

National Cipher Challenge 2 Part A

ZIIVJZJKZSCV WZWKVVEKY WVSILRIP JVMVEKVVE EZEVKP
JVMVE DP CFIU AFZEZEX DZEVIMV Z JRZCVU WFI
TRIKRXVER ZE JVRITY FW KYV JGREZJY WCVVK DZJJZEX
KYVD KYVIV Z JRZCVU WFI TRGV JK MZETVEK REU FE KYV
EZXYK FW WVSILRIP VCVMEKY LEUVI KYZTB WFX WFLEU
DPJVCW RDZU KYV MVIP JYZGJ WFI NYZTY Z NRJ
JVRITYZEX NV GRJJVU LEUVKVTKVU SP KYV JCVVGZEX
CFFBFLKJ REU AFZEVU PFLI JHLRUIFE NZKY LKDFJK
VOGVUZKZFE ZK NRJ NZKY XIVRK YFEFLI KYRK NV AFZEVU
DP CFIU ZE WLIZFLJ SRKKCV NZKY KYV JGREZJY WCVVK
REU Z DLJK IVTFIU DP DFJK VOTVCCVEK KYREBJ WFI KYV
JLGGFIK FW TRGKRZE TFCCZEXNFFU NYFJV UVTZJZMV
RTKZFE IVCZVMVU DP JYZG RK YVI DFJK UREXVIFLJ GFZEK
DRIKZE DRUV DLTU FW ZEKVCCZXVETV YV XRKYVIVU WIFD
JRZCFIJ RSFRIU KYV JRE AFJWV KYVP ZDGRIKVU R JKFIK
FW R TYZEVJV RXVEK TFEMVPVU KYVIVFE KF KVEEVIZWWV
REU HLRIVVU EFN ZE JREKR TILQ DRIKZE ZJ DFJK
REOZFLJ KF ZEKVIMZVN KYZJ RXVEK REU Z RNRZK DP
CFIUJ ZEJKILTKZFEJ ZE KYZJ REU FKYVI DRKKVIJ
TRGKRZE SVZEX UZJDRJKVU DP GVEEREK ZJ DFMVU KF
ZIIVJZJKZSCV TFDDFUFIV YFIRKZF EVCJFE ZE RTKZFE
NZKY KYV JGREZJY FE KYV WFLIKVVEKY FW WVSILRIP
JVMVEKVVE EZEVKP JVMVE FW TRGV JK MZETVEK

Irresistible, Fifteenth February Seventeen Ninety Seven

My Lord, joining Minerve I sailed for Cartagena in search of the Spanish fleet. Missing them there I sailed for Cape St. Vincent and on the night of February eleventh, under thick fog, found myself amid the very ships for which I was searching. We passed undetected by the sleeping lookouts and joined your squadron with utmost expedition. It was with great honour that we joined my Lord in furious battle with the Spanish fleet, and I must record my most excellent thanks for the support of Captain Collingwood whose decisive action relieved my ship at her most dangerous point.

Martin made much of intelligence he gathered from sailors aboard the San Josef. They imparted a story of a Chinese agent conveyed thereon to Tenneriffe and quartered now in Santa Cruz. Martin is most anxious to interview this agent, and I await my Lord's instructions in this and other matters.

Submit your entry online: <http://www.cipher.maths.soton.ac.uk/entryform.phtml>

Captain being dismayed, my pennant is moved to Irresistible.

Commodore Horatio Nelson, in action with the Spanish on the
Fourteenth of February, Seventeen Ninety Seven, off Cape St. Vincent

National Cipher Challenge 2 Part B

Dearest Kit,

I caution thee most severely against careless secret writing. My
cousin's already crack'd codes are not to be dallyed with when writing
on matters of such great import this must be the last and henceforth
thee must make use of alternate cyphers.

My Lord Burghley hath been informed. Kit, I have compleat trust in thy
word, yet he needeth more confidence of it for discourse at Council. He
commandeth me to support your activities in the Lowe Countries, but
with sevural strict conditions.

First, thee must cease all contacte with such dark heretical companie.
Thee exposest thyselfe to intrigue from divers puppets of ye popiniay
faction at Court who seeketh renewed favor thru harm of our service.

Second, if ye become subiect to harm my Lord cannot certaynly protect
thee as one of our owne. We dare not provoke the Spanish tyger. His
power is not spent and truely, we escaped most recent events but by a
coniunction of good piracy, fair fire and tempest.

Third, the bearer of this missive, Master Poolye, must share your
travels. He bringeth silver from my own purse and knowes the country
well. Have a care Kit, for as thee knowest, he be a cozener.

Pray God Kit that thou will return soon to us furnish'd with success,

TW

Challenge 2 Part B

##8X884 8#4,

1 5X-14#mX 4Y88 Tm84 888X888

XxX#X84 5X888888 885X84

4X#44Xx. //8 5m-16#X'8 X8X8X88

5X8888 5m888 X88 xM4 4m 38

6X88888 4#4Y 4Y8X 4X#44Xx mX

TX448X8 m3 8-15Y xX8X4 #T-mX4

4Y#8 T-184 38 4Y8 8X84 Xx6

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\m-1x4x#88, 3-14 4#48 888-1x#8
84x#88 88x6#4#8x8.

0#x84, 4888 1-184 888888 888

88x4x888 4#48 8-188 8888

88x84#888 8881-8x#8. 8888

888-88884 488888888 48

#x4x#x-18 3x88 888888 1-1-1848

88 88 1-88-#x#88 38884#8x 84

\m-1x4 488 888888888 88x8888

3xjmx 4jx-1 jxxt m3 m-1x

jjxj#jg.

Δjgm, #3 o8 jggt8 j-1j#g4

4m jxxt T o kmx6 jkxm4

jgx4koxk o-xm4g4 4jg8 k8 mx8

m3 m-1x m4x8. m8 kx8 xm4

1-xmjmxj8 4j8 Δ1-kx#j8 4ox8x.

∞#8 1-m48x #8 xm4 j1-8x4 kx6

4x-18k, 48 j8j8k1-86 Tmj4 x8j8x4

8j8x48 j-14 j o k gmx#-1xg4#mx

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5XK6 0m6 3#4 4J4 4Jm- 4#66

X84-1XX 3m6 4m -1 3-1XX#3J'6

4#4J 3-133333,

Em