Transposition

Transposition Ciphers first appeared in the American Civil War, at first glance they appear to make no sense at all.

trmsimhlatsled1owslo5nosegcg

The code uses the factors of the total number of letters. In the code above there are 28 letters.

28 = 2 x 14

28 = 4 x 7

The code is written into a block either 2 x 14 or 4 x 7 writing down in columns from left to right.

The code can then be read by reading across the rows.

So the above message is written

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| t | h | e | w | o |
| r | l | d | s | s |
| m | a | l | l | e |
| s | t | d | o | g |
| i | s | 1 | 5 | c |
| m | l | o | n | g |

The decoded message is the world’s smallest dog is 15cm long.

Transposition Ciphers look very similar to Caesar Ciphers. You can tell them apart by counting the number of letters (Transposition Ciphers need to be numbers with factors).