

Caesar Cipher

NAME _____

1. Who was Julius Caesar, and where was he from? During what period of time did he live?
2. The Caesar cipher is based on shifting the letters in the alphabet a certain number of spaces. How many different shifts are possible? Explain your reasoning.
3. Why do you think this method was used by Julius Caesar? At his time in history, how effective do you think this method was for sending secret messages?
4. Would this method provide adequate security today, or would a code using this method be easily broken? Explain your opinion.
5. Explain why the number of total shifts possible from Question 2 is a weakness of the Caesar cipher.