

Best_Friends

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You are only given a single file which is: **its_not_what_it_is.exe**

Here is where many did the mistake, they tried to run the file and as it was exe, windows defender tried to protect your system form an unknown application from running and this is what we wanted to happen...

but, the hint is in the file name itself, it is not what it is... so putting this file in any file analyzer(<https://www.aconvert.com/analyze.html>).

Analyze file format online

FILE ▾

Choose File its_not_what_it_is.exe

Analyze Now!

ANALYSIS RESULTS:

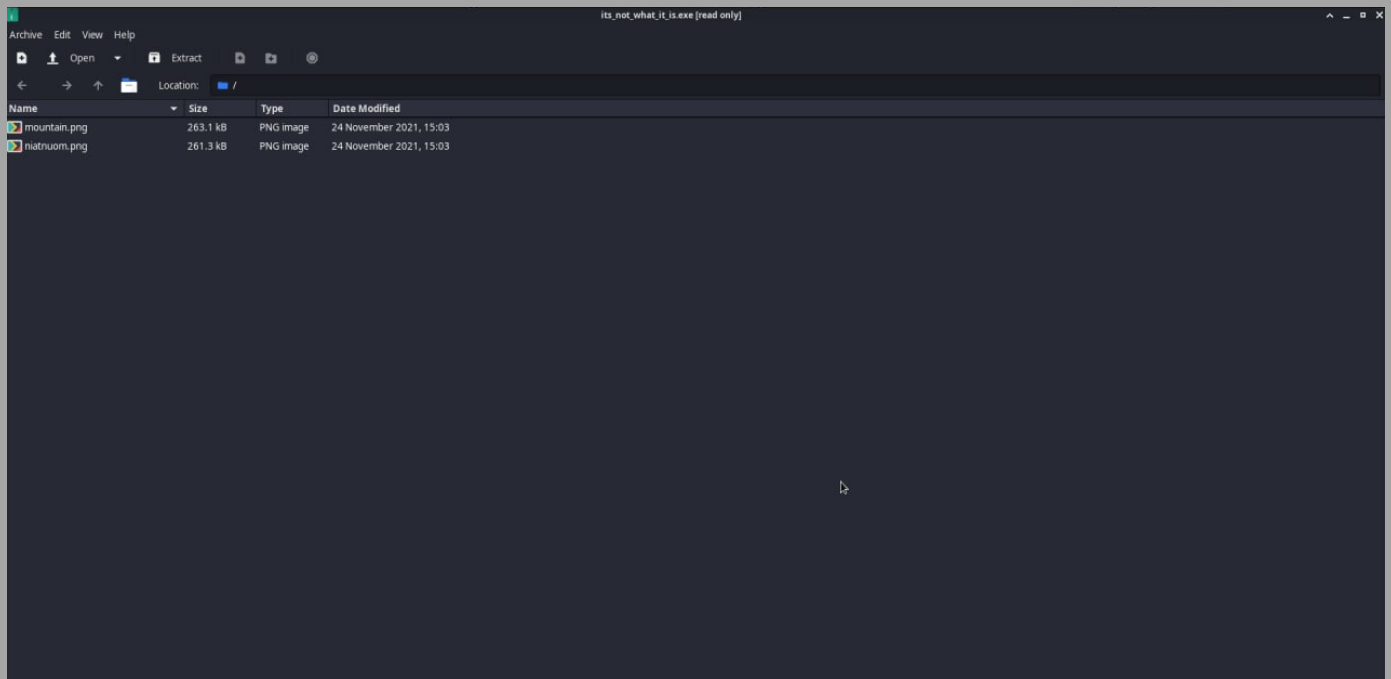
POSSIBILITY	FORMAT	DESCRIPTION
80.0%	ZIP	ZIP compressed archive
20.0%	PG/BIN	PrintFox/Pagefox bitmap (640x800)

Latest database update (September 16, 2021): Added support for [AVIF \(AV1 Image File Format\)](#) format.

