

## Psmzq & Pvbhzrq Specialty Test #301

- 1. Following this cover page is your Answer Sheet. In the Name blank, print your name; in the ID# Blank, print your 6-digit ID#; in the School blank, print your school name (no abbreviations).
- 2. Scoring for this test is 1 point per correct answer. Half-points may be awarded if at least half of the correct answer is given.
- 3. You may not sit adjacent to anyone from your school.
- 4. TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES OR OTHER PORTABLE ELECTRONIC DEVICES NOW.
- 5. No calculators may be used on this test.
- 6. Any inappropriate behavior or any form of cheating will lead to a ban of the student and/or school from future national conventions, disqualification of the student and/or school from this convention, at the discretion of the Mu Alpha Theta Governing Council.
- 7. If a student believes a test item is defective, file a Dispute Form explaining why.
- 8. If a problem has multiple correct answers, any of those answers will be counted as correct. Do not file a Dispute Form in that instance.

2013 MAθ National Convention

This test consists of fifteen questions, each consisting of a code or cipher that needs to be decrypted. Each decrypted text is either a sentence or small phrase. To receive credit for a question, the full decrypted sentence or phrase needs to be written in the appropriate blank on the answer sheet. Punctuation is not needed.

You have been notified that a van belonging to Mr. Lucent Topry, an infamous illegal-chocolate manufacturer, has been found in San Diego, California. As one of the world's best code-crackers, you have been called out here to help decipher fifteen clues left behind by this evil maker-of-sweets. Many cryptic messages are written on the walls or scrawled on pieces of paper that litter the floor. Can you break the code?

- 1) HJ ZB LN GI DF QS DF SU NP FH DF SU XZ NP TV VX ZB QS LN DF CE TV OQ!
- 2) s' te Le es er eh wy ti so ir uC ll iw ek at su.
- 3) TCESHTWTNGVVHSIHRANTIGOOIHHIDEAEVVVIPHONDTEIMV
- 4) Really? Wingdings? Who in the world would use that  $\land$ □■♦ for a cipher?!

5) Why does this guy have so many codes in his van? Here's another one; it's labeled "Edo Ces Rom". Peculiar. On the back you see this:

- 6) Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on ths coninent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the propoitio that all men are created equal. Nw we are engaged in a grea civil ar, testing wether tht naion, or any nation so conceived and o dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a grea battle-field of tat war. We have com to dedicate a potion of that fild, as a fnal resing place for thoe ho ere gve heir live that that ation might live. It is altgether fiting and proper that we should do this.
- 7) You see on the wall that someone has made a note here...

 $21-81-10-20\ 24-2-400\ 2\ 441-19-100-22-14-17-9.\ 10'196\ 14-2-12-100-15-8\ 2\ 225-16-21-6\ 81-36-361-6:\ 9-484-64-36\ 20-22-4-4-6-400-20.\ 441-81-10-400\ 20-256-15-8\ 576-100-13-169\ 3-36\ 400-21-484-4-144\ 10-225\ 26-16-22-19\ 9-6-2-5\ 7-256-361\ 441-81-36\ 19-6-20-21\ 16-49\ 441-9-36\ 21-6-400-441;\ 676-256-484'361-36\ 24-6-13-4-16-196-36!$ 

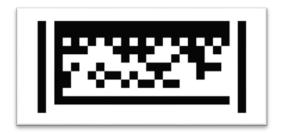
- 8) 13341415-1242151125243322 2443 11 313444 31242515 2211321231243322; 433432154424321543 543445 4313344215 122422, 113314 433432154424321543 543445 4344114244 1122112433 21423432 33344423243322.
- 9) "O tmjc mzkmvf zsjcu gdigt fs hmffosamgczv gtmg O tmjc segca dcfsdgcu gs zvoan mf m kmv se oagdsuiloan og oags gtc woauf ktolt kcdc onasdmag se ogf ltmdwf" Nomlsws Lmfmasjm
- 10) Mr. Lucent Topry seerms to bie reallgy bahd att writinig, but onnly in certdain seentences. "I wonder if that exxplains anything?" you ask yourself.
- 11) Inside the truck, you find a small safe, but the dial is a little strange. On the dial itself, numbers are labeled around the edge, clockwise from 1-26. Outside of the dial, someone wrote all of the letters of the alphabet, clockwise from A-Z. Each number on the dial lines up with exactly one letter on the outside. If you turn the dial, different numbers will line up with different letters. If only you had the combination, you could find out what was inside of the safe! There was a piece of paper near the van's rear door, could that have something to do with it? The note reads:

T3:24 H1:7 I4:26 S1:26 I5:5 S9:23 A2:9 R6:8 E5:8 D3:26 H5:11 E8:7 R9:24 R7:1 I9:15 N3:11 G2:26

- 12) Ms. Lrgp, Z.C. Ydsk Bu.R qqxk yyr hvlw.
- 13) Among the mess, you have found a wooden dowel that looks like it may have once been a broom handle. On the floor nearby is a long, curled strip of letters:



14) This may look like an Ultracode barcode developed by Zebra Technologies, but...



15) "Hm, look at all of the little Dotsies..."

