



**Puzzled
Pint** JUNE 2026

LOCATION:
MAJOR ARCANA



SOLUTIONS

Near my table, my wayward student I am here to teach you the way of the cards.

As a first lesson, I present the major arcana, to assess your powers of divination.

These are not the standard images, depicting the fool's adventure, but they may speak to you all the same.

Observe their images: Each element forms the card, and each card holds a piece of a greater narrative.

Each card clues to a letter, the most obvious way to figure it out is using NATO, but each has additional elements connected to it.

III
E
ECHO
(action/copied card)
Easter Egg
THE EMPRESS

X
E
WHEEL OF FORTUNE

II
45
F
Foxtrot
Forty Five
Fist
Flames
THE HIGH PRIESTESS

I
I
"eye"
India
Ice-cream
1 Indigo
Roman #: one = i
THE MAGICIAN

V
"jay"
J
Juliet
Japan
Jamaica
Jigsaw
THE HIEROPHANT

O
L
50 Roman #: fifty = L
Lima (beans)
Like
Love
THE FOOL

IX
N
November
No
Net
Night
Next
THE HERMIT

VI
O
Oscar (character/award)
Oval
Orange (fruit/colour)
One
THE LOVERS

VIII
R
Romeo
Rook
Recycle
Red
STRENGTH

IV
S
Sierra
Sun
Star
Snake
Stop Sign
Snail
Sunflower
Strawberry
EMPEROR

VII
U
"ewe"
Uniform
Unlocked
Up
Umpire
Umbrella
THE CHARIOT

XI
Y
"why"
Yankee
Yes
Yellow
You
JUSTICE

Items in the speech bubbles are homophones of the letter, numbers in the diamonds are represented by the letter. All the letters are listed in alphabetical order.

When each card is matched to a letter and the letters assembled in card order (keep in mind that the first is the fool numbered 0), it reads out LIFES JOURNEY



PENTACLES



ELEMENT

Earth

EARTH SIGNS

- TAURUS..... THE BULL
- VIRGO..... THE MAIDEN
- CAPRICORN.... THE GOAT

DOMAIN

Physical

PENTACLES ARE COINS WITH PENTAGRAMS, AND THEY GOVERN THE DOMAIN OF WORLDLY POSSESSIONS. AT BEST, THEY ARE A FIRM, RESILIENT ANCHOR IN THE PHYSICAL WORLD. AT WORST, THEY SIGNAL DESCENT INTO CARELESS GREED.

Marigold lived without any want. She was given all the luxuries the daughter of the king could ask for. But she was not satisfied. She heard of a ritual of sorts of a puzzling nature, involving a mystical board in her father's possession.

Placing her coins upon the board, *she spelt out her desires across its ten rows.* To solidify where each coin was laid, she also made note of their total value in each row and column. *cover her fate.*

Replace letters on the grid with coin letters to form the ten words. Then use the replaced letters in value (I, V, X...), then grid order to spell out the solution.

Wishlist

- A biological building block
- Transmission type sans stick
- An ink or bullet box
- A colour-changer
- An outgoing individual
- Six-sided
- Eagle-eyed, attentive
- Defeat disproportionately
- Contradictory conundrums
- Bars beaten musically

AMINO ACID
AUTOMATIC
CARTRIDGE
CHAMELEON
EXTROVERT
HEXAGONAL
OBSERVANT
OVERWHELM
PARADOXES
XYLOPHONE

T H U S (value per coin)

I I I I (1)

S H E

V V V (5)

B E C A

X X X X (10)

M E A M

L L L L (50)

A T E R

C C C C (100)

I A L

D D D (500)

G I R L

M M M M (1000)

