

F-Secure Cybersecurity Competition Malaysia 2019

Qualifying Round Questions & Answers

QUESTION 1

Deobfuscate the file and identify the flag from the PowerShell script.

File/Folder Name: Q1

```
-----  
The answer for this challenge follows standard F-Secure Cyber Security 2019  
competition flag:  
fs<flag>cyber  
Examples:  
fsrandom_lksmlfkmdfijsfdsfcyber  
fs_s0meth1ng_s0meth1ng_cyber  
fsiamhandsomecyber  
-----
```

ANSWER Q1

- 1) Running the script gives output : **Pay me 10 Bitcoin for answer!!!**
- 2) Basically for PowerShell we have to search for Invoke-Expression (IEX).

At the end of the script, instruction are piped using |.

Checking code after | shows (\$sHELLId[1]+\$sHELLId[13]+'X')

Running (\$sHELLId[1]+\$sHELLId[13]+'X') in PowerShell gives output **'iex'**.

- 3) Let's look at the code before the | instruction:

```
. ( $eNv:COMSpEC[4,26,25]-jOiN'' ) ("$(Set 'OfS' ' ') " + [STRING] ($AXoj7p[ -  
1 ..-( $AXoj7p.LENGth ) ])+" $( seT-vARiABLE 'OfS' ' ' )" )
```

. (\$eNv:COMSpEC[4,26,25]-jOiN'') is again **'iex'**

[STRING] (\$AXoj7p[-1 ..-(\$AXoj7p.LENGth)]) – this means that whatever will be the value in variable (\$AXoj7p will be reversed and passed to IEX for execution

- 4) The first part of the script shows the value of the variable \$AXOJ7p:

```
SEt-VARiABle AXOJ7p (" ))63]rahc['zcR' ecAlpErc-  
43]rahc[,56]rahc[+27]rahc[+711]rahc[(ecAlpErc- '))AHu!!!rewsna rof  
'+'n'+ 'iocti'+'B 01 '+'em yaP'+ 'AHu('+'t'+ 'soh-  
etirW{esle})AHurebyc'+ 'm0s'+ 'n'+ 'aRerOM0NsF'+ 'AHu(tsoh-et'+ 'irW{)0'+ '1 e'+ '1l-  
xzcR( '+'fi;  
  
'+'02=xzcR( ((('x'+)31[DILLEHS$+]1[dILlEhs$ ( . " ) ;
```

5) By step 3, we know that this value needs to be reversed, so let's reverse the value using cyberchef (<https://gchq.github.io/CyberChef/>)

Reversed value :

```
) " . ( $shElLId[1]+$SHElLlID[13]+'x') ((( 'Rczx=20'+  
;if'+ ' (Rczx -1'+ 'e 1'+ '0) {Wri'+ 'te-  
host (uHA'+ 'fsNOM0reRa'+ 'n'+ 's0m'+ 'cyberuHA) } else {Write-hos'+ 't'+ ' (uHA'+ 'Pay  
me'+ ' 10 B'+ 'itcoi'+ 'n'+ ' for answer!!!uHA) }') -  
crEplAce ([char]117+[char]72+[char]65), [char]34 -crEplAce 'Rcz', [char]36)) "(
```

6) Now we can see that there are 2 replace function inside this value:

```
[char]117+[char]72+[char]65), [char]34 → uHA replaced with "  
'Rcz', [char]36 → Rcz replaced with $
```

7) We can already see our required output after reversing the variable value, let's apply the replacement, and remove the concatenation string '+' as well.

```
Wri'+ 'te-host (uHA'+ 'fsNOM0reRa'+ 'n'+ 's0m'+ 'cyberuHA) } becomes  
Write-host ("fsNOM0reRans0mcyber") } which outputs our answer
```

QUESTION 2

Investigate the Spreadsheet and identify the flag.

HINT: Flag is in a cell hidden within the sheet.

File/Folder Name: Q2

The answer for this challenge follows standard F-Secure Cyber Security 2019 competition flag:

fs<flag>cyber

Examples:

fsrandom_lksmlfkmdfijsfdfsfcyber

fs_s0meth1ng_s0meth1ng_cyber

fsiamhandsomecyber

ANSWER Q2

The Excel file contains the following type of sheets:-

- Normal: (Sheet1 - Sheet3)
- Hidden: (Sheet4 - Sheet6)
- Very Hidden: (Sheet7 - Sheet20)

One of the Very Hidden sheets contains a visible string ("I'm here:") at B7, which also contains the flag, written in white colour with a long whitespaces in between the string "I'm here:" and the flag.

One of way to solve the challenge:

- Open the file using Microsoft Excel, and then press Alt+F11, which will open the Visual Basic Editor.
- In the Project Explorer Tab, select Sheet13 and change the Visible property to: -1 - xlSheetVisible
- Go back to the main Excel view and Sheet13 will now be visible.
- Open Sheet13 and find cell B7.
- Select all of the characters in B7 cell and change the font color to black to make the flag visible.

QUESTION 3

Identify the file and then extract the flag.

HINT: flag is in radix 55?, 65?, 75?, .? or 95?

