

2.4 Minutarum

Each clue consists of a time (associated to a specific event) which is modified by adding or subtracting another time (associated to a specific duration).

- Miss Havisham received her letter at twenty minutes to nine; the North Hollywood shoutout was 44 minutes long $\rightarrow 8:40 + 0:44 = 9:24$
- In the Kipling poem, “the trees in the Shadow rustle and the trees in the moonlight glisten” at two o’clock in the morning; the John Cage masterpiece is 4’33”, and 440 repetitions of it last 2002 minutes, or 33 hours and 22 minutes $\rightarrow 2:00 + 33:22 = 11:22$
- In the Firewater song, the clouds are still bleeding at six forty-five; the gap on the Nixon tapes lasted 18 minutes $\rightarrow 6:45 + 0:18 = 7:03$
- The Hiroshima bomb was dropped at 8:15 am; the Two Minutes of Hate lasts two minutes $\rightarrow 8:15 - 0:02 = 8:13$
- The Magritte painting *Time Transfixed* shows a train emerging from a fireplace at 12:43; the XP installation issue is the 34-minute hiccup $\rightarrow 12:43 - 0:34 = 12:09$
- Will Kane and Frank Miller fight at High Noon; Gagarin’s flight lasted 1:48 $\rightarrow 12:00 - 1:48 = 10:12$

The resulting times, arranged in increasing order, are 7:03, 8:13, 9:24, 10:12, 11:22, 12:09. The hours are consecutive, while the minutes are all in the range 1 to 26. Reading the minutes as letters gives CMXLVI, which is Roman numerals for the answer, 946.