



JUNIOR HISTORIANS

Transposition

What is Cryptography?

Cryptography is the art of writing and solving codes. It has been used for thousands of years to keep messages secret. During the Civil War, both sides sent important information about battles, supplies, and troop movements. Just as important was keeping that information a secret from the enemy. In order to hide important messages, soldiers relied on secret codes or ciphers. A **cipher** uses a letter, number, or symbol to replace an individual letter, combo of letters, or numbers. By using a code they agreed on, members of the same army could share

important information without worrying about their enemy decoding the secret message. Today, computers use a form of cryptography called encryption to protect your valuable personal information in our digital world.

The Coded Message

DEWBXG WZOKIEWEA HLXPYWA NLEPYWRRW LBS KIYUA
HIKKUWR WZOKIEWS RGW NUAAUAAUOOU LBS UKKUBIUA
EUCWEA UB 0562. LA L EWAYKR ID RGWUE WZOKIELRUIB,
RGW UKKUBIUA XIYBRET QLA OLER ID RGW DEWBXG
WNOUEW YBRUK 0652 QGWB UR OLAAWS RI RGW
VEURUAG. RGW LEWL QLA RELBADWEEWS RI RGW YBURWS
ARLRWA UB 0672 LBS VWXLNW OLER ID RGW BIERGQWAR
RWEEURIET.

Crack The Code

Using a standard computer keyboard, write the letter to the immediate right of the letter used in the code below. For a letter at the end of the keyboard, such as P, L and M, wrap to the other end of the same line (L in the code is an A in the message). Each line represents a letter and there are long spaces between words.

F _____

_____.

Code A Message

Use the space below to write your full name using a Transposition cipher.