File/Folder Name: Q3

The answer for this challenge follows standard F-Secure Cyber Security 2019 competition flag:

fs<flag>cyber

Examples:

fsrandom_lksmlfkmdfijsfdfsfcyber

fs_s0meth1ng_s0meth1ng_cyber

fsiamhandsomecyber

ANSWER Q3

This challenge contains an unknown file. When the user tries to identify the file, they will find it is a .MSG file that been exported.

The .MSG can be opened using any email client, such as Thunderbird or Outlook.

When opening the message, the following message is displayed:

"Hello Fellows!

Here is the flag as we discussed.

AohEiF(I<gASu!rA7]7r@V'Q

I hope you remember what base it is :p

Regards,

Fellow"

From the message we can see that there is a hint, “what base it is”. After multiple base’s attempts, such as base64 35 etc., you will find that base85 is the only base that outputs a readable ASCII string with the flag.

QUESTION 4

Identify the flag from the image. Key can be found in the file to unlock the flag.

File/Folder Name: Q4

The answer for this challenge follows standard F-Secure Cyber Security 2019 competition flag:
fs<flag>cyber
Examples:
fsrandom_lksmlfkmdfijsfdfsfcyber
fs_s0meth1ng_s0meth1ng_cyber
fsiamhandsomecyber

ANSWER Q4

The image has a hint under the image comments and description of the company.

This challenge contains a “flag.txt” embedded in the fs.jpeg, but a password is needed to extract it. The password is 'fsecure', based on the comment section from the image. Software to use to extract can be steghide or any other steganography tools.

QUESTION 5

Debug and identify the the flag from the shellcode.

HINT: Just continue debugging

File/Folder Name: Q5

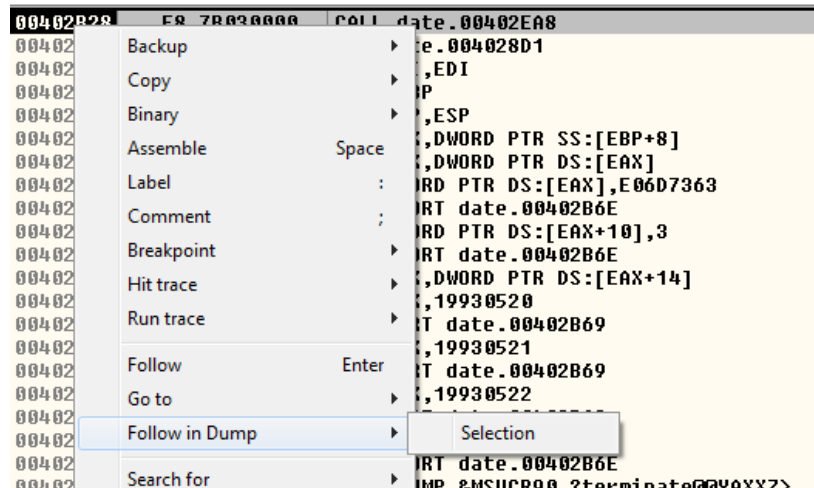
The answer for this challenge follows standard F-Secure Cyber Security 2019 competition flag:
fs<flag>cyber
Examples:
fsrandom_lksmlfkmdfijsfdfsfcyber
fs_s0meth1ng_s0meth1ng_cyber
fsiamhandsomecyber

ANSWER Q5

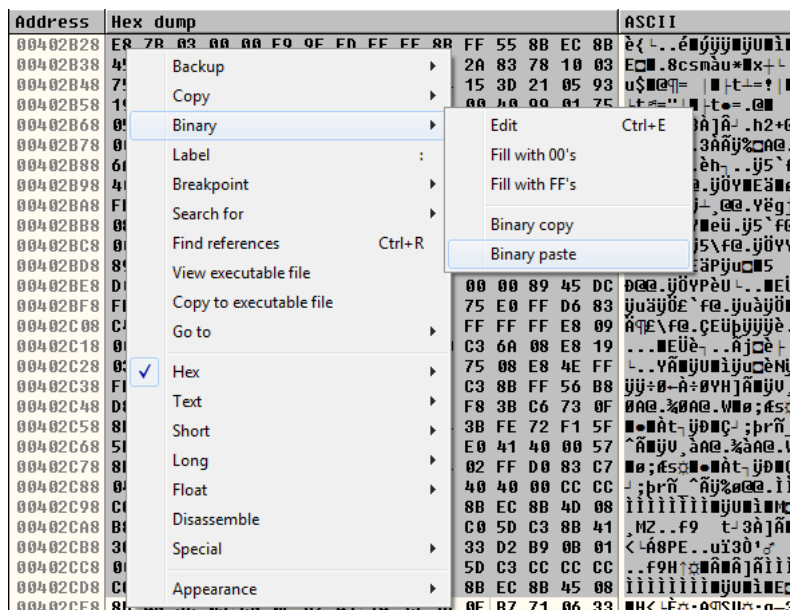
You can use any available shellcode debugger to debug this shellcode. Here, we describe an easier way to load the shellcode in any program.

Open Ollydbg -> Goto File-> Open -> Open any exe file you like and stop at entry point.

Right click on Entry point -> Follow in Dump -> Selection.



Now copy the hex bytes of Pickahu.bin and paste in dump.



