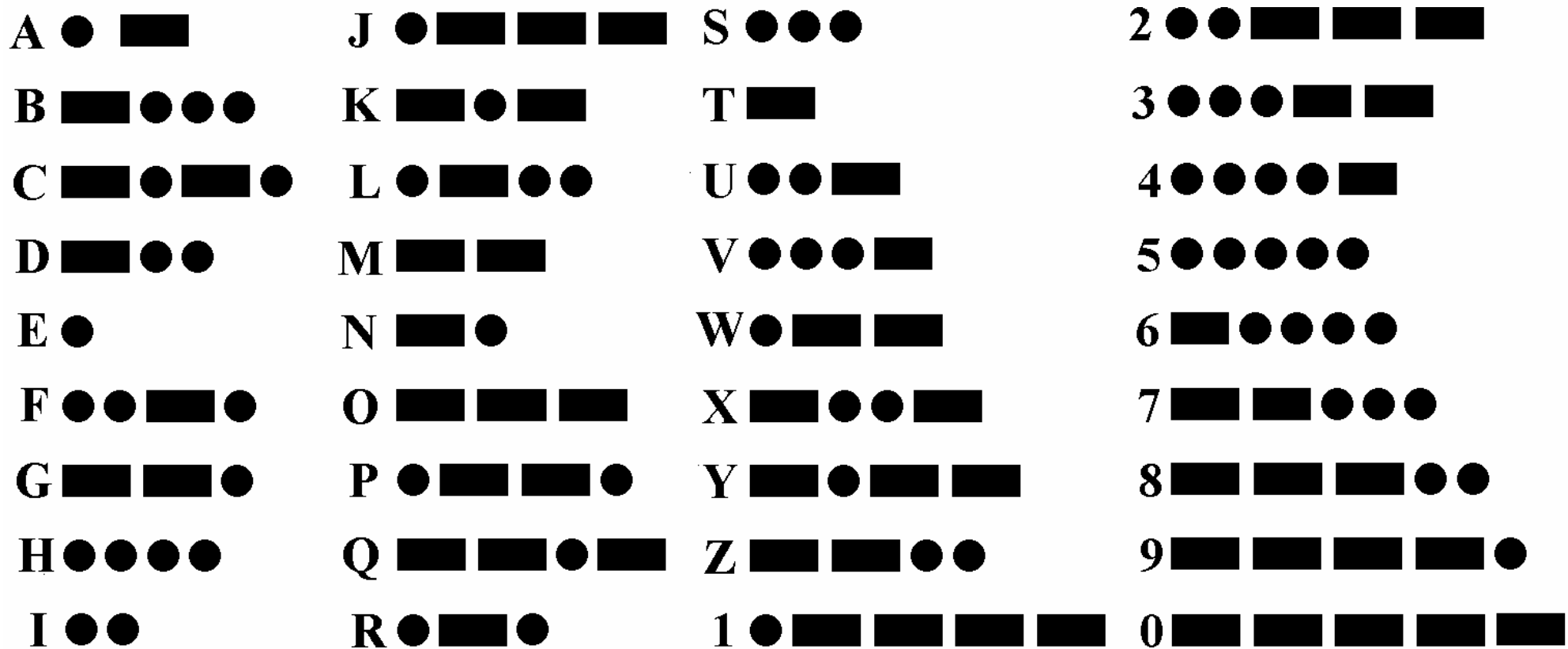


Morse Code

During the 1830's Samuel Morse invented and patented the telegraph. Two of his partners invented the letter code which we know as Morse Code. Each letter has its own code signal of short and long beeps. An experienced telegraph operator could identify the letters as rapidly as they came in. The telegraph revolutionized communication, stimulating the growth of the American economy and playing a significant role in the Civil War.



A pause the length of a dot indicates a break between letters.
A pause the length of a dash indicates a break between words.

Morse code is a form of digital communication. A signal is either on or off. There are two possible lengths for the "on": dot and dash. Each letter of the alphabet is identified by a collection of dots and dashes. The "off" portions of the signal include pauses to indicate the end of a letter or the end of a word.

Try sending a short Morse code message to a partner using the silent telegraph on this table (the button and light bulb).

There's another Morse code key and another transmitter/receiver on the side of this display. Take turns with your partner transmitting and receiving.

