

Cracking the Code: Elementary Cryptography

Cryptography · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. What is a simple way to swap letters in a message to make it secret, like shifting them down the alphabet?

- A) Encryption
- B) Decryption
- C) A Caesar Cipher**
- D) A Password

2. Who was Julius Caesar, a famous historical figure known for using a simple letter-shifting code?

- A) A famous artist
- B) A Roman general and leader**
- C) A scientist who invented the alphabet
- D) A storyteller

3. If you use a Caesar cipher to shift letters by 3, what would 'A' become?

- A) X
- B) D**
- C) Z
- D) B

4. What do we call the secret message that has been changed to hide its meaning?

- A) Plaintext
- B) Ciphertext**
- C) Algorithm
- D) Key

5. In cryptography, what is the original, readable message called before it's made secret?

- A) Ciphertext
- B) Plaintext**
- C) Scrambled text
- D) Code

6. What is the special instruction or secret word needed to change a message into a secret code or back again?

- A) A cipher
- B) A key**
- C) A password
- D) An emoji

7. What is the process of turning a readable message into a secret code called?

- A) Decryption
- B) Encoding
- C) Encryption**
- D) Decoding

8. What is the opposite process of making a secret code into a readable message?

- A) Encryption
- B) Encoding
- C) Decryption**
- D) Locking

9. What historical tool or machine was used to help create and decipher codes more quickly, especially during World War II?

- A) A computer
- B) A typewriter
- C) The Enigma machine**
- D) A telegraph

10. Which of these is a famous example of a simple substitution cipher where each letter is replaced by another fixed letter?

- A) Password protection
- B) A Caesar Cipher**
- C) A QR code
- D) A barcode

11. Why do people use cryptography?

- A) To make messages longer
- B) To keep messages private and secure**
- C) To make messages harder to read
- D) To send messages faster

12. What is a code or method used to scramble a message called?

- A) Plaintext
- B) Key
- C) Algorithm
- D) Cipher**

13. If a secret message is written in ciphertext, what do you need to read it?

- A) A special decoder ring
- B) A magnifying glass

C) The correct key and method

- D) A secret handshake

14. Historically, spies and armies used codes to:

- A) Send invitations to parties
- B) Share recipes

C) Communicate secret plans

- D) Write poems

15. Which of these is NOT a type of code or cipher?

- A) Caesar Cipher
- B) Morse Code

C) A Phone Number

- D) Enigma Machine Code

16. What does 'decipher' mean in the context of codes?

- A) To create a new code
- B) To make a code more complicated

C) To turn a secret code back into a readable message

- D) To send a message in code

17. Which famous scientist is credited with developing one of the earliest known methods of cryptography, used by his army?

- A) Isaac Newton
- B) Albert Einstein

C) Julius Caesar

- D) Marie Curie

18. What is the simplest form of cryptography, where you might just swap letters or words out for other letters or words?

- A) Complex algorithms

B) Simple substitution

- C) Quantum encryption
- D) Biometric security

19. What is a common, everyday example of something that uses cryptography to keep information safe?

A) A library book

B) A computer password

C) A piece of chalk

D) A drawing

20. If you are 'encrypting' a message, what are you doing?

A) Making it easier to read

B) Making it secret

C) Sending it to everyone

D) Translating it to another language