

INFORMATION ASSURANCE AND SECURITY 2 – Cipher Quiz Solutions

1. Vigenère Cipher (Encryption)

Key = SURVIVE

Plaintext = THE CHANCES OF LIFE AND DEATH

Steps:

1. Remove spaces: THECHANCESOFLIFEANDDEATH

2. Repeat key: SURVIVESURVIVESURVIVESURV

3. Encrypt: $C = (P + K) \text{ mod } 26$

Example: $T(19)+S(18)=37 \rightarrow 11=L$, $H(7)+U(20)=27 \rightarrow 1=B$, $E(4)+R(17)=21 \rightarrow V$, $C(2)+I(8)=10 \rightarrow K$

4. Continue for all letters.

Ciphertext: LBVXPVRUYJJNGMXYRILYISNY

Final Answer (box this):

[LBVXPVRUYJJNGMXYRILYISNY]

2. Caesar Shift Cipher (Decryption)

Key = 11

Ciphertext = QTRSELYONZYBFPC

Steps:

1. Convert each letter $A=0 \dots Z=25$.

2. Decrypt: $P = (C - 11) \text{ mod } 26$.

Example: $Q(16)-11=5 \rightarrow F$, $T(19)-11=8 \rightarrow I$, $R(17)-11=6 \rightarrow G$, $S(18)-11=7 \rightarrow H$.

3. Continue for all letters.

Plaintext: FIGHTANDCONQUER

Final Answer:

[FIGHTANDCONQUER]

3. Atbash Cipher

Ciphertext: RGRHZNZGGVILUORUVZMWVZGS

Rule: Replace each letter with its Atbash opposite ($A \leftrightarrow Z$, $B \leftrightarrow Y$, ..., $M \leftrightarrow N$).

Plaintext: ITISAMATTEROFLIFEANDEATH

Final Answer:

[ITISAMATTEROFLIFEANDEATH]

4. Pigpen Cipher (Image 1)

Steps:

1. Draw the pigpen grid key.

2. Decode each symbol.

Plaintext: INFORMATION

Final Answer:

[INFORMATION]

5. Pigpen Cipher (Image 2)

Steps:

1. Draw the pigpen grid key.

2. Decode each symbol.

Plaintext: SECURITYBREACHDETECTED

Final Answer:

[SECURITYBREACHDETECTED]

6. Vigenère Cipher (Decryption)

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Key = WAR
Ciphertext = OKZHLMVQLCAUAR
Steps:
1. Repeat key: WARWARWARWARWAR
2. Decrypt: P = (C - K) mod 26.
Plaintext: DEFENDTHEBASE

Final Answer:
[ DEFENDTHEBASE ]
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7. Hill Cipher (Encryption)

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Key = JAZZ → Matrix [[9,0],[25,25]]
Plaintext = ZEST

Steps:
1. Convert letters: Z(25)E(4), S(18)T(19)
2. Multiply each digraph by key mod 26.
Ciphertext digraphs: RX, GP → RXGP

Final Answer:
[ RXGP ]
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8. Hill Cipher (Decryption)

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Key = JAZZ
Ciphertext = MDKA

Steps:
1. Build K=[[9,0],[25,25]], find det=17, det⁻¹=23.
2. K⁻¹ = [[3,0],[23,25]].
3. Multiply K⁻¹ * (12,3)=(K N), (10,0)=(E W)
Plaintext: KNEW

Final Answer:
[ KNEW ]
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9. Playfair Cipher

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Key = FIVE
Ciphertext = CVTGKOGYSZ

Steps:
1. Create Playfair grid (combine I/J).
2. Split ciphertext: CV TG KO GY SZ.
3. Apply decryption rules.
Plaintext: DISHONESTY

Final Answer:
[ DISHONESTY ]
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