Mood Meter Puzzle Solution
By Jorge Zhang

THE SUBTRACTIVE MOOD METER
Consider the title of this puzzle to see the light

format=(c,v)=(x,y)

LOATHING	DISGUST	HATRED	ANTAGONISM	AGGRESSIVE	GUILT	COMPOSURE	PREDICTIVE	EXPECTING	VIGILANCE
HATEFUL	SCORN	DETESTABLE	BETRAYED	DISRESPECTED	SHY	IMPRESSED	RESPECTED	ANTICIPATIVE	TRUSTING
CRITICAL	NAUSEATED	REVOLTED	DISAPPOINTED	JUDGMENTAL	AWARE	INVESTED	INTERESTED	PROLEPSIS	NOSTALGIC
BITTER	DISAPPROVAL	HORRIFIED	JEALOUS	HESITANT	ALERT	DEJA VU	FORGETFUL	VALUED	SENTIMENTAL
REMORSE	PENSIVENESS	CONTEMPT	REPELLED	DISLIKE	SENSITIVE	SARCASTIC	WARY	INDIFFERENCE	CREATIVE
REJECTED	INSIGNIFICANT	WEAK	FOOLISH	INEFFECTUAL	CONFUSED	STRUCK	EAGER	ADORATION	ADRENALIZED
INFERIOR	CONFUSED	HELPLESS	INSECURE	EMBARRASSED	DISILLUSIONED	MISTAKEN	DAZED	INFATUATED	OBSESSED
OVERWHELMED	WORTHLESS	EXPOSED	INADEQUATE	EXCLUDED	ABANDONED	PERPLEXED	ASTONISHED	WONDER	INFLUENCED
DREAD	THREATENED	INCAPABLE	PATHETIC	PALTRY	DISTRACTED	MISLED	BEWILDERED	STARTLED	RESPECT
TERROR	AGONY	FEAR	LOUSY	COLD	STUTTERING	SUBMISSIVE	ADMIRATION	AWED	AMAZEMENT

POWER (vertical axis)

SECURITY (horizontal axis)

Subtractive

Pleasant (,)$_4$ + Contempt (,)$_5$ = Irritated (,)$_{21}$

? (s , u) + Distracted (,)$_{14}$ + ? (, e)$_7$ = ? (, a)$_{20}$

? (,)$_{12}$ + Submissive (b , u) = Exhausted (,)$_{26}$

? (,)$_{24}$ + Perplexed (,)$_{31}$ = Satisfied (,)$_{30}$

Abandoned (,) + Pensiveness (,)$_{19\ 13}$ = ? (,)$_{22\ 15}$

Alert (,)$_{29}$ + ? (,)$_{33}$ = Invested (,)$_{32}$

Additive

Miserable (,)$_3$ + Repulsed (,)$_{11}$ = ? (,)$_{1\ 8}$

Aware (,)$_2$ + Wary (,)$_9$ = ? (,)$_{25}$

? (,)$_{16}$ + Repulsed (,) + ? (d ,) = ? (g ,)$_{23}$

? (,)$_{34\ 27}$ + Thoughtful (,)$_6$ = Motivated (,)$_{28}$

Despondent (,)$_{17}$ + Peaceful (,) = ? (,)$_{10\ 18}$

The answer to this puzzle is a dichotomy

$\overline{1}\ \overline{2}\ \overline{3}\ \overline{4}$ $\overline{5}\ \overline{6}\ \overline{7}\ \overline{8}\ \overline{9}\ \overline{10}\ \overline{11}\ \overline{12}\ \overline{13}\ \overline{14}$ $\overline{15}\ \overline{16}\ \overline{17}$ $\overline{18}\ \overline{19}\ \overline{20}\ \overline{21}\ \overline{22}\ \overline{23}\ \overline{24}\ \overline{25}\ \overline{26}\ \overline{27}\ \overline{28}\ \overline{29}$ $\overline{30}\ \overline{31}\ \overline{32}\ \overline{33}\ \overline{34}$

MOOD METER
How are you feeling?

ENRAGED	PANICKED	STRESSED	JITTERY	SHOCKED	SURPRISED	UPBEAT	FESTIVE	EXHILARATED	ECSTATIC
LIVID	FURIOUS	FRUSTRATED	TENSE	STUNNED	HYPER	CHEERFUL	MOTIVATED	INSPIRED	ELATED
FUMING	FRIGHTENED	ANGRY	NERVOUS	RESTLESS	ENERGIZED	LIVELY	ENTHUSIASTIC	OPTIMISTIC	EXCITED
ANXIOUS	APPREHENSIVE	WORRIED	IRRITATED	ANNOYED	PLEASED	HAPPY	FOCUSED	PROUD	THRILLED
REPULSED	TROUBLED	CONCERNED	UNEASY	PEEVED	PLEASANT	JOYFUL	HOPEFUL	PLAYFUL	BLISSFUL
DISGUSTED	GLUM	DISAPPOINTED	DOWN	APATHETIC	AT EASE	EASYGOING	CONTENT	LOVING	FULFILLED
PESSIMISTIC	MOROSE	DISCOURAGED	SAD	BORED	CALM	SECURE	SATISFIED	GRATEFUL	TOUCHED
ALIENATED	MISERABLE	LONELY	DISHEARTENED	TIRED	RELAXED	CHILL	RESTFUL	BLESSED	BALANCED
DESPONDENT	DEPRESSED	SULLEN	EXHAUSTED	FATIGUED	MELLOW	THOUGHTFUL	PEACEFUL	COMFY	CAREFREE
DESPAIR	HOPELESS	DESOLATE	SPENT	DRAINED	SLEEPY	COMPLACENT	TRANQUIL	COZY	SERENE