C A	A	R	T	R	I T	D I	G	E	= 601
E	X B	T	R	O	V S	E	R	T	= 15
O	V H	E	R	W	H	E	L M	M G	= 1055
A	U	T	O	M I	A	T	I H	C T	= 1101
O	B	S	E	R	V E	A	N	T	= 5
X E	Y	L E	O	P	H	O	N	E	= 60
A	M R	I U	N	O	A	C E	I S	D A	= 1602
C R	H	A	M L	E	L A	E	O	N	= 1150
H	E	X C	A	G	O	N	A	L M	= 60
P	A	R	A	D L	O	X A	E	S	= 510

SOLUTION: THUS SHE BECAME A MATERIAL GIRL

= 210 = 1015 = 61 = 1000 = 1500 = 61 = 610 = 52 = 1650

WANDS



ELEMENT

Fire



THE SOURCE OF PASSION, COURAGE; THE ACTIVATING ENERGY TO DO AND CHANGE THINGS. IF HANDLED WELL, IT MAY POWER OUR ACTIONS; OTHERWISE ITS VOLATILITY MAY PROVE HAZARDOUS.

FIRE SIGNS

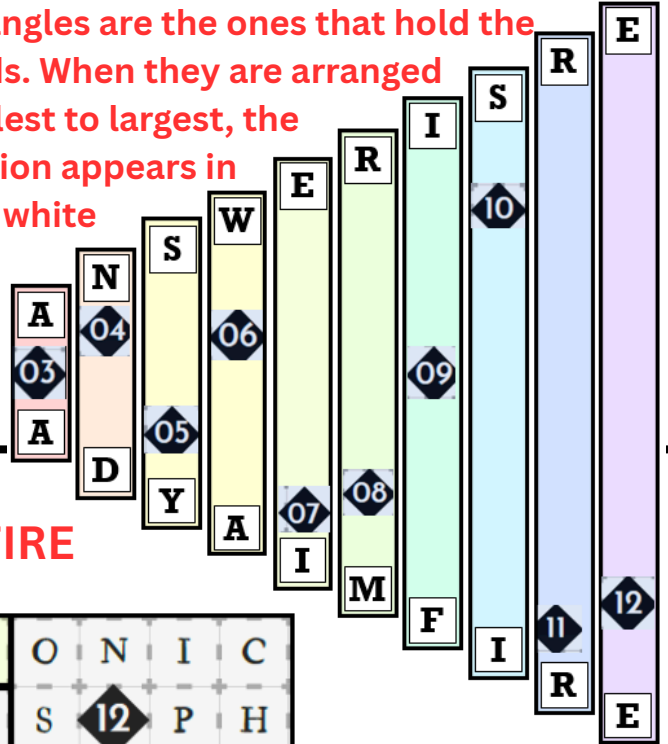
- ARIES THE RAM
- LEO THE LION
- SAGITTARIUS.. THE ARCHER

DOMAIN

Energy



The grid below shows the 25 rectangular/ square compartments. The skinny (colored) rectangles are the ones that hold the wands. When they are arranged smallest to largest, the solution appears in their white tips:



SOLUTION: READY AIM FIRE

S	I	N	C	E	R	E	L	Y	07	I	O	N	I	C
T	I	N	06	I	04	O	X	I	D	E	S	12	P	H
10	Q	U	A	L	I	T	Y	10	J	A	R	G	O	N
E	L	E	C	T	R	O	L	Y	T	E	12	F	E	W
A	09	V	E	N	T	R	I	C	L	E	14	L	O	T
A	U	R	O	R	A	B	O	R	E	A	L	I	S	06
G	I	N	20	A	S	H	06	M	A	N	04	O	D	E
F	L	A	S	H	B	A	N	G	03	P	R	I	N	T
A	F	R	I	C	A	N	S	N	A	I	L	08	J	A
I	S	L	E	05	Y	A	R	D	A	G	E	08	U	M
W	I	D	T	H	09	V	I	S	C	O	S	I	T	Y
P	I	15	A	M	E	T	H	Y	S	T	24	C	R	Y
C	A	R	B	O	N	M	O	N	O	X	I	D	E	S
B	U	R	N	06	I	11	A	Q	U	E	O	U	S	04
F	L	I	C	K	E	R	04	P	O	W	08	E	N	D