That what it is XD... it's a zip file which you have to extract.

Here comes in the power of Linux!

Just open it in Linux and right click and extract that file like this:

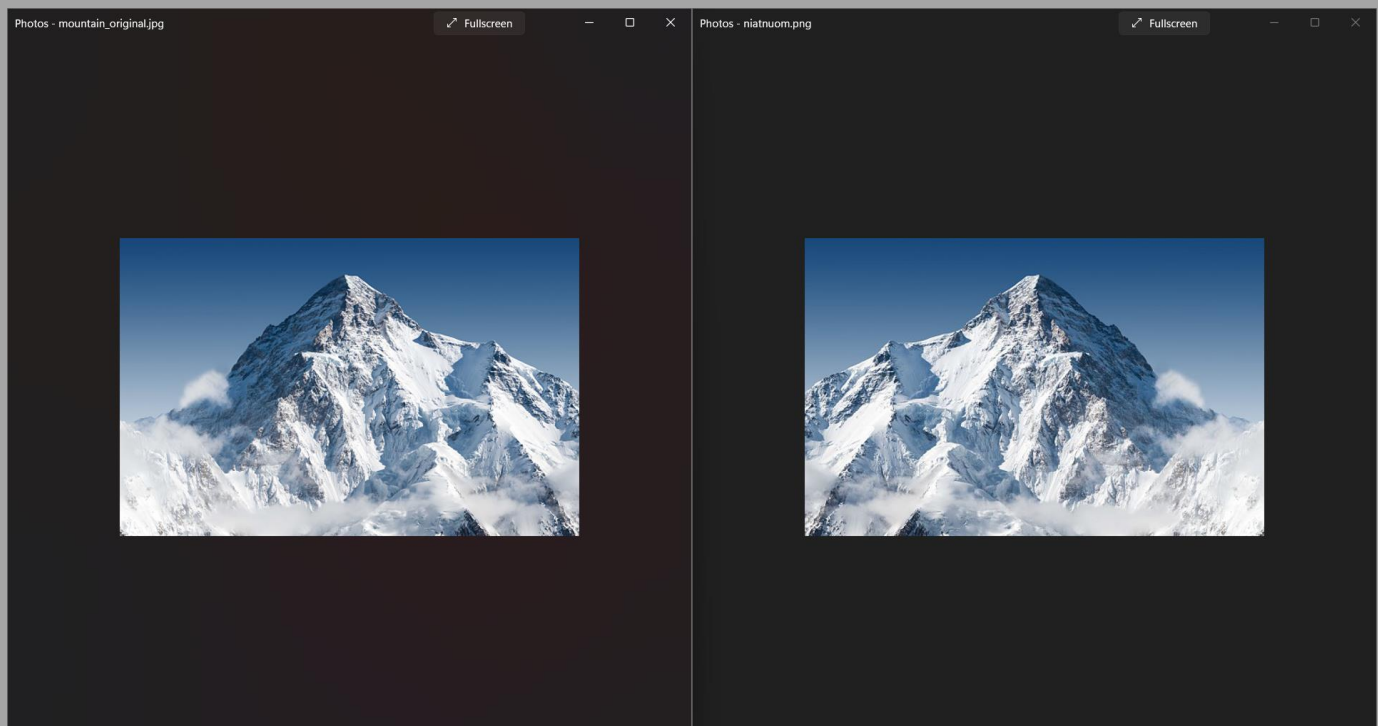


So, we got two images after unzipping.

1. mountain.png

2. niatnuom.png

If you open these two images, they look like this:



Did you notice something...

images and image names both are opposite to each other, do they mean something?

Now let's see if there is something hidden inside the images...
(URL: <https://www.mobilefish.com/services/steganography/steganography.php>) / you can use any alternative tool or website...