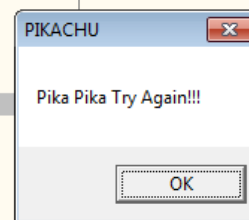
Now entry point of the file will be replaced by the shellcode and you can start debugging.

00402B28	31C9	XOR ECX,ECX	
00402B2A	64 8B 41 30	MOV EAX,DWORD PTR FS:[ECX+30]	
00402B2E	8B 40 0C	MOV EAX,DWORD PTR DS:[EAX+C]	
00402B31	8B 70 14	MOV ESI,DWORD PTR DS:[EAX+14]	
00402B34	AD	LODS DWORD PTR DS:[ESI]	
00402B35	96	XCHG EAX,ESI	
00402B36	AD	LODS DWORD PTR DS:[ESI]	
00402B37	8B 58 10	MOV EBX,DWORD PTR DS:[EAX+10]	
00402B3A	8B 53 3C	MOV EDX,DWORD PTR DS:[EBX+3C]	
00402B3D	01 0A	ADD EDX,EBX	
00402B3F	8B 52 78	MOV EDX,DWORD PTR DS:[EDX+78]	
00402B42	01 0A	ADD EDX,EBX	
00402B44	8B 72 20	MOV ESI,DWORD PTR DS:[EDX+20]	
00402B47	01 DE	ADD ESI,EBX	
00402B49	31 C9	XOR ECX,ECX	
00402B4B	41	INC ECX	
00402B4C	AD	LODS DWORD PTR DS:[ESI]	
00402B4D	01 08	ADD EAX,EBX	
00402B4F	81 38 47 65 74 50	CMP DWORD PTR DS:[EAX],50746547	
00402B55	75 F4	JNZ SHORT date.00402B4B	
00402B57	81 78 04 72 6F 62	CMP DWORD PTR DS:[EAX+4],41636F72	
ECX=00000000			

Address	Hex dump	ASCII
00402B28	31 C9 64 8B 41 30 8B 40 0C 8B 70 14 AD 96 AD 8B	1EdA0000.pq- -
00402B38	58 10 8B 53 3C 01 DA 8B 52 78 01 DA 8B 72 20 01	X+< URx Ur
00402B48	DE 31 C9 41 AD 01 D8 81 38 47 65 74 50 75 F4 81	p1EA- 08GetPu0
00402B58	78 04 72 6F 63 41 75 EB 81 78 08 64 64 72 65 75	x-rocAuexddreu
00402B68	E2 8B 72 24 01 DE 66 8B 0C 4E 49 8B 72 1C 01 DE	0Mr\$ pF.NI0r
00402B78	8B 14 8E 01 DA 31 C9 53 52 51 68 61 72 79 41 68	0q 01ESRQharyA
00402B88	4C 69 62 72 68 4C 6F 61 64 54 53 FF D2 83 C4 0C	LibrhLoadTSj00A.
00402B98	59 50 31 C0 66 B8 6C 6C 50 68 33 32 2E 64 68 75	VP1AF,11Ph32.dhu
00402BA8	73 65 72 54 FF 54 24 10 83 C4 0C 50 31 C0 88 65	serTjT\$-A.P1A,e
00402BB8	73 73 23 50 83 6C 24 03 23 68 50 72 6F 63 68 45	ss#P01\$-#hProchE
00402BC8	78 69 74 54 FF 74 24 1C FF 54 24 1C 83 C4 0C 50	xittjT\$jT\$A.P
00402BD8	31 C0 88 6F 78 41 23 50 83 6C 24 03 23 68 61 67	1A_oxA#P01\$-#hag
00402BE8	65 42 68 4D 65 73 73 54 FF 74 24 14 FF 54 24 20	eBhMessTjT\$qjT\$
00402BF8	83 C4 0C 50 31 C0 66 B8 21 21 50 68 61 69 6E 21	A.P1AF,!Phain!
00402C08	68 79 20 41 67 68 61 20 54 72 68 20 50 69 68 68	hy Agha Trh Pikh
00402C18	50 69 68 61 54 31 C0 88 43 48 55 23 50 83 6C 24	PikaT1A,CHU#P01\$
00402C28	03 23 68 50 49 4B 41 54 31 C0 50 FF 74 24 04 FF	-#hPIKA11APjT\$-j
00402C38	74 24 14 31 C0 50 FF 54 24 38 83 C4 28 31 C0 88	t\$q1APjT\$8A(1A,
00402C48	62 65 72 23 50 83 6C 24 03 23 68 68 75 63 79 68	ber#P01\$-#hhucyh
00402C58	69 68 34 63 68 6C 76 65 50 68 74 33 63 74 68 66	ik4chlvePht3cthf
00402C68	73 64 33 54 31 C0 88 43 48 55 23 50 83 6C 24 03	sd3T1A,CHU#P01\$-
00402C78	23 68 50 49 4B 41 54 31 C0 50 FF 74 24 04 FF 74	#hPIKA11APjT\$-jT
00402C88	24 14 31 C0 50 FF 54 24 38 83 C4 28 31 C0 50 FF	\$q1APjT\$8A(1APj
00402C98	54 24 08 CC CC CC CC 8B FF 55 8B EC 8B 4D 08	T\$0iiiiijun0c

Keep on debugging until you get the 1st MessageBox displaying “Pika Pika Try Again!!!”

