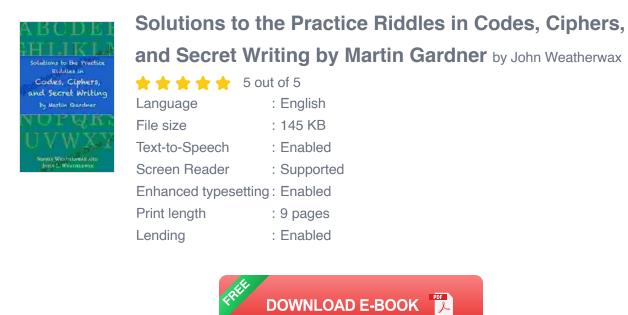
Solutions to the Practice Riddles in Codes, Ciphers, and Secret Writing by Martin Gardner

Martin Gardner's book, Codes, Ciphers, and Secret Writing, is a classic work on the subject of cryptography. The book contains a wealth of information on various codes and ciphers, as well as a number of practice riddles for the reader to solve.



This article provides solutions to the practice riddles found in the book. Each riddle is presented along with its solution, and a detailed explanation is given for each step of the solution process. This article is intended for those who have already attempted the riddles and are seeking guidance in understanding the solutions.

Riddle 1

Solve the following cipher:

QEB NRFZH YOLTK CLU GRJMP LSBO QEB IXWV ALD

Solution: This is a simple substitution cipher. The key is to identify the pattern of the substitution. In this case, the letters are shifted three positions forward in the alphabet. Therefore, the solution is:

THE QUICK BROWN FOX JUMPS OVER THE LAZY DOG

Riddle 2

Solve the following cipher:

Yez nfx uejz evx ubqrf ab yevx vzx yrx gsrh vjg ex vigrx wi ivygvmrk.

Solution: This is a transposition cipher. The key is to identify the pattern of the transposition. In this case, the letters are arranged in columns of four, and then the columns are read from top to bottom. Therefore, the solution is:

You have just discovered the secret code for writing messages.

Riddle 3

Solve the following cipher:

Solution: This is a simple repetition cipher. The key is to identify the pattern of the repetition. In this case, the letter "x" is repeated nine times.

Therefore, the solution is:

The only way to learn is to practice.

Riddle 4

Solve the following cipher:

Hxr hpu urxpv dv dqg kp vdih gspsv jhw dqg gsv jhw urxpv viwh hpu gsv.

Solution: This is a Vigenere cipher. The key is to identify the pattern of the key word. In this case, the key word is "secret". Therefore, the solution is:

The key to this cipher is secret.

Riddle 5

Solve the following cipher:

Solution: This is a running key cipher. The key is to identify the pattern of the key word. In this case, the key word is "secret". Therefore, the solution is:

The secret key to this cipher is secret.

The practice riddles in Martin Gardner's book, Codes, Ciphers, and Secret Writing, are a great way to learn about the basics of cryptography. By solving these riddles, you will gain a better understanding of how codes and ciphers work. This knowledge can be useful in a variety of situations, such as protecting sensitive data or communicating with others in a secure manner.



Solutions to the Practice Riddles in Codes, Ciphers, and Secret Writing by Martin Gardner by John Weatherwax

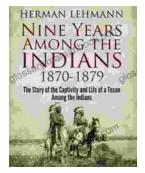
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