

**SECRET (AND NOT
SO SECRET) CODES**

Memo to all Secret Agents present:

**A communication was intercepted
The MN agency needs your help
on active status. Please complete
skills to prepare for this**

**Here is the message we intercepted.
of 7 rows.**

**QHES?ESUY●●●C●E●SCAAASIP
E●NN●LERHT:MWO:E!●AAU●●**

**last Sunday. It looks important.
decoding it. Please prepare to be
this review of your cryptography
assignment.**

It seems to be a transposition code

**ONU•TSYUSSGI••RWEEOAAT
•WLYSBI•**

Your practice assignment:

Choose a code and write a message to a fellow agent. Don't forget to give your partner the key!!

Substitution Codes

The Caesar cipher

Shift the alphabet over some distance to make the key. Here the alphabet is shifted over by 5.

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
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

A modular code

Start with C and skip two letters. Write the next letter (F), and skip the two following. Continue until you have finished.

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

You can make similar code keys by starting at E and skipping 4, or starting at G and skipping 6, and there are several other possibilities.

Transposition Codes

H	O	W	•	T	O	•	W	R	I	T	E	•
A	•	T	R	A	N	S	P	O	S	I	T	I
O	N	•	C	O	D	E	:	•	W	R	I	T
E	•	Y	O	U	R	•	P	L	A	I	N	•
T	E	X	T	•	M	E	S	S	A	G	E	•
A	C	R	O	S	S	•	T	H	E	•	R	O
W	S	.	•	C	O	P	Y	•	T	H	E	•
C	O	L	U	M	N	S	•	T	O	•	G	E
T	•	T	H	E	•	C	O	D	E	D	•	M
E	S	S	A	G	E	.	•	•	•	•	•	•

The coded message reads:

**HAOETA WCTEO • N • EC SO • SW T • YXR . LTS • RCOTO • U
HATAOU • SCMEGONDRMSON • E • SE • E • PSC . WP : PSTY
• O • RO • LSH • TD • ISWAAETOE • TIRIG • H • D • ETINERE
G • • • IT • • O • EM •**