00402C32	50	PUSH EAX	
00402C33	FF 74 24 04	PUSH DWORD PTR SS:[ESP+4]	
00402C37	FF 74 24 14	PUSH DWORD PTR SS:[ESP+14]	
00402C3B	31 C0	XOR EAX,EAX	
00402C3D	50	PUSH EAX	
00402C3E	FF 54 24 38	CALL DWORD PTR SS:[ESP+38]	
00402C42	83 C4 28	ADD ESP,28	
00402C45	31 C0	XOR EAX,EAX	
00402C47	B8 62 65 72 23	MOV EAX,23726562	
00402C4C	50	PUSH EAX	
00402C4D	83 6C 24 03 23	SUB DWORD PTR SS:[ESP+3],23	
00402C52	68 68 75 63 79	PUSH 79637568	
00402C57	68 69 6B 34 63	PUSH 63346B69	



Press OK and proceed till you see the call to user32.MessageBoxA.

Check the pushed parameters and you have your flag, fsd3t3ctlvePik4chucyber or fsd3t3ct1vePik4chucyber based on the binary you have.

00402C8A	31C0	XOR EAX,EAX	
00402C8C	50	PUSH EAX	
00402C8D	FF5424 38	CALL DWORD PTR SS:[ESP+38]	user32.MessageBoxA
00402C91	83C4 28	ADD ESP,28	
00402C94	31C0	XOR EAX,EAX	
00402C96	50	PUSH EAX	
00402C97	FF5424 08	CALL DWORD PTR SS:[ESP+8]	
00402C98	CC	INT3	
00402C9C	CC	INT3	
00402C9D	CC	INT3	
Stack SS:[0012FF74]=7601EA11 (user32.MessageBoxA)			
Jump from 00402C7C			
Address	Hex dump	ASCII	
00402B28	31 C9 64 8B 41 30 8B 40 0C 8B 70 14 AD 96 AD 8B	1EdA00@.p7- -	0012FF3C 00000000
00402B38	50 10 8B 53 3C 01 DA 8D 52 78 01 DA 8D 72 20 01	X-S< ÜMRx ÜMr	0012FF40 0012FF5C ASCII "fsd3t3ct1vePik4chucyber"
00402B48	DE 31 C9 41 AD 01 D8 81 38 47 65 74 50 75 F4 81	p1EA- 00GetPu0	0012FF44 0012FF50 ASCII "PIKACHU"
00402B58	78 04 72 6F 63 41 75 EB 81 78 08 64 64 72 65 75	x-rocAuëxQddreu	0012FF48 00000000
00402B68	E2 88 72 24 01 DE 66 8B 0C 4E 49 8B 72 1C 01 DE	âMr\$ pF. NI Mr	0012FF4C 0012FF50 ASCII "PIKACHU"
00402B78	8B 14 8E 01 DA 31 C9 53 52 51 68 61 72 79 41 68	01ESRQharyA	0012FF50 414B4950
00402B88	4C 69 62 72 68 4C 6F 61 64 54 53 FF D2 83 C4 0C	LibrhLoadTSy00A.	0012FF54 00554843
00402B98	59 50 31 C0 66 8B 6C 6C 50 68 33 32 2E 64 68 75	VP1âF 11Ph32.dhu	0012FF58 0012FF5C ASCII "fsd3t3ct1vePik4chucyber"
			0012FF5C 33647366

QUESTION 6

Debug the application to get the flag:

HINT: What day is it?

File/Folder Name: Q6

The answer for this challenge follows standard F-Secure Cyber Security 2019 competition flag:

fs<flag>cyber

Examples:

fsrandom_lksmlfkmdfijsfdfsfcyber

fs_s0meth1ng_s0meth1ng_cyber

fsiamhandsomecyber

ANSWER Q6

For this challenge, the file has an icon that gives away the fact that it's a Python script compiled into a binary exe file. Also by examining the strings, it can be seen that there are a lot of references to Python functions and modules, which also indicates the same thing.

The second step is using a popular de-compiler from py/exe → pyc . One that can be used for this case is: <https://github.com/countercept/python-exe-unpacker>.

Then run the command below after cloning the above repo:

```
python pyinstxtractor.py <filename>
```

A folder will be created with the filename_extracted as a dir. Inside the folder, you can find the Python modules used with the bytecode as well as <filename> as data file type.

On opening it in hex-editor, you can find the flag starting with <fs....cyber>. Also, the date it compares with can be seen, 1999-09-09.

QUESTION 7

Investigate the image and then decode the flag.

File/Folder Name: Q7

The answer for this challenge follows standard F-Secure Cyber Security 2019 competition flag:

fs<flag>cyber

Examples:

fsrandom_lksmlfkmdfijsfdfsfcyber

fs_s0meth1ng_s0meth1ng_cyber

fsiamhandsomecyber

ANSWER Q7

The given image is encoded using Morse code. Decoding the picture will reveal the Morse code. Deciphering the Morse code will get the flag.

QUESTION 8

Debug the application and identify the flag.

