Challange Write Up
CTF: Hacktivity
Challenge: Fan Theory (forensics steganography)

P4PA_0V3RL0RD

1 Introduction

Challenge description has multiple lines following the format **I:X:Y** where X and Y are some number. Attached is a synopsis of a fan theory regarding two popular movies, Snowpiercer and Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.

2 Solution steps

DISCLAIMER: From step 2 onward, solutions come from DunSp4rce CTF team with their write up here

1. Using each line in the description as a map of sorts, we can extract specific letters from the fan theory document. For example. If the line says I:40:50, we take the [50-1]th character at line [40-1](the -1 to account for 0 indexing).

2. The result from this is a string resembling a flag but not quite.
   eluw{eei jyluduwqjylusetui}

3. Using a ceaser shift, we find that a part of the Ceaser-16 has english
   oveg{oos tivenegativecodes}

4. At this point we can guess the flag:
   flag{postivienegativecodes}

3 Conclusion

The challenge displays some creative indexing methods as the initial part of the challenge. In all honesty, I could not solve past this step and apparently did not look close enough at the Ceaser 1-25 shift results, as one did have most of the flag. Overall, well thought out, straight-forward and creative challenge.