CUPS



ELEMENT
Water

WATER SIGNS
CANCER.....THE CRAB
SCORPIO.....THE SCORPION
PISCES.....THE FISH

DOMAIN
Feeling

BE IT THE PSYCHO-EMOTIONAL OR THE INTUITION OF A PSYCHIC, FEELINGS ARE THE FOCUS HERE. BUT AS WITH ALL THINGS, BEWARE. BEING TOO ABSORBED IN YOUR FEELINGS MAY LEAD YOU TO ABANDON YOUR COMMON SENSE.

The people were desperate, and the town's oracle Hersilia, had refused to see an audience. For too many years, they had relied on her talents, so much so that she had taken to writing any visions in code. *Her system relied on a thirteen-letter heterogram key, a phrase containing no repeated letters. The remaining letters were written in alphabetical order underneath, allowing each letter to pair up.*

P	O	W	E	R	F	U	L	M	A	G	I	C
B	D	H	J	K	N	Q	S	T	V	X	Y	Z

Figure 1: Recreation of Hersilia's first code

Use the scraps to write out all the given letter pairs (below). As likely words are recognized (OF... THE... DRAW...) cross off the duplicates of those pairs. What is left is the cipher below with the keyphrase LUCK OF THE DRAW. Then use the "third layer" - the added symbols to decipher the note attached to the chest. (Matching symbol means top row, flipped symbol means bottom row.) **SOLUTION: STING OPERATION**

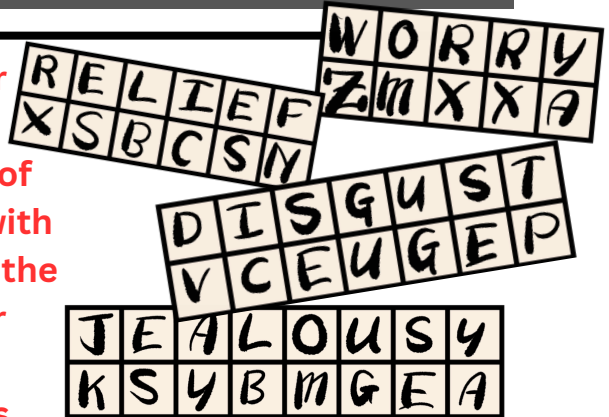


Figure 2: Recovered document scraps provided clues for the full code

Y	L	I	V	S	N	U	Q	C	K	J	B	O	F	M	T	H	X	E	P	G	D	Z	R	A	W
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

Workspace for finding the keyphrase for Hersilia's newest cipher. Hint: Use the scraps to get started. Any words coming to the surface?

L	U	C	K	O	F	T	H	E	D	R	A	W
B	G	I	J	M	N	P	Q	S	V	X	Y	Z
♀	☆	♙	☾	子	♁	4	♏	☉	♁	♁	♁	♁

A third layer - Additional symbols to further encrypt the message

As it turns out, Hersilia, being a beacon of insight and understanding, had figured out what they were up to. When the authorities broke into her quarters, she was gone. They secured a tightly bound chest. Ignoring the note below, they foolishly pried the chest open – only to release a swarm of angry hornets!

