



CLASSIFIED FILE 4

MORSE CODE

Samuel Morse came up with a code for sending messages by telegraph. Each letter of the alphabet was represented by a combination of long and short 'beeps', written down as dots and dashes. While he couldn't send actual letters, he could send a series of these beeps as electrical signals through a wire. Instead of a telegraph, you can use a light (such as a torch) to send a message using short flashes and long flashes.

MORSE CODE ALPHABET

.- A	. E	.. I	-- M	--.- Q	..- U	-.-- Y	
-... B	..-. F	.-.- J	-. N	.-. R	...- V	--.. Z	KEY
-.-. C	--. G	-. K	--- O	... S	.- W		. = SHORT FLASH
-.. D	... H	.-. L	.-. P	- T	.-. X		- = LONG FLASH

ENCODING

To write your coded message, substitute each letter with its Morse Code equivalent. Add a slash to separate the letters and a double slash is used to mark the end of a word. For example, 'Repro' would look like this:

.-././.-.-./.-./-----//



DECODING

When you receive a message in Morse code, decode it by using the Morse code alphabet to match each dot/dash sequence with its associated letter. Try this one:

.../---/...//
. - . . / . . / - / - / . - . . / . // - . . . / . . / . - . / - . . //
.../---/...//

Answer:

_ _ _ // _ _ _ _ _ // _ _ _ _ _ // _ _ _ //

Tip: As you find each letter, see whether that pattern occurs again in the code.

See below for answer*.

EXTRA

You can write out a message using the alphabet above, but can you think of a way to send a Morse code message by using long and short sounds?

*Answer: SOS LITTLE BIRD SOS