File/Folder Name: Q8

Dependencies:

- Either:
 - Visual C++ Redistributable for Visual Studio 2015
 - <https://www.microsoft.com/en-my/download/details.aspx?id=48145> or
 - <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=53587>
- Or:
 - Visual C++ Redistributable Packages for Visual Studio 2013
 - <https://www.microsoft.com/en-my/download/details.aspx?id=40784>

The answer for this challenge follows standard F-Secure Cyber Security 2019 competition flag:

fs<flag>cyber

Examples:

fsrandom_lksmlfkmdfijsfdfsfcyber

fs_s0meth1ng_s0meth1ng_cyber

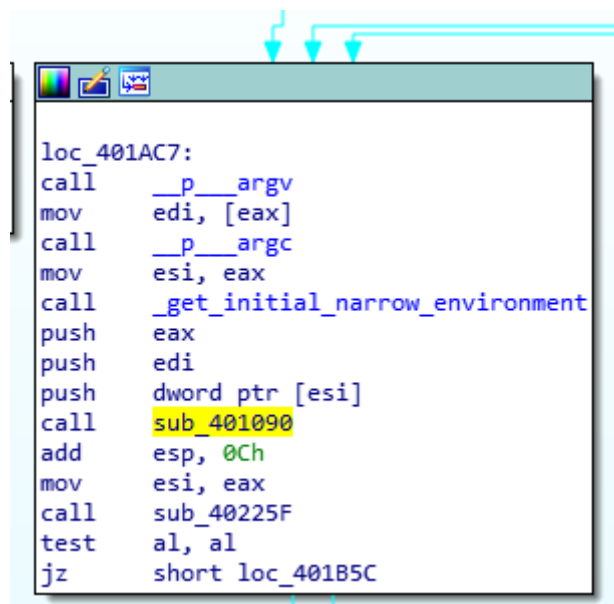
fsiamhandsomecyber

ANSWER Q8

In this challenge, you are provided with a PE file. Firstly, we will execute the program, and by doing so, the program appears to display INPUT THE KEY: and takes in an input. Putting in some random string, it prints out a failure message, as shown below.

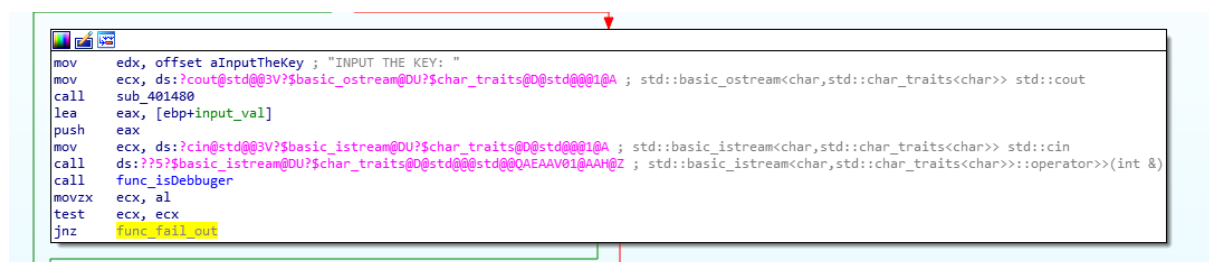
```
INPUT THE KEY: fwefwe
I'll give you an A for effort... but better luck next time!
Press any key to continue . . .
```

We can now open the file in a disassembler (e.g. IDA) to understand its overall flow and structure. By following the control flow, you can reach to the beginning of the user code section, as shown below:



```
loc_401AC7:
call    __p__argv
mov     edi, [eax]
call    __p__argc
mov     esi, eax
call    _get_initial_narrow_environment
push    eax
push    edi
push    dword ptr [esi]
call    sub_401090
add     esp, 0Ch
mov     esi, eax
call    sub_40225F
test    al, al
jz      short loc_401B5C
```

Here you can see that the program outputs “INPUT THE KEY: ” and takes an input (std::basic_istream), and stores it inside a variable (shown below as input_val).

