

Horary Astrology & Probability

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Three Days of Live Video Broadcasts Oct 1, 2, & 3 2010

Consider this month's ephemeris

Day	☉	☽	♂	♀	♃	♄	♅	♆	♁
1	07:43	05:42	259:22	126:15	108:52	274:00	07:44	264:14	02:52 07:11
2	08:42	13:20	270:07	126:20	110:23	274:00	07:52	264:17	02:52 07:10
3	09:41	08:20	209:53	126:42	120:14	264:53	08:59	264:10	02:53 07:08
4	10:40	17:44	00:40	126:53	126:26	264:45	09:07	264:14	02:54 07:07
5	11:40	02:23	03:37	126:40	126:37	264:37	09:14	264:09	02:54 07:06
6	12:38	17:29	04:14	126:20	145:19	264:30	09:21	264:03	02:55 06:55
7	13:37	02:37	06:01	126:12	150:00	264:23	09:28	264:01	02:55 06:52
8	14:37	17:41	07:49	126:14	156:42	264:15	09:36	264:01	02:56 06:48
9	15:36	12:42	09:36	126:11	160:23	264:08	09:44	264:01	02:56 06:45
10	16:35	17:42	11:21	126:11	166:05	264:01	09:51	264:01	02:56 06:42
11	17:34	07:50	13:07	126:06	170:47	264:04	09:58	264:01	02:56 06:39
12	18:34	14:27	14:52	126:50	180:29	264:03	09:58	264:01	02:56 06:35
13	19:33	27:43	16:37	126:40	190:11	264:01	09:58	264:01	02:56 06:32
14	20:33	10:23	18:21	126:35	196:53	264:04	09:58	264:01	02:56 06:29
15	21:32	22:43	20:04	126:23	200:25	264:03	09:58	264:01	02:56 06:25
16	22:32	04:48	21:47	126:03	210:17	264:22	09:58	264:01	02:56 06:23
17	23:31	16:44	23:29	126:43	216:59	264:15	09:42	264:01	02:56 06:20
18	24:31	08:56	25:11	126:22	224:42	264:09	09:45	264:01	02:56 06:17
19	25:30	10:36	26:51	126:20	230:24	264:03	09:57	264:01	02:56 06:14
20	26:30	22:25	28:32	126:32	240:06	264:01	09:54	264:01	02:56 06:10
21	27:29	04:13	30:11	126:44	246:45	264:01	09:52	264:01	02:56 06:07
22	28:28	15:57	31:50	126:44	255:21	264:01	09:51	264:01	02:56 06:04
23	29:28	27:43	03:29	126:33	260:14	264:01	09:52	264:01	02:56 06:01
24	30:28	11:09	05:06	126:10	260:07	264:06	09:59	264:01	02:56 05:58
25	01:28	23:45	06:43	126:56	270:20	264:01	09:40	264:01	02:56 05:54
26	02:28	06:31	08:20	126:22	280:22	264:07	09:47	264:01	02:56 05:51
27	03:28	19:18	09:56	126:45	290:06	264:22	09:54	264:01	02:56 05:48
28	04:28	02:38	11:31	126:59	298:40	264:13	10:01	264:01	02:56 05:45
29	05:27	14:20	13:06	126:32	300:20	264:13	10:08	264:01	02:56 05:42
30	06:27	27:38	14:41	126:56	01:24	264:09	10:15	264:01	02:56 05:38
31	07:27	13:32	16:15	126:03	01:57	264:06	10:22	264:01	02:56 05:35

Highlights of October 2010

- Venus goes retrograde and stays so until Nov. 17th
- Mars and Venus conjoin on October 3rd in the sign of Mar's dignity and Venus' detriment
- Sun and Saturn conjoin October 1st in the sign of the Sun's fall and Saturn's exaltation

Highlights of October 2010

- Mercury and Jupiter oppose on October 1st and then make no further aspect for the rest of the month
- Uranus is often the last aspect of the Moon
- During the month, Mercury, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn all have dignity – which is extraordinarily high

Observations

- We emphasize the planets that rule opposite signs because so many horary questions involve this combination
- If a particular month as few planets in dignity (which is often the case), then a perfection that requires both application and dignity simply cannot happen.

