

Doctor When's Recruiting Test

A Puzzle written for the
Spring 2011 Equinox Party
and "Doctor When"
by Wei-Hwa Huang

Congratulations! You've all been selected as candidates to be Doctor When's assistants in preparation for the unveiling of his time machine, scheduled to happen this fall, six months from now, on September 17th and 24th.

Unfortunately, Doctor When is a bit reclusive and is still very busy getting things ready, so he's not here. Instead, we're going to run this little recruiting test that he prepared.

The goal of this test is see how well you can build a proper circuit board for Doctor When's chronometer. Now, Doctor When is an electronics genius, so he doesn't go for the standard electronic parts. Instead, you'll have to learn to use electronic gizmos that he has designed himself!

Each individual will get one copy of the recruiting test, but for maximum efficiency we recommend you partner up into teams of three or four. Initially, you'll have the following sheets:

- * A "How to Build a Circuit Board" instruction manual
- * A blank Circuit Board diagram for you to start with
- * 26 Circuit Constraints (your manual will explain how to use this)

You'll have the entire time to work on building the circuit board, but we will also be passing out extra Tests during the event. At the 15-minute mark we will pass out Test 1, and at the 30-minute mark we will pass out Test 2. Each Test has a simple one-word answer.

When you solve a Test, please signal us and tell us the answer. Each solved Test will earn you 13 more Circuit Constraints. You will need all 52 Circuit Constraints to build a full circuit board.

If you are having trouble with the Tests, don't fret (too much). Once half of the room has solved a Test, we will pass out the Circuit Constraints for that Test to everybody!

Once you've completed your Circuit Board, come find us to get a Super-Electro-Extreme Testing Kit. The Testing Kit will use your test results and your correctly-constructed Circuit Board to extract a simple message. Succeed and you'll be considered strongly for the minio -- er, assistant position.

Don't worry if you can't pass this test; we have plenty of positions available! Check out our website at <http://doctorwhen.com/> for more information.

Thanks to our playtesters:

Jim Boyce, Allen Cohn, Dwight Freund, Sean Gugler, Dan Kurtz, Trisha Lantzner, Chris Lopez, Linnsey Miller, Dale Neal, Erik Stuart, Melissa Wilson

Puzzles inspired by the work of Hans Eendebak, Everett Kaser, Bob Stigger