

Secret Messages: Codes & Ciphers for Young Explorers

Codes & Ciphers · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. What kind of simple code swaps one letter for another, like changing 'A' to 'B', and 'B' to 'C'?

- A) A jumble code
- B) A substitution cipher**
- C) A number code
- D) A sound code

2. In a Caesar cipher, how many places is each letter usually shifted to make the secret message?

- A) One place
- B) Three places**
- C) Ten places
- D) Twenty-six places

3. What is a very simple code that uses pictures or drawings to represent words or ideas?

- A) A Morse code
- B) An alphabet code
- C) A pictographic code**
- D) A sound code

4. Before computers, what did people use to write secret messages by hand?

- A) Invisible ink**
- B) Magic spells
- C) Singing songs
- D) Dancing

5. What do you call the special word or rule used to decode a secret message?

- A) A secret agent
- B) A key**
- C) A map
- D) A riddle

6. Some ancient codes used dots and dashes to send messages over wires. What is this called?

- A) Fax machine code
- B) Telephone code
- C) Morse code**
- D) Radio wave code

7. What famous Roman leader used a simple shift cipher, often shifting letters by three places?

- A) King Arthur
- B) Julius Caesar**
- C) Alexander the Great
- D) Cleopatra

8. When you want to turn a secret message back into regular words, what is that process called?

- A) Encoding
- B) Scrambling
- C) Decoding**
- D) Writing

9. What kind of code uses numbers to stand for letters, like '1' for 'A' and '2' for 'B'?

- A) A symbol code
- B) A numerical code**
- C) A picture code
- D) A sound code

10. What is a word or phrase that is the same forwards and backwards, like 'level' or 'madam', and can be used in some simple codes?

- A) A palindrome**
- B) A sentence
- C) A rhyme
- D) A story