Encoded string using Huffman tree:

Length: 297

Encoded string using normal ASCII encoding:

Length: 557

Calculation:

(297/100)*557 = 53.32 %

a)

The string encoded with the Huffman Tree is equivalent to 53.32% of the string encoded with ASCII in size. Almost half the size of the size of string has been reduced using Huffman encoding.

The reason why there is a significant reduction in string size is because the encoded string has characters that appeared frequently in the Jabberwock.txt.

The Huffman encoding works as the following; it constructs a binary tree where the path of frequently used characters is short and where path of less frequently used characters is long, instead of having a binary tree where every character has the same path length. Going left in the tree encodes '0', while going right in the tree encodes '1'.

Had the encoded string been filled with non frequent characters in the Jabberwock.txt such as 'x', ';' and '?' (which only appeared once in the file), the Huffman encoded string's size would be larger than the encoded string using ASCII.

long, instead of having a binary tree where every character has the same path length. Going left in the tree encodes '0', while going right in the tree encodes '1'.