the test originally because of all the hype surrounding amplification. Vendors claimed that their amplifiers sounded better than the competitions, more bass, warmer mids, cleaner, etc. And a lot of the claims were just fraudulent. And he wanted people to understand that buying an expensive amplifier should be bought because of the real factors, and not some imaginary sound qualities that don't really exist.