Conclusion

- More often than not, there is no pair of planets to be signifiers of the Querent and Quesited that are in an approaching soft aspect, or other configuration denoting perfection.
- Even in especially difficult months, the Moon will have dignity for better than a week, but may be blocked in her better signs.

So then...

- All this points quite simply to the high probability of a "no" when a question is asked.
- If a horary astrologer does not observe that the majority of questions result in a "no," then further exploration really should be considered, because the results really are unusual.

Explanations for a High Positive Result

- If the theory of divination holds, then a Querent with a "yes" question will simply ask it at the right time to get a "yes."
- The astrologer may be using a rule set that produces a higher percentage of "yes" responses.
 - An example would be ignoring the condition of a planet, and just using its aspects.

False Positive & Negative

- Is a negative or a positive answer “worth” more than the other because of this?
- If one takes the divining process seriously, the answer is no.
- There is one intermediate case: the partial yes.

The Partial “Yes”

- The partial “Yes” occurs when some of the conditions for a positive result are met – but not all of them.
- In classical, this is usually an issue of dignity, or disposition.

Perfection without Dignity

- Lilly actually allowed this. In fact, he never even stated that having non-peregrine significators was desirable.
- In examining my own horaries, I discovered I was wrong too often when significators were peregrine.

Was Lilly Wrong?

- Possibly. There is always this possibility.
- But it's also possible that societal changes made the questions harder in our modern context. Consider marriage.

Marriage Now and Then

- In the 17th c., if you were of a high enough class, you had no choice in your own marriage.
- If you were a male without sufficient means, marriage might not be possible for you unless you created those means.
- If you were a woman without a dowry, marriage might not be possible either.

Marriage Now and Then

- In a society with less mixing, lower population density and strong socio-economic stratification, there weren't so many choices.
- Homosexuality wasn't an option.
- Living together was only an option if you were of the lowest class.

Marriage Now and Then

- Today, marriage is not treated as permanent, and many couple prefer to live together for some time.
- Societal preferences mean that the significance of the decision has considerably altered.
- The very multiplicity of choices tends to make each question less urgent.

Urgency of Question

- When the answer to a question is less urgent, it is entirely possible that things have to line up more perfectly.
- This may seem counter-intuitive, but the reason that this may be true is that modern questions are much closer to the edge of being “true” questions at all.

Do We Need to Care?

- Our clients probably don't.
- They don't, because there is nothing about this to suggest that a client cannot obtain a correct yes or no, as appropriate.
- There is nothing about this fact which mandates any change to horary delineation.

Do We Need to Care?

- Where this matters is as practitioners, who need to understand the dynamics of the art
- It's always been pretty obvious that, when Querents ask questions, they are often asking permission for a "no."

Do We Need to Care?

- New horary astrologers often feel pulled to find the "yes" in a chart.
- Knowledge of these frequencies should make that angst unnecessary.

What this means for Practice

- People should not attempt to go into horary unprepared to say "no."
- In fact, it is a meaningful matter to consider how to talk to people about a "no" answer.

How Frequent is the "No" in All Astrology?

- Natal Astrology: not everyone is:
 - Beautiful
 - Rich
 - Successful
 - Happy
 - Free from disease

How Frequent is the "No" in All Astrology?

- Natal Astrology: this solar return or year as a "no"
 - Not every year is exciting
 - There are problems that will not be resolved this year
 - Some years that property won't sell
 - Some years you can't get that promotion – and you may not even be able to stay employed

How Frequent is the "No" in All Astrology?

- Electional astrology:
 - What if the people proposing to marry aren't suited?
 - What if the natal precludes what is being elected?

How Frequent is the "No" in All Astrology?

- Mundane Astrology:
 - What if the Aries Ingress or Eclipses show bad things?
 - Can a country avert disaster?