



ROMAN NUMERALS

CAN YOU COUNT BY ONLY USING LETTERS?

I	1	XX	20
II	2	XXX	30
III	3	XL	40
IV	4	L	50
V	5	LX	60
VI	6	LXX	70
VII	7	LXXX	80
VIII	8	XC	90
IX	9	C	100
X	10	D	500
	M		1000

Roman Numerals were invented around 425 B.C. By a secretive people called the Etruscans who vanished from history after being conquered by the Romans.

As the Romans conquered the world known to them, their numeral system quickly spread through Europe, and remained the primary manner for representing numbers for centuries.



Around A.D. 1300, Roman numerals were replaced throughout most of Europe with the more effective Hindu-Arabic system which is our current numerical system.



The rules governing today's Roman numeral system were introduced in the Middle Ages and was centuries after the decline of the Roman Empire.

THE FOUR BASIC PRINCIPLES FOR READING AND WRITING ROMAN NUMERALS

- A letter repeats its value that many times (XXX = 30, CC = 200, etc.). A letter can only be repeated three times.
- If one or more letters are placed after another letter of greater value, add that amount. I.e: VI = 6 (5 + 1 = 6)
- If a letter is placed before another letter of greater value, subtract that amount. IV = 4 (5 - 1 = 4)
- A bar placed on top of a letter or string of letters increases the numeral's value by 1,000 times. XV = 15, \overline{XV} = 15,000



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