

The hint tells us that each of these three numbers could represent a word in a message. There are 9 paragraphs data in book.txt with a maximum of 17 lines. The intuition is that each triple uses the following scheme to decode a word:

$$(1, 9, 4) = (\text{paragraph}, \text{line}, \text{word})$$

By following the aforementioned intuition, we obtain:

(1, 9, 4) === the

(4, 2, 8) === flag

(4, 8, 3) === is

(7, 1, 5) === Ceremonial

(8, 10, 1) === plates

The flag is: “*The flag is Ceremonial plates.*”