Math 316, 2.3/2.4 Statistics of English, Attack on the Affine Cipher

Name:				
1. From a cryptology perspective, what are the two uses for studying characteristics of English plaintext?				
2. Which letters of the alphabet seem to account for over 50% of the letters appearing in English plaintext? What appears to be the most common word?				
3. Give two reasons why ciphertext is easier to decrypt if blanks have not been eliminated.				
4. Explain how knowledge of character frequency can be used to crack the affine cipher.				

5.	What struck you in this reading?	What is still unclear?	What remaining questions do you have?