

Quiz2

Ciphertext:  
ECDTM ECAER AUOOL  
EDSAM MERNE NASSO  
DYTNR VBNLC RLTIQ  
LAETR IGAWE BAAEI  
HOR

E R A S B L E  
C A M S N A B  
D U M O L E A  
T O E D C T A  
M O R Y R R E  
E L N T L I I  
C E E N T G H  
A D N R I A O  
E S A V Q W R

⇒

L A S E R B E  
A M S C A N B  
E M O D U L A  
T E D T O C A  
R R Y M O R E  
I N T E L L I  
G E N C E T H  
A N R A D I O  
W A V E S Q R

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
8	2	3	3	9	0	1	1	3	0	0	4	3	4	4	0	1	6	3	4	1	1	1	0	1	0

How to determine the dimension of the

- In this case we have 63 letters.
- Vowel Frequencies can help us to determine
- In English approximately 40% of plaintext is vowels. If we assume the correct dimension, each row of the rectangle should contain approximately 2.0 vowels.
- For example, there are 21 letters in the ciphertext.
- Because we know that the message contains 21 letters, we can consider either a 3X7 or a 7X3 array.
- Consider our choice between 3X7 and 7X3.
- For a 3X7 rectangle, each row should contain approximately 2.0 vowels.
- Let us note the difference between this estimate and the actual count to find the right dimension.

laser beam scan be modulated  
to carry more intelligence than  
radio waves

Example:

Either

A I T M T S E  
S R F I K O E  
A I N M L I M

or

A F L  
S N S  
A M O  
I I I  
R M E  
I T E  
T K M

40% vowels. Consider our choice between 3×7 and 7×3.

For a 3×7 rectangle, each row should contain approximately 2.8 vowels.  
Let us note the difference between this estimate and the actual count:

	Number of vowels							Difference
A	I	T	M	T	S	E	3	0.2
S	R	F	I	K	O	E	3	0.2
A	I	N	M	L	I	M	3	0.2

The sum of the differences is 0.6.

For a 7×3 rectangle:

	Number of vowels				Difference
A	F	L	1		0.2
S	N	S	0		1.2
A	M	O	2		0.8
I	I	I	3		1.8
R	M	E	1		0.2
I	T	E	2		0.8
T	K	M	0		1.2

The sum of the differences is 6.2. It appears that the 3×7 rectangle is more likely.

Practice:

Transposition - Columnar Transposition

E	R	A
C	A	M
D	U	M
T	O	E
M	O	R
E	L	N
C	E	E
A	D	N
E	S	A

