

Directions Hints and Solution

The first part of this puzzle requires deciphering our previously obtained answers into a more useful form.

Various contextual hints within the text hint at the correct way of doing so:

- Looking down the left side, we notice that the first letter of each paragraph spells BRAILLE.
- Following Boss's initial directions in Paragraph 3, we spell out: ICDOTS (I See Dots).

All of these hint that the correct mechanic is to convert each solution to (lowercase or "short") Braille, then "count the number of things" or the number of dots per solution.

In the first story, there are obvious references to "Mr. Feynman" and "everything he said", which suggests that we should be using our answer to Feynman Says, i.e. PHYSICS. Converting to Braille and counting the dots, we get 22. Then, the directions tell us to add "A BS MARK" (16) to that, so we get our first result of 38.

The second story references "swords", which hints that we should be using the answer to Wordplay. (Astute puzzlers might notice that following the puzzle mechanic, the real title of the Wordplay puzzle should be Swordplay.) Following directions, we "triple the score...[then] add her title". FENCING yields 21, so tripling and then adding DO (33) yields the second result of 96.

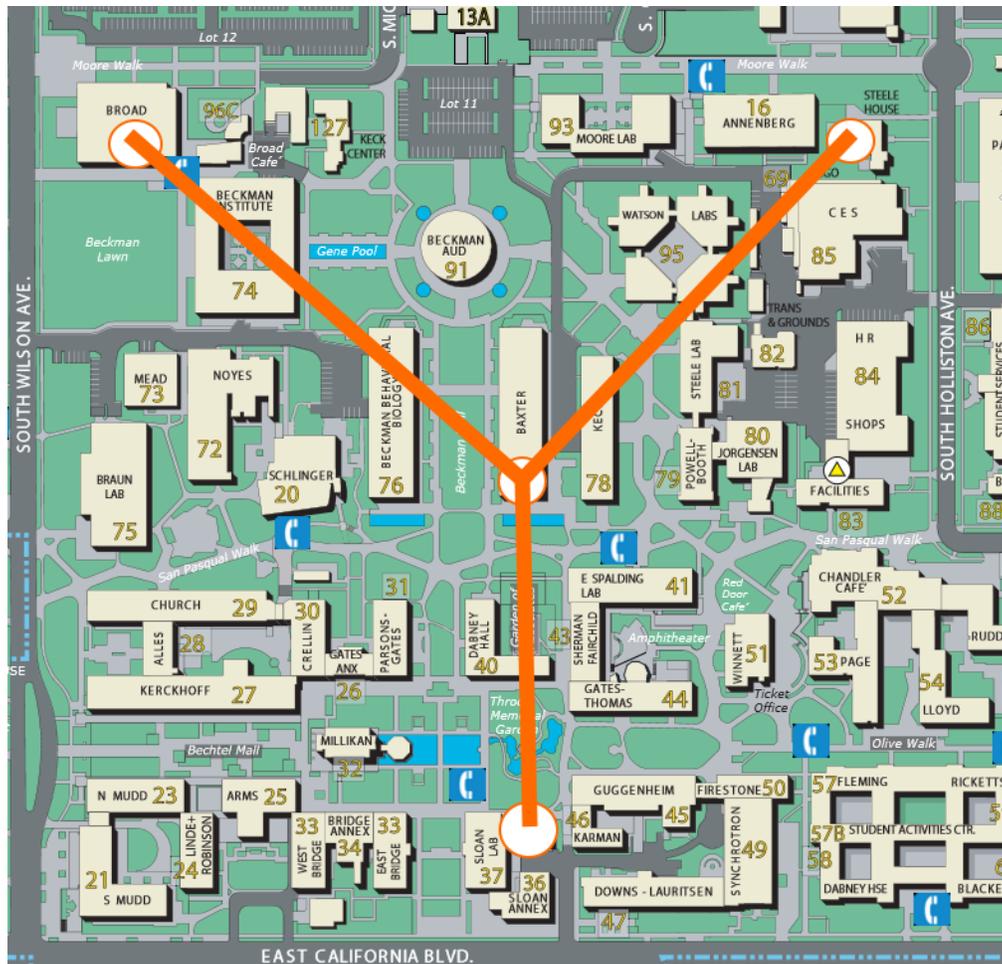
The third and final story mentions geology and laureate, so we need to use both the solutions to A Rock and a Hard Place and Photo Graphic. However, the directions say that he "took a fellow laureate's ID and left a rock in its place", suggesting that we remove ID from DAVIDBALTIMORE and add SCYLLA, getting DAVSCYLLABALTIMORE, which totals to 49. Finally, switching the digits, we get the third result of 94.

Finally, Boss mentions that we need to take "what was left unused and sum it up with everything and anythin". The only unused puzzle is Quantum Mechanics for Computer Scientists, so we take BLUEBOOK (20) and add it to "everything" (34) and "anythin" (23), giving our final result of 77.

Since Ms. Cooper wants her building directions, we can take the resultant numbers to find the buildings she has described to us:

38 - Kellogg
96 - Broad
94 - Steele House
77 - Baxter

Stringing them all together, we connect all of the other buildings to Baxter, which forms the shape of Y.



But where is this Y? The fact that we're using the Caltech campus map suggests that we should be looking there, giving us the final solution to this puzzle hunt: **CALTECHY**.

(Note that if you add "BS" instead of "A BS MARK", you'll end up with a lowercase "y", which still resolves to the same final answer.)

Hints:

- 1) Can't see where to start? Others might try 411 for info, but you'd need to use 2433 since you're still on campus...
- 2) Things still not adding up? If you're still feeling lost after all these directions, perhaps you need to go old school and consult a paper map...
- 3) Once you have the coordinates, you're well on your way to connecting the dots. Perhaps the final answer will take shape then...