S	T	I	N	G	O	P	E	R	A	T	I	O	N
☉	4	♙	♁	☆	子	♁	☉	♁	♁	4	♙	子	♁

Figure 3: Note attached to Hersilia's chest



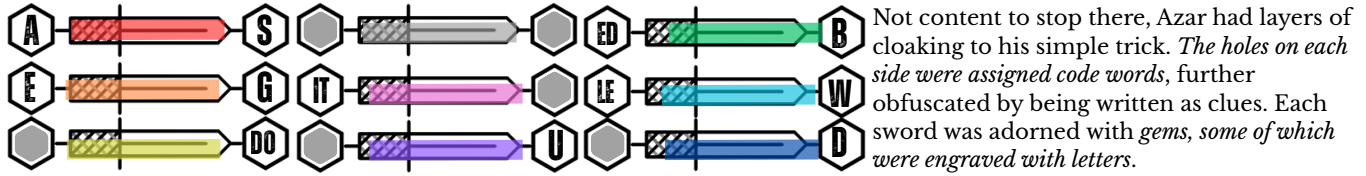
ELEMENT *Air* THE PEN IS MIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD. LOGIC, SMARTS AND COMMUNICATION ARE THE GREATEST ASSETS TO ACHIEVE GREAT THINGS. BUT THESE CAN BE USED MALICIOUSLY. SWORDS ARE WEAPONS AFTER ALL.

AIR SIGNS

GEMINI..... THE TWINS
LIBRA..... THE SCALES
AQUARIUS.. THE WATER-BEARER

DOMAIN *Logic*

After filling in all the answers on both sides, they can be linked up using the swords. Each sword will add 0, 1 or 2 letters to the end on the left side and to the start on the right to, potentially, form new words. When added correctly, these linked words will be similar in meaning.



"Minor augmentations can have a great impact; they can create new ideas – *new meanings*," Azar told Nasir before their first performance. "But it is in these new meanings we can find common ground that connects us across the void. Do you understand?" Nasir nodded, however, he did not truly understand. But as they say, "the show must go on." Azar has managed to draw a larger crowd today, but at great cost. To his audience he has put on a great show of pain, but it is not a performance. As Nasir is placing the final sword in, Azar really hopes that neither side of the blade was sharpened.

MUSICAL GROUP
BAND

OFFICIAL EVENT OR SOCIAL GATHERING
FUNCTION

FORM OF "TO BE"
ARE

FORMAL NECKWEAR
TIE

A PINCH - OR A PUNCTUATION MARK?
DASH

OPEN LAND FOR CROPS OR SPORTS
FIELD

TAXI
CAB

GIN OR A GHOST?
SPIRIT

SMALL PIECE OF TRASH, ESP. OF FOOD OR METAL
SCRAP

TO FASTEN CLOTHING WITH INTERLOCKING TEETH
ZIP

ANGER OR DISDAIN
IRE

SPEED, ESP. OF A STORY
PACE

PRIMARY
MAIN

A HERB, A COLOUR OR A WISE PERSON
SAGE

NOT YOUNG
OLD

TO ILLEGALLY REPRODUCE, E.G. A FILM
PIRATE

THICK OUTER SKIN OF A FRUIT, CHEESE OR MEAT
RIND

NOT PROCESSED
RAW

THE

Reading the added letters L-R top down spells the answer.

"IT WAS DOUBLE EDGED"



Each feeder puzzle has information about the tarot suit, connecting it to a playing card suit and to a set of three star (zodiac) signs. Each feeder answer refers to one of those three star signs. Examples: **Swords** = spades, "double" edged connects to the twins = GEMINI
Cups = hearts, "sting" operation connects to the scorpion = SCORPIO

Swords ♠	G	E	M	I	N	I	(the twins)	IT WAS DOUBLE EDGED					
Wands ♣	S	A	G	I	T	T	A	R	T	U	S	(the archer)	READY AIM FIRE
Cups ♥	S	C	O	R	P	I	O	(the scorpion)	STING OPERATION				
Pent. ♦	V	I	R	G	O	(the maiden)	THUS SHE BECAME A MATERIAL GIRL						

A SIGN THAT YOU ARE ON THE RIGHT TRACK, 15 SPACES ABOVE WILL REMAIN UNOCCUPIED.

First, take time to receive the characters of the cards seen to the right noting what you know of the suit, and using the number on its *index*. Form your *initial interpretation* of the cards before you.