Decrypt: Unhide secret message or secret file from an encrypted image:

Upload encrypted image
Only *.png files
(Max 4 MB) *:

Choose File mountain.png

~ Or ~

Enter image URL
Only *.png files
(Max 4 MB) *:

Enter password:

To prevent automated submissions an Access Code has been implemented for this tool.

Please enter the Access Code as displayed above: * = required

MgN

Decrypt Clear

Secret message:

Select all Clear

Download encrypted image or secret file:

Download file

why.txt

Decrypt: Unhide secret message or secret file from an encrypted image:

Upload encrypted image
Only *.png files
(Max 4 MB) *:

Choose File niatruum.png

~ Or ~

Enter image URL
Only *.png files
(Max 4 MB) *:

Enter password:

To prevent automated submissions an Access Code has been implemented for this tool.

Please enter the Access Code as displayed above: * = required

4dz

Decrypt Clear

Secret message:

Select all Clear

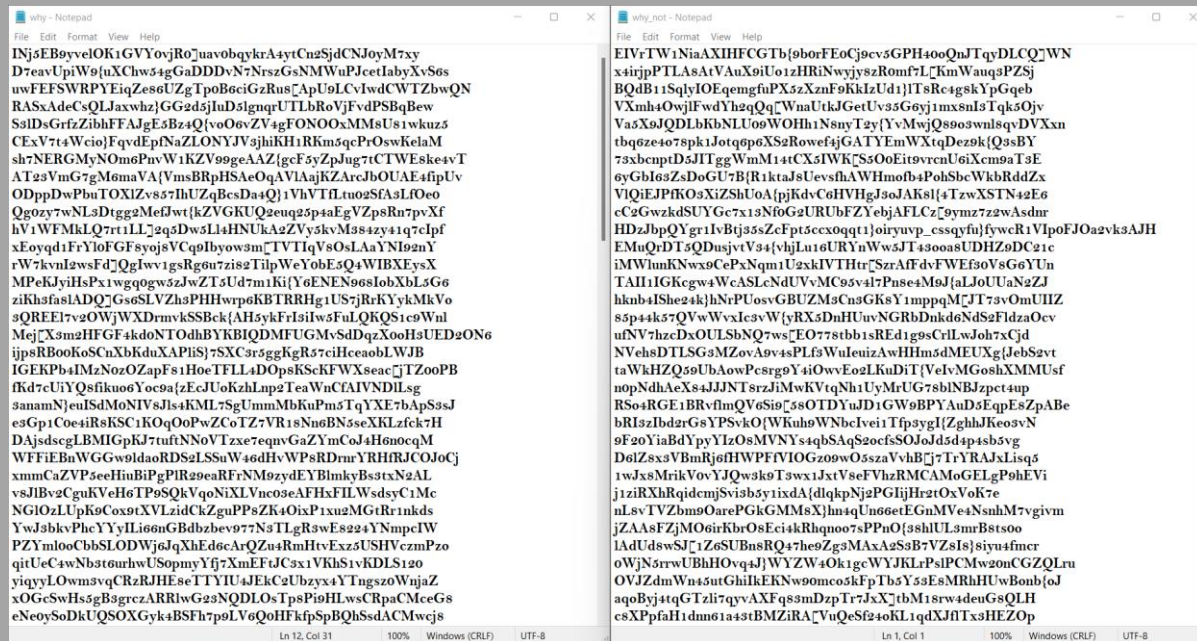
Download encrypted image or secret file:

Download file

why_not.txt

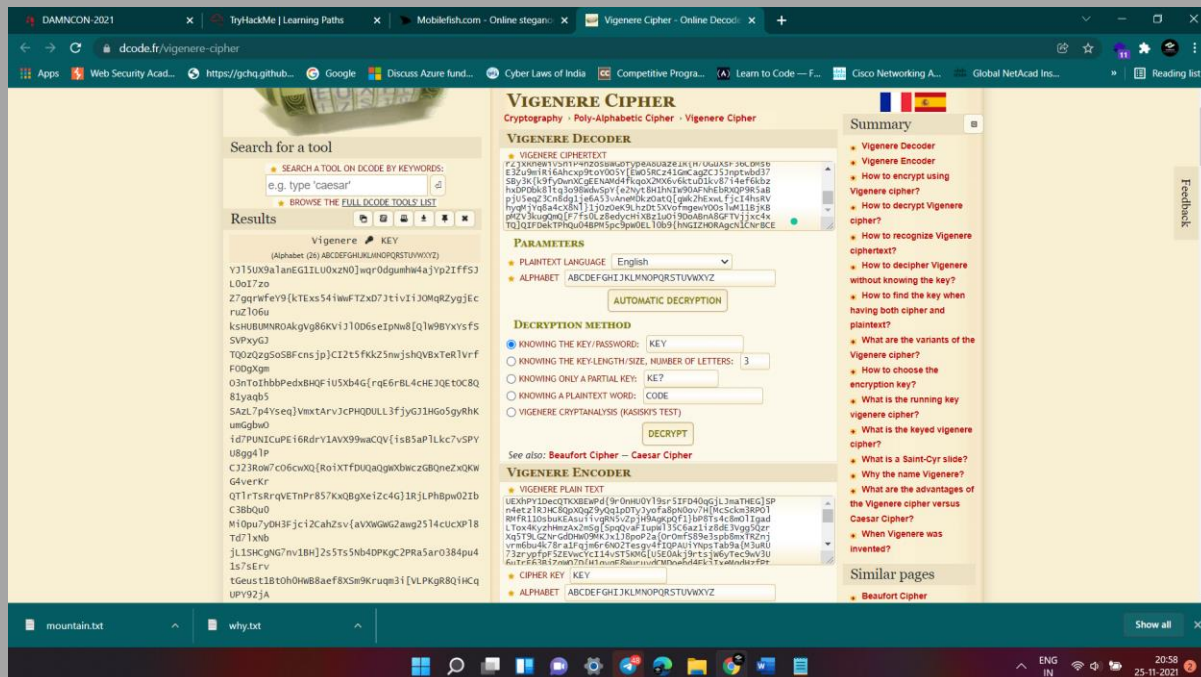
Now we got two files why.txt and why_not.txt

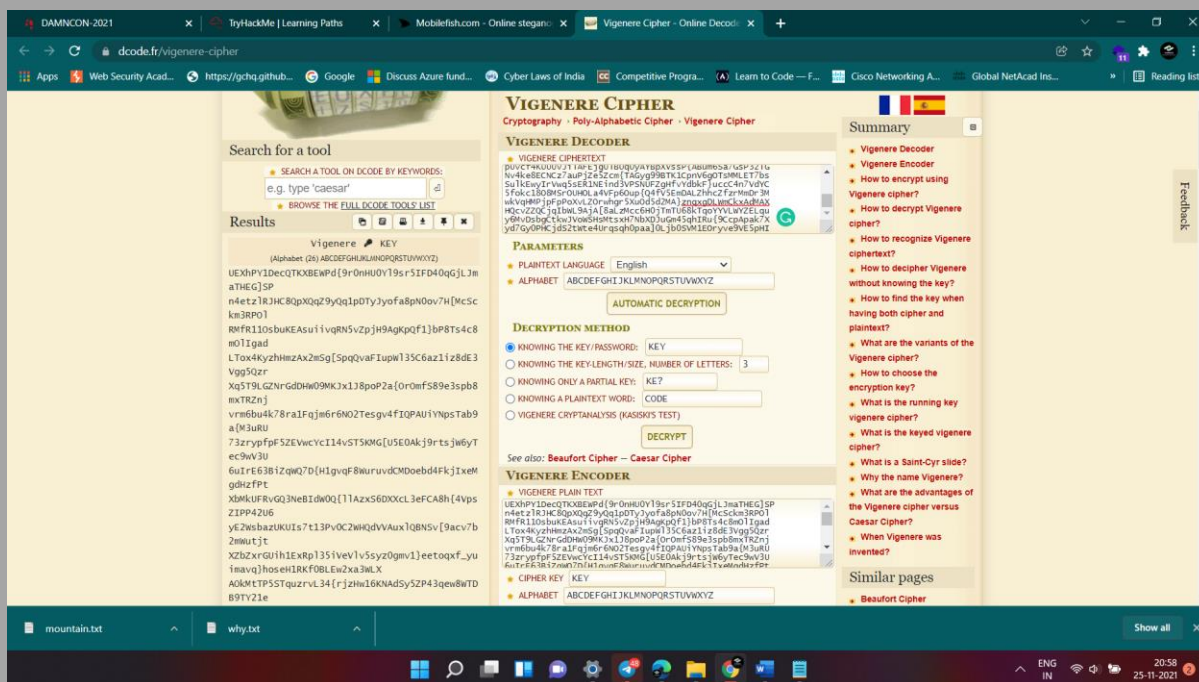
When we open them, they look something like this?



