HOW TO CREATE A TABLE TO CIPHER AND DECIPHER USING CAESAR CODE

First of all, you should know that each letter has got an associate ASCII code, for instance a is 97, b is 98 and so on. To work with numbers in Excel is easier than to work with letters. This is the reason why we will follow the following steps to create our spreadsheet.

1. Make one column with the numbers between 97 and 122 (Please, do not type all of them, use any option of Excel.
2. In order to translate these numbers into letters use the =CARACTER(CELL). For instance, if cell A1 is 97, then =CARACTER(A1) is a.
3. Make column B following the instructions in paragraph 2
4. Since Caesar code moves each letter three places right, we will create column C adding 3 units to the elements of column A, so C1=A1+3.
5. Translate this column into characters again, now we have column D. Take a look to the last elements in this column they should be {, |, }. Why? It is because we have overtaken the last number corresponding to letters.
6. How can we fix it? Using the command SI(condition, then, if not) (in English it is IF, but our spreadsheet has the commands in Spanish SI(C1>122, C1-26, C1). And then copy the rest of the elements in this column. It is column E.
7. Translate column E into characters, it is column F
8. Open a new tab, call it CAESAR TABLE\_ CIPHER and copy and paste columns B and F. Open another tab, call it CAESAR TABLE2\_DECIPHER, copy and paste F and B

HOW TO CIPHER AND DECIPHER

Using the command BUSCARV, this instruction looks for a value on the left columna and returns a value from the right column.

To cipher and decipher

=BUSCARV(B2;’CAESAR TABLE\_CIPHER’!$A$1:$E$26;2) Looks for letter in cell B2 in CAESAR TABLE\_CIPHER and returns the element in the right column . Obviously searching in CAESAR TABLE2\_DECIPHER we will decipher instead cipher.

Remember that you have to type each character of your message in one different cell