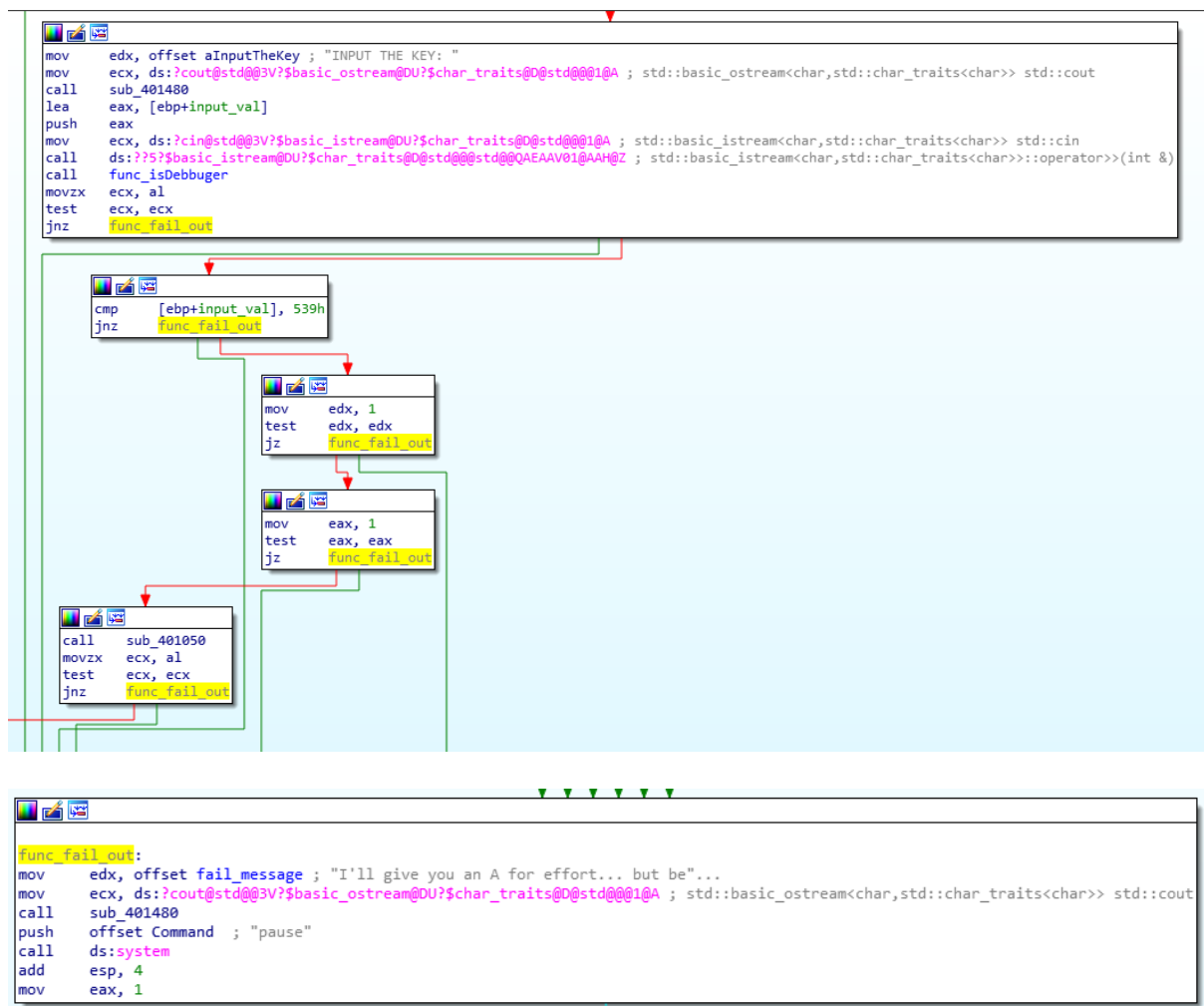


```
mov     edx, offset aInputTheKey ; "INPUT THE KEY: "
mov     ecx, ds:cout@std@@3V?$basic_ostream@DU?$char_traits@D@std@@@1@A ; std::basic_ostream<char,std::char_traits<char>> std::cout
call    sub_401480
lea     eax, [ebp+input_val]
push    eax
mov     ecx, ds:cin@std@@3V?$basic_istream@DU?$char_traits@D@std@@@1@A ; std::basic_istream<char,std::char_traits<char>> std::cin
call    ds:??5?$basic_istream@DU?$char_traits@D@std@@@std@@QAEAAV01@AAH@Z ; std::basic_istream<char,std::char_traits<char>>::operator>>(int &)
call    func_isDebugger
movzx   ecx, al
test    ecx, ecx
jnz     func_fail_out
```

However, it immediately calls a function (renamed as func_isDebugger in the image above), which returns the value of IsDebuggerPresent().

Based on the conditional jump, it will jump to func_fail_out (as shown above) if IsDebuggerPresent() returns true, and won't jump if it returns false.

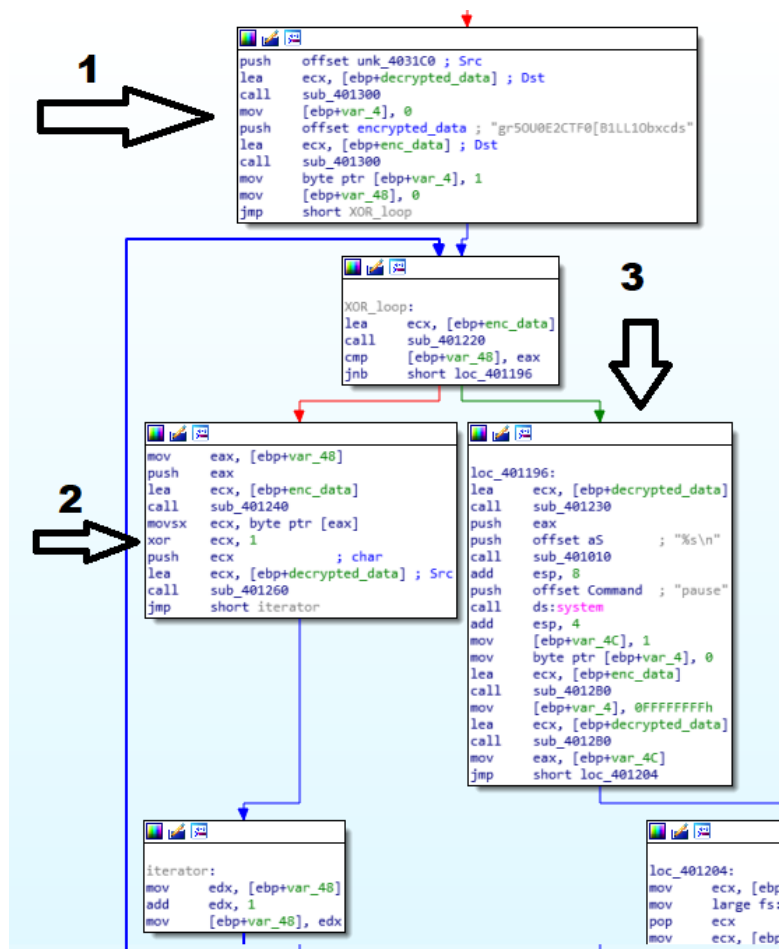
Following the conditional jump, the program prints out variable fail_message (shown below):



