

The Micawber Test

Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure nineteen, nineteen and six, result happiness. Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure twenty pounds ought and six, result misery.



Mr Micawber was a character created by Charles Dickens in David Copperfield. He was always in debt yet always hopelessly optimistic. His approach to money has become known as the "Micawber principle". ("nineteen, nineteen and six" is £19.99 in your money!)

Beeching's Sums



Annual Income	Annual Expenditure
5000 passengers per week at 1p per mile=	Labour and materials for route (track, bridges etc. etc) @ £50 per mile
X 12 <u>miles</u> = _____ ?	X 12 miles = _____ ?
x 52 weeks = _____ ?	X 52 weeks= _____ ?
	+ coal, oil, <u>water</u> and wages @ £100 per week per mile
	X 12 miles = _____ ?
	X 52 weeks= _____ ?
Total: £ _____	Total: _____

Did they really pay that many people to work at a small country station in the heyday of steam?

YES!



Answer? _____

Choose one Micawber result:

- (a) Ecstasy
- (b) Happiness
- (c) Sadness
- (d) Misery
- (e) Suicidal despair