Now when you analyze this text for any cipher, Vigenère cipher will have highest probability.

So, decoding it using Vigenère cipher decoder with default key: key
<https://www.dcode.fr/vigenere-cipher>





Now when you have got the text file, did you just noticed something, if not then recall the above hints...

“me and friend opposite to each other”

“name of the images opposite to each other”

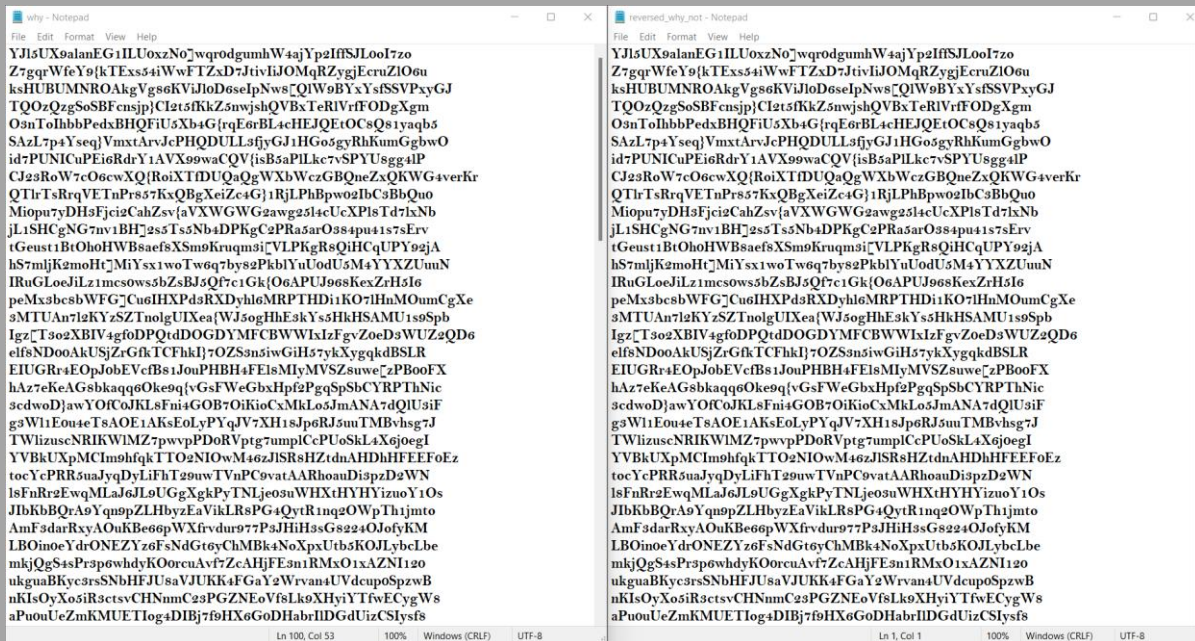
“both the images were mirror image of each other”

Now again see both the text you will notice that both the complete text is opposite to each other ;)

So, let's reverse one to make the comparison easy...