Looking at the graph, it appears that there are a set of consecutive conditional jumps that lead to `func_fail_out`, which indicate the conditional jumps that we would need to avoid.

At this point, we can immediately pass over these (it compares `input_val` to `539h` (1337 in decimal)), which is followed by two tautological conditions which will always pass and also calls a subroutine that checks for `DBG`, `dbg` or `ID` in the window name of the top-level window).

Passing over these, we can see that the next section of the code appears to be XORing each character of the string `"gr5OU0E2CTF0[B1LL1Obxcds"` with `0x01` inside a loop, and later on printing it out, which we can suspect it to be the flag (protip: it is).



With this information, we can XOR each char of gr5OU0E2CTF0[B1LL10bxcds with 0x01 (without the need for debugging), and get the flag, as shown below.

Recipe	Input
XOR Key 1 DECIMAL Scheme Standard <input type="checkbox"/> Null preserving	gr5OU0E2CTF0[B1LL10bxcds
	Output fs4NT1D3BUG1ZC0MM0Ncyber

Flag: fs4NT1D3BUG1ZC0MM0Ncyber

QUESTION 9

Decode the file and identify the flag.

HINT: This file is encoded

File/Folder Name: Q9

The answer for this challenge follows standard F-Secure Cyber Security 2019 competition flag:

fs<flag>cyber

Examples:

fsrandom_lksmlfkmdfijfsdfsfcyber

fs_s0meth1ng_s0meth1ng_cyber

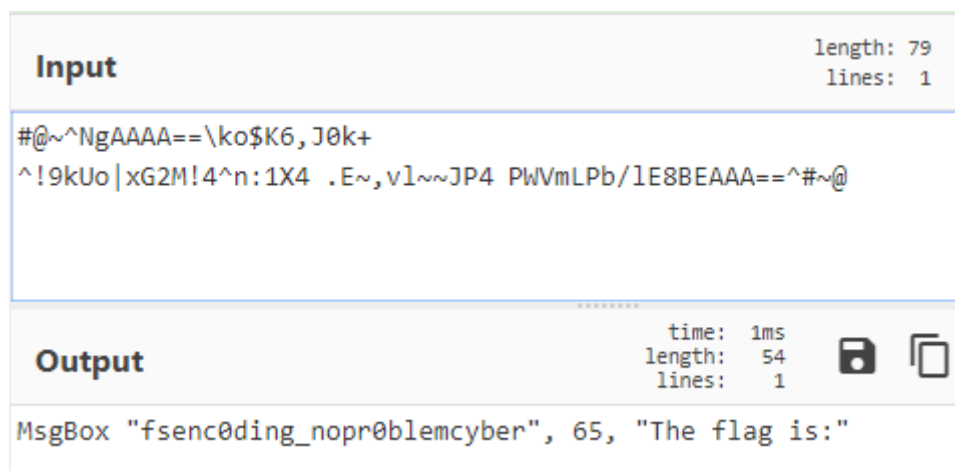
fsiamhandsomecyber

ANSWER Q9

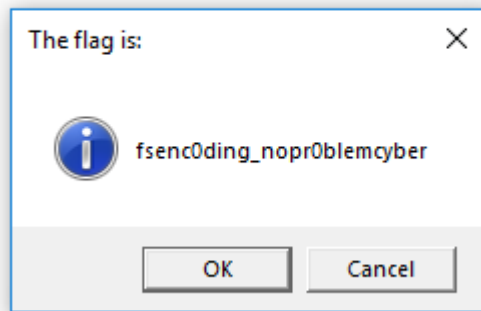
This challenge is an encoded VB Script without a file extension. The participant should be able to identify the filetype and encoding using the file header to decode the flag.

```
00000000: 23 40 7E 5E-4E 67 41 41-41 41 3D 3D-5C 6B 6F 24 #@~^NgAAAA==\ko$
00000010: 4B 36 2C 4A-30 6B 2B 09-5E 21 39 6B-55 6F 7C 78 K6,J0k+o^!9kUo|x
00000020: 47 32 4D 21-34 5E 6E 3A-31 58 34 7F-2E 45 7E 2C G2M!4^n:1X4o.E~,
00000030: 76 6C 7E 7E-4A 50 34 7F-50 57 56 6D-4C 50 62 2F v1~~JP4oPWmLPb/
00000040: 6C 45 38 42-45 41 41 41-3D 3D 5E 23-7E 40 00 1E8BEAAA==^#~@
```

Searching “#@~^” will show references about VBE (Encoded VB). And using Microsoft Script Decoder, the flag will be revealed.