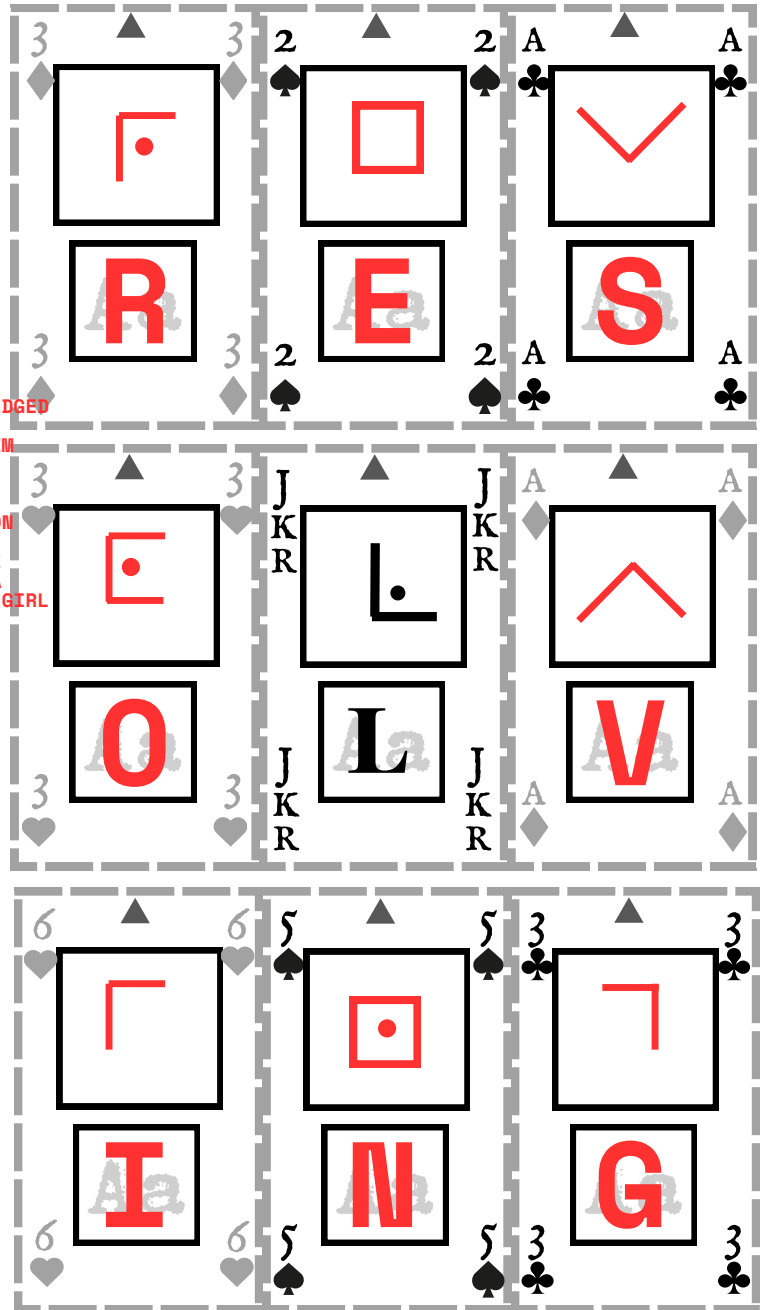
Next extract letters based on the rank index into the suits star sign, recording the result "RESOLVING"

We must then further *pig*-ment the cards, translating to an appropriate code.

Then convert and add *pigpen* code

Now these cards can be cut and placed into the provided spread. To assist with proper placement, consult the guiding principles below. Only when properly positioned, can the meaning of the cards be re-interpreted.

Divination relies on both your surface-level impressions, and deeper insights from manipulating the symbols of each card. Combined, they allow you to clarify what could develop in the future, and figure out problems again and again.