<https://onlinestringtools.com/reverse-string>

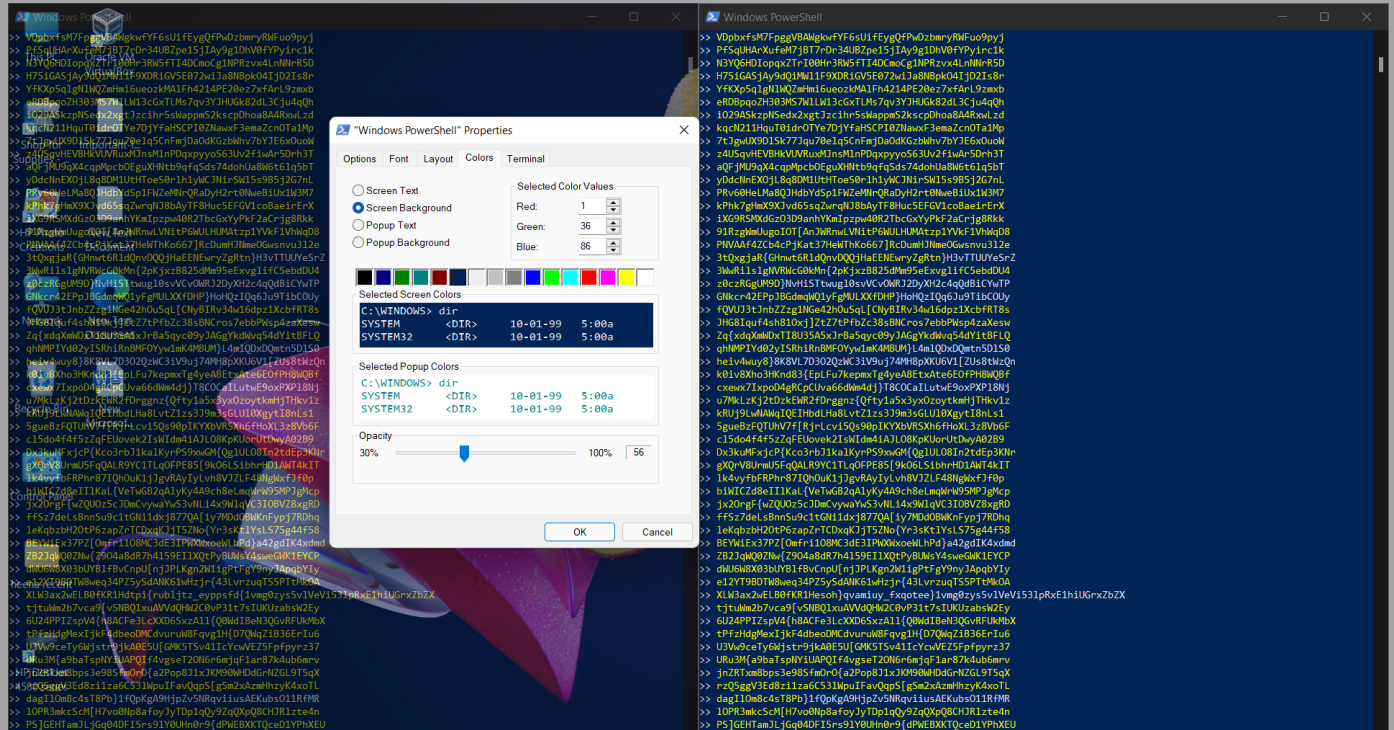
reversing text of why_not.txt from this above website and then comparing the why.txt and the reversed why_not.txt