Adding “.vbe” extension and executing the file will also resolve the flag.



QUESTION 10

Debug the application and identify the flag.

File/Folder Name: Q10

The answer for this challenge follows standard F-Secure Cyber Security 2019 competition flag:

fs<flag>cyber

Examples:

fsrandom_lksmlfkmdfijsfdfsfcyber

fs_s0meth1ng_s0meth1ng_cyber

fsiamhandsomecyber

ANSWER Q10

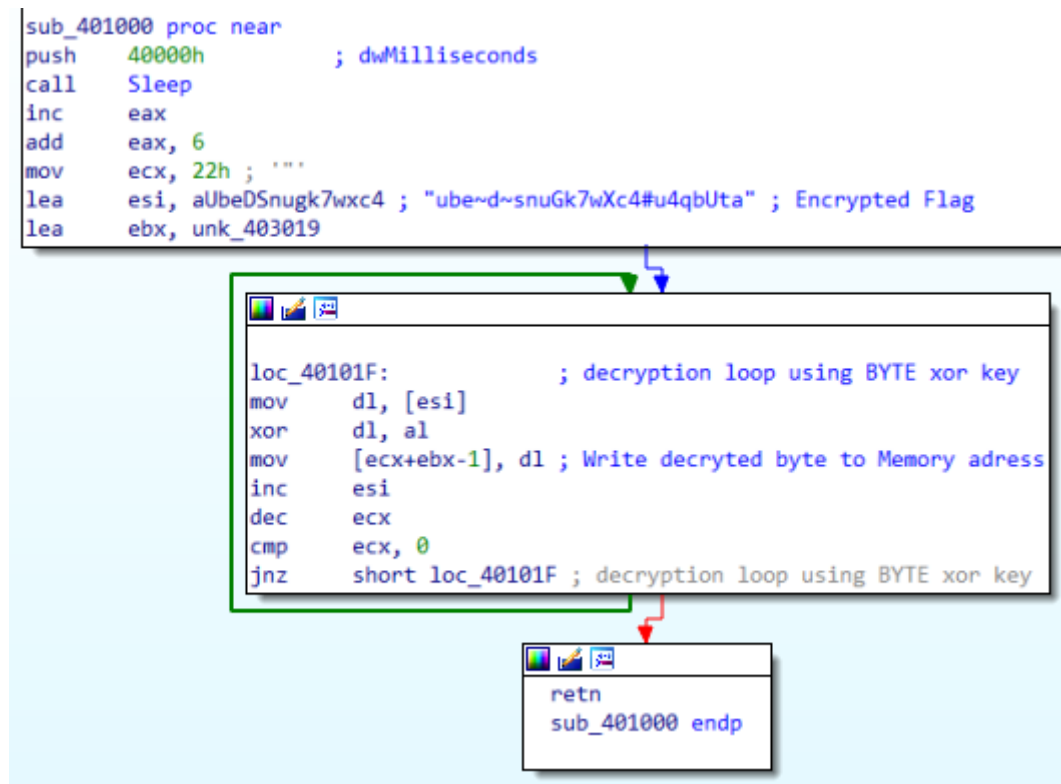
This challenge requires the application to gracefully sleep before proceeding to the decryption of the flag. Sleep requires a DWORD value to be pushed in stack. In our case, 262.144 Seconds (0x040000h) was pushed to stack as parameter to the Sleep function.

ECX	EDX	ESI	E	0040102F	68 00000400	push 40000	EntryPoint
EIP				00401034	E8 1B000000	call <JMP.&Sleep>	
				00401039	85C0	test eax,eax	
				0040103B	74 07	je q1_2.401044	
				0040103D	6A 00	push 0	
				0040103F	E8 0A000000	call <JMP.&ExitProcess>	
				00401044	B8 87D61200	mov eax,12D687	
				00401049	E8 B2FFFFFF	call q1_2.401000	
				0019FF80	00040000		
				0019FF84	766F8484	return to kernel32.766F8484 from ???	
				0019FF88	00379000		
				0019FF8C	766F8460	kernel32.766F8460	

We can manipulate the stack and replace it with a lower value (0x00000001h) to speed up Sleep to 1ms.

0019FF80	00000001	
0019FF84	766F8484	return to kernel32.766F8484 from ???
0019FF88	00379000	
0019FF8C	766F8460	kernel32.766F8460

After the successful sleep, the application is now able to proceed to the decryption function (call sub_401000).



There is another Sleep API function and can be easily bypassed by modifying the pushed value in the stack. After the successful sleep, it will proceed with the decryption using a BYTE xor before it exits (RETN).

Address	Hex												ASCII				
00403023	66	73	52	65	76	33	72	24	33	64	5F	70	30	6C	40	72	fSRev3r\$3d_p0!@r
00403033	69	74	79	63	79	62	65	72	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	iTcyber.....
00403043	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	