ENERGY (vertical axis)

PLEASANTNESS (horizontal axis)

Key Realization One: (c,v) = (consonants, vowels), (x,y) = coordinates on the plane
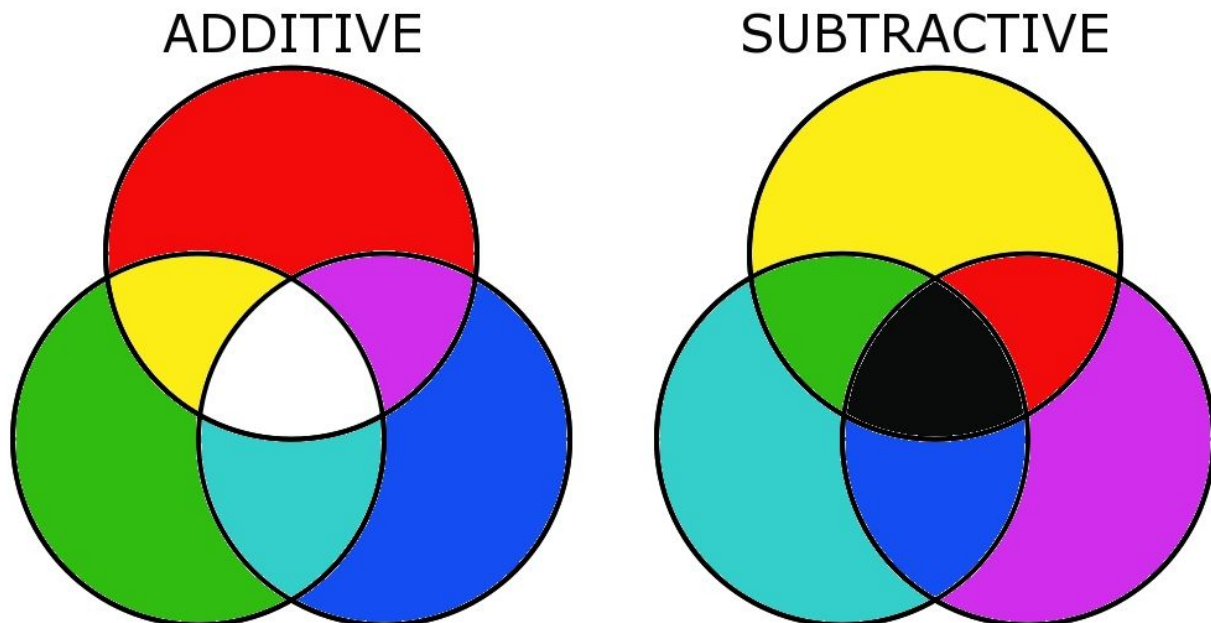The format gives away a big hint. Treat every section of the mood meter as a coordinate plane. For example, Pleasant is at (1,1) on the original mood meter. The first consonant in Pleasant is P. The first vowel in Pleasant is E. Thus, Pleasant = (P, E)

Key Realization Two: The key phrase at the bottom of the page corresponds to (c,v) pairs
For example, Pleasant = (P, E). Under the P, a 4 is written. Therefore, the fourth letter of the key phrase is P.

Key Realization Three: Colors can be combined with each other to get new colors
"Subtractive Mood Meter" is a huge hint. It refers to the fact that cyan, magenta, and yellow pigments combine with each other to make different colors when printing things (CMYK, where K is black). This is called "Subtractive" because pigments absorb light, reflecting less and less until they reflect no light back (corresponding to black). On the other hand, red, green, and blue light combine to make different colors (RGB). This is called "Additive" because colored light combines until all colors are present (corresponding to white).

Use these rules when figuring out which section of the mood meter the unknown words are located in. For example, Pleasant is yellow, Contempt is magenta, and Irritated is red. Magenta + Yellow = Red, so therefore Pleasant + Contempt = Irritated.
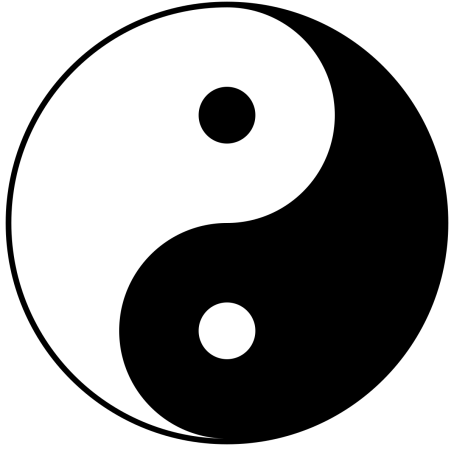
Key Realization Four: Coordinates on the grid are add together when colors mix
For example, Pleasant is (1,1) and Contempt is (3,1). Pleasant (1,1) + Contempt (3,1) = Irritated (4,1).

Using these key realizations, the key phrase can be found. It is "Swap Threatened and Anticipative Seven"

Key Realization Five
Seven simply means that the answer is seven letters. When you swap threatened and anticipative, it should look something like this:

The answer is YIN YANG.