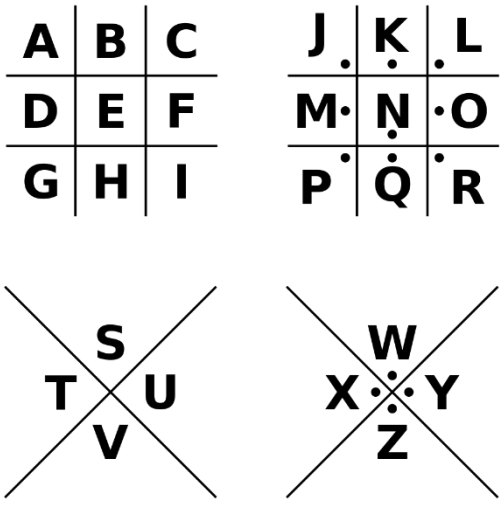
Answers and Solutions

1. "I was here"
2. "The guard was asleep, just had to sneak quietly by."
3. "I LEAVE THESE CLUES BECAUSE I KNOW YOU WILL NEVER FIND ME"
4. "I'm glad cellphones have advanced"
5. "People are all just people, right? When it gets down to it, everyone's the same. They love something. They want something. They fear something. Specifics help, but specifics don't change the way that everyone is vulnerable. It just changes the way that we access those vulnerabilities."
6. "Really hope these two squares will dissuade you"
7. "The chocolate was stolen by me but you'll never find where i hid it"
8. "Vault was compromised by a weak passcode. It was the same code as on my luggage."
9. "Bypassed the camera systems by blinding them with IR light"
10. "Standard tumbler locks are insecure they did nothing to stop me"
11. "Alarm was disabled by cutting blue wire"
12. "THE MAN WHO PASSES THE SENTENCE SHOULD SWING THE SWORD."
13. "one fish two fish"
14. "A summer is a mathematician X" (heh, get it?)
15. "The chocolate monkey that I stole had to be replaced with a dummy idol quickly like Dr Jones Q"

1. Take each capital letter in the text and reverse the result.
2. This is a ROT13 simple substitution cipher, so it's encoding is the same as its decoding; replace each letter with the letter 13 letters after it in the alphabet. B<->O, D<->Q, H<->U, etc.
3. Flip each set of three letters. ELI EVA EHT -> ILE AVE THE -> I LEAVE THE
4. This is a multi-tap SMS message cipher. The numbers correspond to the keys on a telephone, where to encode a letter, the corresponding key must be hit multiple times. To encode an 'a', the '2' is tapped once, so the result is '2'. to encode a 'b', the '2' key is tapped twice, so the result is '22'. 'v' is encoded to '888', etc.
5. Another simple substitution cipher but with a random key:
    a. "kjtlordpuwmzfxescgiyahqbvn<->abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz"
    b. Each letter from the plaintext is replaced by its corresponding letter in the key. The key can be determined by using letter-frequency analysis and logically determining words.
6. The two grids of letters given in the hints make up the keys for this Two-Square cipher. To decrypt, take each letter pair and find the first letter in the first grid, and the second letter in the second grid. These two letters will either lie in the same column, in which case, simple swap the letters, or will lie in different columns. If in different columns, use the two points as two

opposite vertices of a rectangle and take the other two vertices as the plaintext. For example, ‘KP’ becomes ‘PK’, and ‘QR’ becomes ‘HO’:

7. The text was encoded using a pigpen cipher, where each letter is determined by the border around it in the key:



8. The cipher text is the Hexadecimal representation of the ASCII plaintext. ‘V’ becomes ‘56’, ‘a’ becomes ‘61’ and so on.
9. This plaintext was encoded using a Vigenère polyalphabetic cipher with key "vinaigrette".
10. This was encoded using a Polybius square, with ‘I’ and ‘J’ sharing a square. Take each pair of numbers and find the letter on the corresponding row and column:

	1	2	3	4	5
1	A	B	C	D	E
2	F	G	H	I/J	K
3	L	M	N	O	P
4	Q	R	S	T	U
5	V	W	X	Y	Z

11. Find the letter that lies evenly between the letters in each ciphertext letter pair to get the plaintext letter. For example, 'BD' can encode a 'C', as does 'AE'. The alphabet is allowed to wrap, allowing for things like 'ZB' encoding 'A'.
12. Another simple substitution cipher with a random key:
    a. "zrumpodafktcwvnjxiblysgeqh<->abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz "
    b. Each letter from the plaintext is replaced by its corresponding letter in the key. The key can be determined by using letter-frequency analysis and logically determining words.
13. Similar to the ROT13 cipher, each character is rotated through the alphabet by a certain amount. The amount rotated is determined by the Fibonacci sequence: the first letter is rotate by 1, the second by 1, the third by 2, the fourth by 3, the fifth by 5, etc.
14. Swap each pair of letters, then reverse each set of four letters, e.g.:
    i. UMAS -> MUSA - > ASUM
15. Stack each five-letter ciphertext word on top of each other and then rotate the entire block of text 90 degrees counterclockwise.