

**Jive Talkin', Math Walkin' (by R. E. Cone)**

( Street Corner Gang: Greet each other and me, ask "Dr. Mathenstein" (me) to tell a story )

(Dr. Mathenstein appears in bold below)

**There once was this friend of mine,  
And "Six" was the name she'd go by.  
The Greeks called her "Hexa",  
And later, just to vex ya,  
The Romans instead dubbed her "Vi".**

( Street Corner Gang: "Oh I get it!" "Jive Five and a One" Fingers indicating "Vi" = VI )

**Now in terms of the history of mankind  
Vi was a youngster on the number line,  
but Vi was in suspicion  
of being a composition  
of two old silly tallies called 'II' and 'III'.**

( Street Corner Gang: "Solid!" "Two times three equal six!" Fingers indicating the numbers two and three. )

**Now as a sly rule, that Vi was no fool,  
Called 'Perfect' by folks high class;  
Yet there was this jerk that  
doubted Vi's worth  
She just said 'Kiss my Pythagoras!'**

( Street Corner Gang: Raucous laughter, knee slapping, high (or low) fives. )

**Now Vi's binary representation  
seems to cause little consternation  
since the answer has only zeroes and ones.  
So, if you like Vi,  
and are ready to try  
tell me the answer just for fun!**

( Street Corner Gang: Encourage the audience to answer the question. Perhaps ask me to repeat last stanza. )

( Transition to slides, wherein the riddles continue. )

Now Vi knew this old dude,  
As for solids he was no noob.  
Funny Vi called him Plato,  
For one night at the disco,  
He said: 'Six are the sides of my \_\_\_\_.'

Its strange, but Vi thought money quite handsome,  
And coins she'd strange arrange unrandom,  
Because six on the table  
Around one more she was able  
To solve the 2D \_\_\_\_\_ problem.

So, here's a riddle for your hey-diddle-diddle  
to twiddle in your griddle from the end to the middle:  
Before we say 'good-bye'  
to each other and to Vi,  
Fill in the blank to a rap by Lewis Carroll:  
'Sometimes I've believed as many as \_\_\_\_ impossible things before breakfast.'