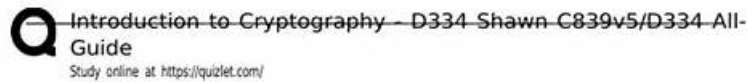


Quiz 2026 WGU Authoritative Introduction-to-Cryptography Reliable Cram Materials



WGU - INTRO TO CRYPTOGRAPHY - D334 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

DES block size and key size? - answer--64bit block size, 56bit key size
3DES block size and key size? - answer--64bit block size, 112bit key size
AES block size and key size? - answer--128bit block size, 128, 192, or 256bit key size
IDEA block size and key size? - answer--64bit block size, 128bit key size
Skipjack block size and key size? - answer--64bit block size, 80bit key size
Blowfish block size and key size? - answer--64bit block size, 32-448bit key size (commonly 128, 192, or 256)
Twofish block size and key size? - answer--128bit block size, 1-256bit key size (commonly 128, 192, or 256)
RC5 block size and key size? - answer--32, 64 or 128bit block size, 0-2048bit key size
RC2 block size and key size? - answer--64bit block size, 1-128bit key size (recommended minimum 40)
RC6 block size and key size? - answer--Variable bit block size (commonly 128), variable bit key size (commonly 128, 192 or 256)
XTEA block size and key size? - answer--64bit block size, 128bit key size
MD2 hash value? - answer--128bit
MD5 hash value? - answer--128bit
MD4 hash value? - answer--128bit
MD6 hash value? - answer--1-512bit
SHA-1 hash value? - answer--160bit
SHA-2 hash value? - answer--256, 384, or 512bit
SHA-3 hash value? - answer--Variable
SHA-256 hash value? - answer--256bit

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WGU Introduction to Cryptography HNO1 Sample Questions (Q37-Q42):

NEW QUESTION # 37

(Which authentication method allows a web service installed on a network operating system to prove its identity to a customer?)

- A. End-to-end authentication
- B. One-way client authentication
- **C. One-way server authentication**
- D. Mutual authentication

Answer: C

Explanation:

One-way server authentication is the standard model used by most TLS-enabled web services to prove the server's identity to a client. In this model, the server presents an X.509 certificate during the TLS handshake. The client validates the certificate chain to a trusted root CA, checks hostname binding (CN/SAN), validates validity dates, and may check revocation status. If validation succeeds, the client gains cryptographic assurance that it is communicating with the holder of the private key corresponding to the server certificate's public key, and that the certificate is issued to the expected domain/identity. This proves the server's identity to the customer without requiring the customer to present a certificate.

Mutual authentication would require both client and server to authenticate each other using certificates (commonly in certain enterprise APIs), but the question asks specifically about the web service proving its identity to the customer, which is satisfied by server-only authentication. One-way client authentication is the opposite direction (client proves identity to server). "End-to-end authentication" is a broader concept and not the specific TLS identity proof mechanism described here. Thus, one-way server authentication is the correct choice.

NEW QUESTION # 38

(Which cipher uses shifting letters of the alphabet for encryption?)

- A. Vigenere
- B. SHA-1
- **C. Caesar**
- D. Bifid

Answer: C

Explanation:

The Caesar cipher is the classic substitution cipher that encrypts by shifting letters of the alphabet by a fixed number of positions (e.g., shift by 3: A#D, B#E, etc.). It is a monoalphabetic cipher because a single shift value is applied uniformly across the entire message, making it simple and vulnerable to frequency analysis and brute force (only 25 meaningful shifts in the Latin alphabet).

Vigenere also involves shifting, but it uses a repeating keyword to vary the shift per character (polyalphabetic), whereas the question's phrasing typically points to the fundamental "shift cipher," which is Caesar.

SHA-1 is a cryptographic hash function, not a cipher. Bifid is a fractionation cipher combining Polybius square coordinates and transposition, not a direct shifting method. Therefore, the cipher that uses shifting letters of the alphabet for encryption is the Caesar cipher.

NEW QUESTION # 39

(What is an alternative to using a Certificate Revocation List (CRL) with certificates?)

- A. Root Certificate Authority (CA)
- **B. Online Certificate Status Protocol (OCSP)**
- C. Privacy Enhanced Mail (PEM)
- D. Policy Certificate Authority (CA)

Answer: B

Explanation:

OCSP is the primary online alternative to CRLs for checking whether a certificate has been revoked.

With a CRL, a relying party periodically downloads a list of revoked certificate serial numbers published by the issuing CA (or CRL distribution point). That approach can be bandwidth-heavy, introduces latency between revocation and client awareness, and can result in clients using stale revocation data if updates are infrequent. OCSP improves this by allowing a client (or a server on the client's behalf) to query an OCSP responder in near real time about the status of a specific certificate (good, revoked, or unknown). In practice, many TLS deployments use OCSP stapling, where the server periodically fetches a signed OCSP response from the CA's responder and "staples" it to the TLS handshake, reducing client-side network calls and improving privacy (the CA doesn't learn which site the client is visiting). Thus, OCSP provides a more timely, certificate-specific revocation status mechanism than CRLs while preserving the CA's signed assurance.

NEW QUESTION # 40

(Employee A needs to send Employee B a symmetric key for confidential communication. Which key is used to encrypt the symmetric key?)

- A. Employee A's public key
- **B. Employee B's public key**
- C. Employee A's private key
- D. Employee B's private key

Answer: B

Explanation:

When securely distributing a symmetric key over an untrusted network, a common approach is hybrid cryptography: use asymmetric cryptography to protect the symmetric key, then use the symmetric key for bulk encryption. To ensure only Employee B can recover the symmetric key, Employee A encrypts (wraps) that symmetric key using Employee B's public key. Because only Employee B should possess the matching private key, only B can decrypt the wrapped symmetric key. This is the same principle used in TLS key exchange (in older RSA key transport) and in secure email: encrypt the session key to the recipient's public key. Encrypting the symmetric key with Employee A's private key would not provide confidentiality—anyone with A's public key could reverse it, and it functions more like a signature than encryption. Employee B's private key should never be shared and is used only by B to decrypt. Therefore, for confidentiality of the shared symmetric key, the correct encryption key is Employee B's public key.

NEW QUESTION # 41

(Which additional input element can be used to implement integrity in combination with symmetric ciphers?)

- A. Encoding algorithm
- B. Initialization vector
- **C. Hash function**
- D. Nonce value

Answer: C

Explanation:

Symmetric encryption alone typically provides confidentiality, but it does not automatically provide integrity. Many encryption modes (especially older ones like CBC without authentication) are malleable, meaning an attacker may be able to modify ciphertext and cause predictable changes in plaintext after decryption. To add integrity, systems commonly combine symmetric encryption with a cryptographic hash-based integrity mechanism, such as a hash function used in an HMAC (Hash-based Message Authentication Code) or a dedicated authenticated-encryption mode like GCM that internally uses authentication tags. Among the given options, a hash function is the fundamental additional element that enables integrity checks: it allows construction of a MAC (e.g., HMAC-SHA-256) that the receiver verifies to detect any tampering. An initialization vector and a nonce value are used to ensure uniqueness and randomness properties for encryption but do not, by themselves, guarantee integrity.

An encoding algorithm changes representation, not security. Therefore, the correct additional input element for implementing integrity alongside symmetric encryption is a hash function, typically as part of an HMAC or similar MAC construction.

NEW QUESTION # 42

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