

# Muta in Pretium Solution

Puzzle: Michael Chen

Solution: Michael Chen

Answer: TERCET

The title itself translates to “Change into Price” and the flavor text heavily hints at using the initials of the items, especially the part where it says “initials were the key.”

Furthermore, the flavor text indicates that “one thing seemed to be wrong with every item.” If we look at the initials, we can see that they are meant to be Roman numerals, which is also hinted a bit with the Latin. From there, we need to make the connection that the initials almost correspond to the price, except for one letter which needs to be changed. Finally, as the flavor text and “Caesar” clues, we shift the correct letter by the number to get the final letter. Reading down then gives the correct answer of **TERCET**.

Item	Number	Price
Chinese Violin Bow	11	\$106
Math Textbook Interesting Integrals	1	\$1502
Macbook Laptop Computer	9	\$1051
Children’s Cartoon Backpack	26	\$300
Ancient Latin Verses	1	\$555
Motorola Phone	8	\$1050

Initials	Price	In Roman Num.	Correction	Correction + Shift
CVB	\$106	CVI	B ---> I	I + 11 = 20 = <b>T</b>
MTII	\$1502	MDII	T ---> D	D + 1 = 5 = <b>E</b>
MLC	\$1051	MLI	C ---> I	I + 9 = 18 = <b>R</b>
CCB	\$300	CCC	B ---> C	C + 26 = 29 = <b>C</b>
ALV	\$555	DLV	A ---> D	D + 1 = 5 = <b>E</b>
MP	\$1050	ML	P ---> L	L + 8 = 20 = <b>T</b>