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A11

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Before you become too entranced with gorgeous gadgets and mesmerizing video displays, let me remind you that information is not knowledge, knowledge is not wisdom, and wisdom is not foresight. Each grows out of the other, and we need them all.

Arthur C. Clarke

To begin using frequency analysis to decipher the message, I started counting the occurrences of each letter. I noticed 25 instances of the letter V. This led me to look at the most common letters and combinations. I tried the different letters and combinations until I tried substituting E for the letter V. When doing the substitution, I started to see words using the key of 17 with the Caesar cipher to decrypt the message.

Adding more cipher text would not make it any more difficult, as you can still look for the common repetition of letters and combinations to find the key for the cipher. To make the cipher text more challenging to decrypt, I would try to limit my use of commonly used letters and combinations.

I enjoyed this assignment and plan to practice with Caesar and other ciphers to learn more about them and how to break them.

Sources:

"Caesar Cipher" dcode, https://www.dcode.fr/caesar-cipher. Accessed 12 November 2023.

"Frequency Analysis" 101computing, https://www.101computing.net/frequency-analysis/.

Accessed 12 November 2023.