Professor Barker

08/31/12

Grille Cipher

You should have received a paper filled with possibly random characters during the first day of class. This paper contains a message in it.

- 1. Name at least 5 ways you can think of that a message could be hidden in these letters
 - a. Crossword puzzle
 - b. Knowledge of the person the message came from
 - c. Frequency of letters in each message
 - d. Each row/column could be scrabbled up from the original message
 - e. Random pattern in the message
- 2. How secure do you think the message is
 - a. Very, as you said in class without the other pages in the message this would be almost impossible to crack. Even with all the messages the last harry potter word was hard to crack.
- 3. Would it be possible to figure out the message using a computer and what would be the approach?
 - a. We could use the computer like we did in class, a java program, excel worksheet, or a different program to calculate the frequency of each letter, to see any pattern, or random occurrence.
- 4. Look at your paper and see if you could spell bomb at noon? Would the computer come up with different possible messages and what are your thoughts about proving which one is meant in court?
 - a. Yes you could there is every letter in the alphabet. I bet it would, or come up with the same or different message in a different location. Using this message you really wouldn't have much evidence in proving when the bomb would be going off or were. But if you had the cipher to tell you when the event and where the event might go down then yeah that would be evidence in court.
- 5. Using the grille cipher paper provided in class. What is your secret message
 - a. BASILISK the snake from harry potter the chamber of secrets.