PRINCIPLES OF THIS SPREAD

- There are only three pairs of adjacent cards of the same suit or rank: the spades, the diamonds, and the aces.
- The two club cards have the same orientation; no other cards facing the same way share a suit.
- The 5 of spades and the ace of clubs face towards the 3 of hearts as their neighbour.
- No card facing horizontally has a rank above 4.

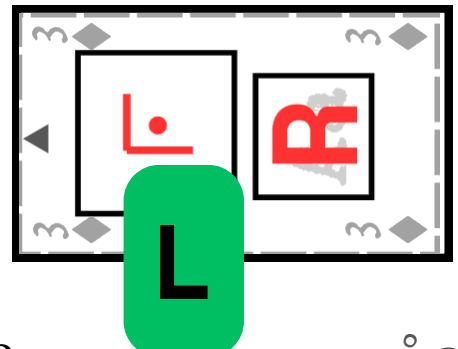
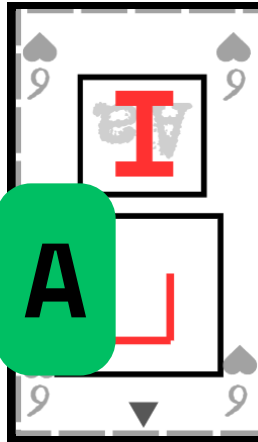
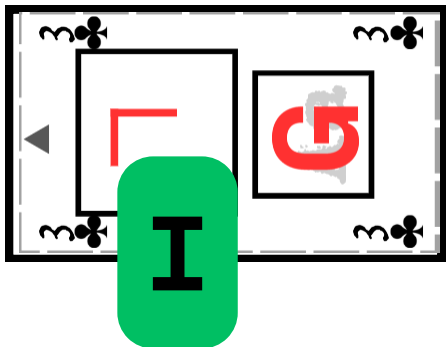
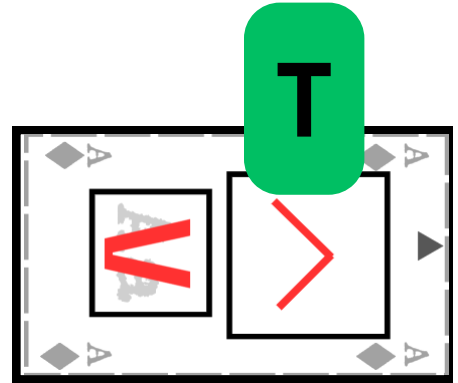
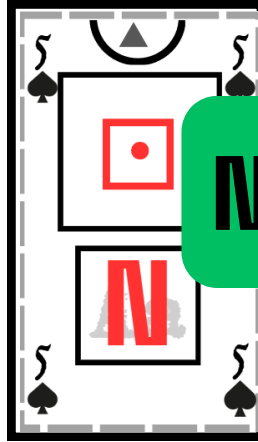
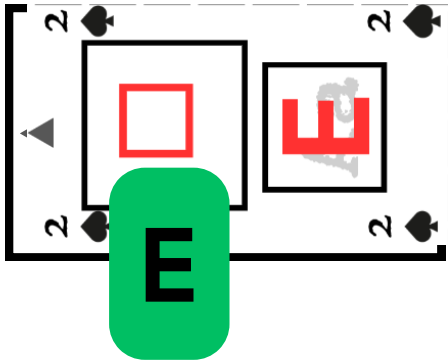
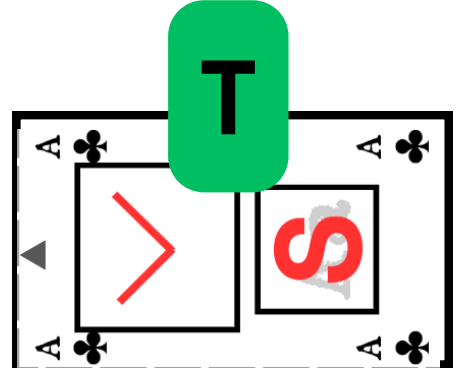
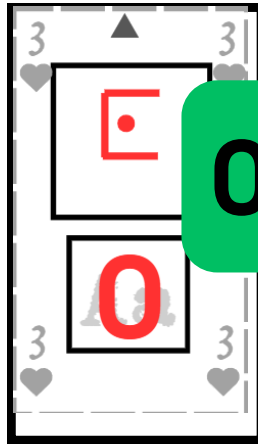
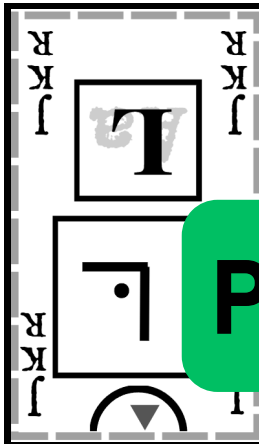
TERMINOLOGY

