

North Carolina Science Olympiad — Code Busters

2016-2017

Names of participants: (Please print neatly)

School Name: _____

V JV1 JV2 JV3

Warning: Do not open this packet until given permission to do so.

Note: There are useful notes after this page.

Scoring:

Time to solve first problem in seconds: _____

Question	Value	Incorrect letters	Score
Timed	100		
1	160		
2	250		
3	400		
4	100		
5	100		
6	50		
7	100		
8	100		
9	300		
10	140		
11	60		
12	100		
13	180		
14	125		
15	400		
16	250		
17	250		
18	180		
Bonus			
Final Score			

The following tables might be useful during the event.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
A	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
B	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A
C	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B
D	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C
E	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D
F	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E
G	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F
H	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
I	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
J	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
K	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
L	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
M	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
N	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
O	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
P	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
Q	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
R	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q
S	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
T	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S
U	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T
V	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U
W	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V
X	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W
Y	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
Z	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25

Frequency Table of English letters:

E	12.51%	S	6.54%	C	3.06%	G	1.96%	K	0.67%
T	9.25%	R	6.12%	U	2.71%	W	1.92%	X	0.19%
A	8.04%	H	5.49%	M	2.53%	Y	1.73%	J	0.16%
O	7.60%	L	4.14%	F	2.30%	B	1.54%	Q	0.11%
I	7.26%	D	3.99%	P	2.00%	V	0.99%	Z	0.09%
N	7.09%								

Frequency Table of Spanish letters:

E	14.08%	I	5.98%	M	3.08%	Y	1.09%	Z	0.47%
A	12.16%	L	5.24%	P	2.89%	V	1.05%	Ñ	0.17%
O	9.20%	D	4.67%	B	1.49%	G	1.00%	X	0.14%
S	7.20%	T	4.60%	H	1.18%	F	0.69%	K	0.11%
N	6.83%	U	4.69%	Q	1.11%	J	0.52%	W	0.04%
R	6.41%	C	3.87%						

For the purposes of cryptograms it is customary to treat n and ñ as distinct letters, but a and á are the same letter. Likewise for e and é, and i and í. In other words, all the accent marks get amputated when working with cryptograms. Also, while some older Spanish dictionaries consider ch, ll, and rr, to be their own letters—this has fallen out of modern usage. Accordingly, “burro” is considered as five letters: “b-u-r-r-o” and not as four letters “b-u-rr-o.”

5) [100 Points] Using a key of **FIXT** encode the string **QUIZMASTERS** using the Hill Cipher with a 26 character alphabet. e.g.

$$\begin{pmatrix} F & I \\ X & T \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 8 \\ 23 & 19 \end{pmatrix}$$

Q	U	I	Z	M	A	S	T	E	R	S	

6) [50 Points] Using a code word of **THINK**, encode the following quote from Stephen Hawking using the Vigenère cipher.

I	N	T	E	L	L	I	G	E	N	C	E	I	S	T	H	E

A	B	I	L	I	T	Y	T	O	A	D	A	P	T	T	O	C	H	A	N	G	E

7) [100 Points] Solve this Cryptogram which is a quote by Wayne Heizenga and where the last word is HAPPEN.

DAES XSAXHS PJSCE AQ DWNNSDD, ITYHS AGTSJ

XSAXHS VSG WX SOSJM EAJRYRV CRP ECBS YG TCXXSR.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
Freq																										

8) [100 Points] Napoleon Bonaparte once said this about a the value of treasures. It has been encoded using the Vigenère cipher using a very common five letter word. You have been told that the 36th through the 43rd letters in the code (ORPUWPRP) actually is the word TREASURE. What does the message decode to?

M	I	N	B	I

N	D	Z	H	S

O	C	Z	H	W

D	S	E	C	R

O	H	P	J	S

N	S	P	M	W

D	O	Y	I	J

O	R	P	U	W

P	R	P	M	F

P	T	T	H	X

C	E	F	M	I

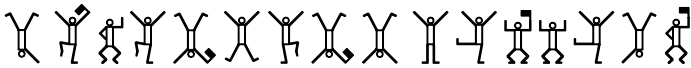
H	A	O	Y	S

A	T	S	Y	Q

11) [60 Points] You know that a message has been encrypted using the Affine Cipher with an alphabet of 26 characters. You have discovered that the message **GCUPCX** decodes to say **SECRET**. What are the values of a and b in the function $ax + b$ that were used to encode the message?

$a =$ _____ $b =$ _____

12) [100 Points] Your teacher laughs whenever they look at this sign on the wall. What does it say?



Answer: _____

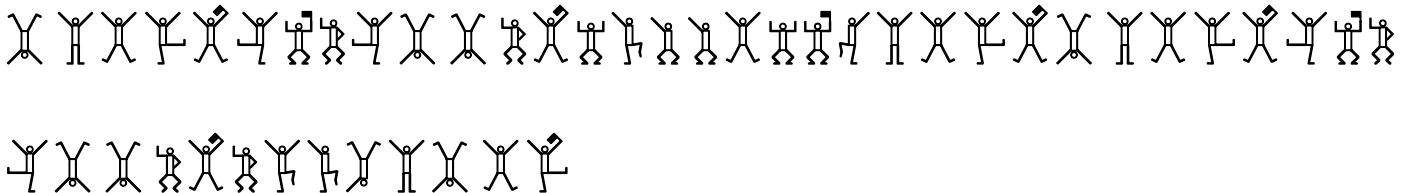
17) [250 Points] Solve this Cryptogram which is quote by Sean Stewart.

DUS RBSKSPD XK G BVRS KDBSDNUSJ VQSB DUS RGKD. DUS

KSNBSD DV IGWAXPY XD XK, EVC PSQSB WVVA JVIP.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
Freq	2	6	1	10	1		3		2	2	6			2		4	2	3	13		4	7	2	4	1	

18) [180 Points] Andrew Carnegie once said this. What was it?



Answer: _____