

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: $C = (P + K) \bmod 26$
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: LBVXPVRUYJJNGMXRILYISNY

Final Answer (box this):
[LBVXPVRUYJJNGMXRILYISNY]

2. Caesar Shift Cipher (Decryption)

Key = 11
Ciphertext = QTRSELYONZYBFPC

Steps:

1. Convert each letter $A=0..Z=25$.
2. Decrypt: $P = (C - 11) \bmod 26$.
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 = OKZHLMVQLCAAUAR
Steps:
1. Repeat key: WARWARWARWARWAR
2. Decrypt:  $P = (C - K) \bmod 26$ .
Plaintext: DEFENDTHEBASE

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

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Key = JAZZ → Matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} 9 & 0 \\ 25 & 25 \end{bmatrix}$ 
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  $K = \begin{bmatrix} 9 & 0 \\ 25 & 25 \end{bmatrix}$ , find  $\det=17$ ,  $\det^{-1}=23$ .
2.  $K^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 23 & 25 \end{bmatrix}$ .
3. Multiply  $K^{-1} * (12,3) = (K^{-1}N)$ ,  $(10,0) = (E\ W)$ 
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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