ADJACENT *Adj.* / ə'dʒeɪ sənt /

immediately above, below, left or right, ignoring rotation; excludes diagonal neighbours.

ORIENTATION *n.* / ɔːri'ən'teɪʃən /

The rotational state of the card. The direction it "faces" is shown by the triangle on the card.



INITIAL INTERPRETATION

RE-INTERPRETATION

3♦	2♠	A♣
R	E	S
3♥	JKR	A♦
O	L	V
6♥	5♠	3♣
I	N	G

**SOLUTION:
RESOLVING
POTENTIAL**

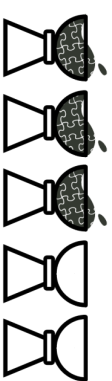
P	O	T
E	N	T
I	A	L



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CLAIRVOYANCE



GUIDANCE

First, **close your eyes, feel the cards** every edge, every corner, every **fold**.

Second, consult the moon, it **signals from afar** whether you should cast your gaze outward or **inward**.

Third, **count the stars**. Numerology may be an imprecise method, but it is only by joining dots that constellations can form.

Fourth, **have me or lose me not**. You must take time to compute this information to understand it by and large.

To gain the full picture, *consider the riddle **step by step***. If you only process one card at a time, you are likely to be stuck going around in **circles**.

*Reading the **cards***, you will be guided to your final answer, and learn how to divine fortunes even if no card is **turned**.

BRaille: FINAL
SEMAPHOR: WORDS
NUMBERS: OFGUI
BINARY: DANCE

Pulling out the last word in each step gives the instruction "Fold Inward, Form Large Circles, Turned".

Fold the cards so that the tops and bottoms of the large gray ovals form circles along the centre, then turn upside down. The cards spell out the final answer "Gold Reading"

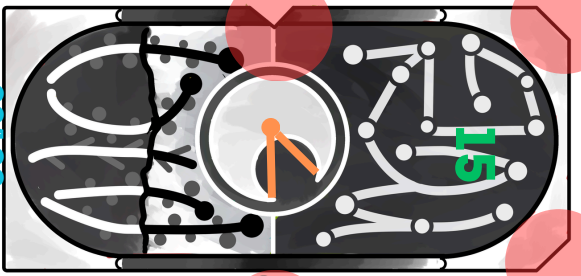


F I N A L

W O R D S O F

G U I D A N C E

- i. Fold _____ (4)
- ii. inward _____ (6)
- iii. form _____ (4)
- iv. large _____ (5)
- v. circles _____ (7)
- vi. turned _____ (6)



001100



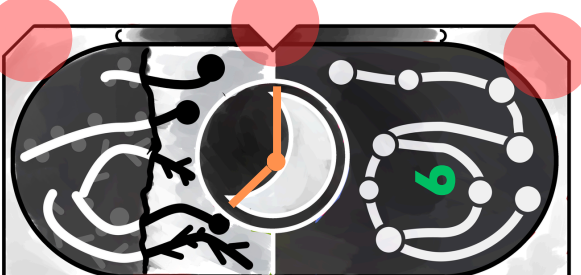
00001



011110



00011



00101

G O L D R E A D I N G