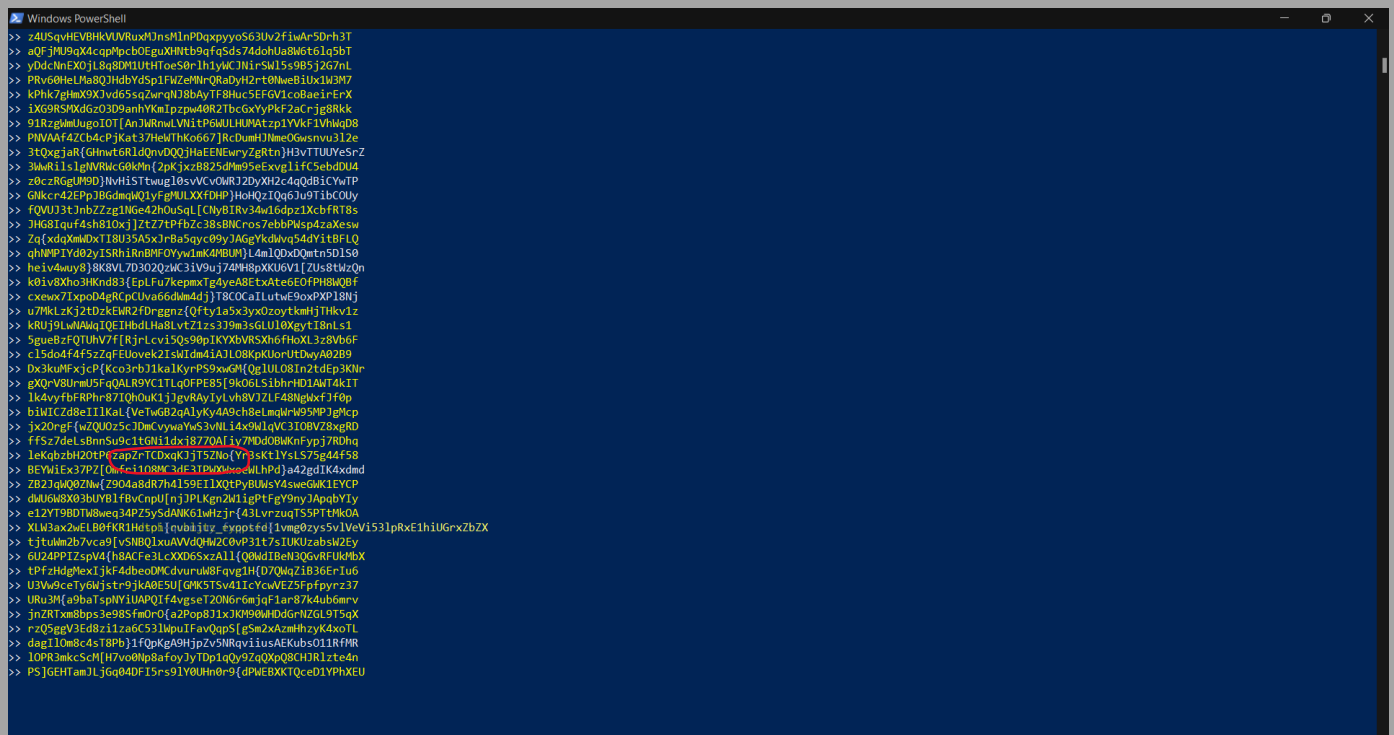
we can see that after reversing why_not.txt, both the text looks similar.

Now, see what is Question asking for, I and my friend are opposite to each other but have on quality in common, so there is something hidden in the text files which will give us a common thing out and that is our flag.

So, let's compare, {this is what I did to compare}
take two PowerShell (or any other of your preference) with different opacity,
paste both the text in the power shell respectively.



Now overlap the two PowerShell with keeping translucent one above and then compare the two text.



Everything was overlapping correctly leaving this set of string, copy both the strings which are not overlapping on each other...

```
dtpi{rubljtz_eyppsfd{  
esoh}qvamiuy_fxqotee}
```

now dsph{.....} is the flag format, so when you do the alternate overlapping of these two strings, you get...

dsph{quality_exposed}

which is our flag for this challenge.