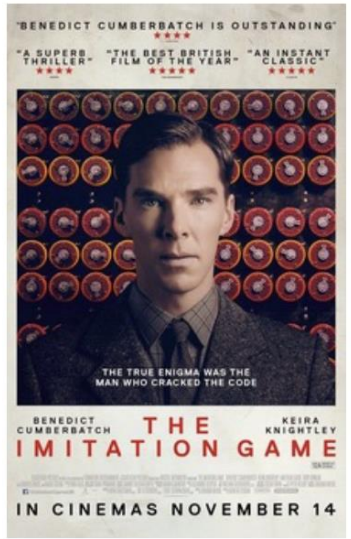
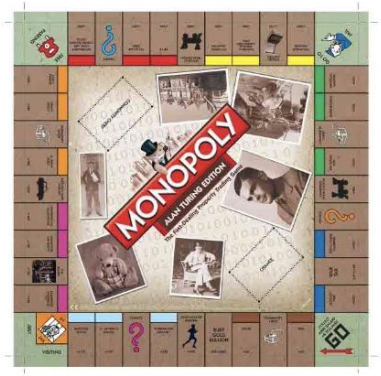
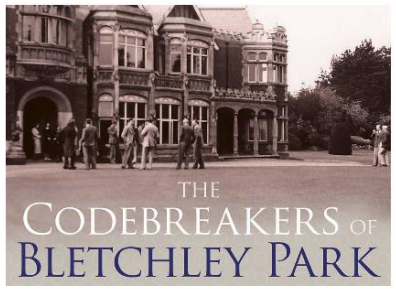
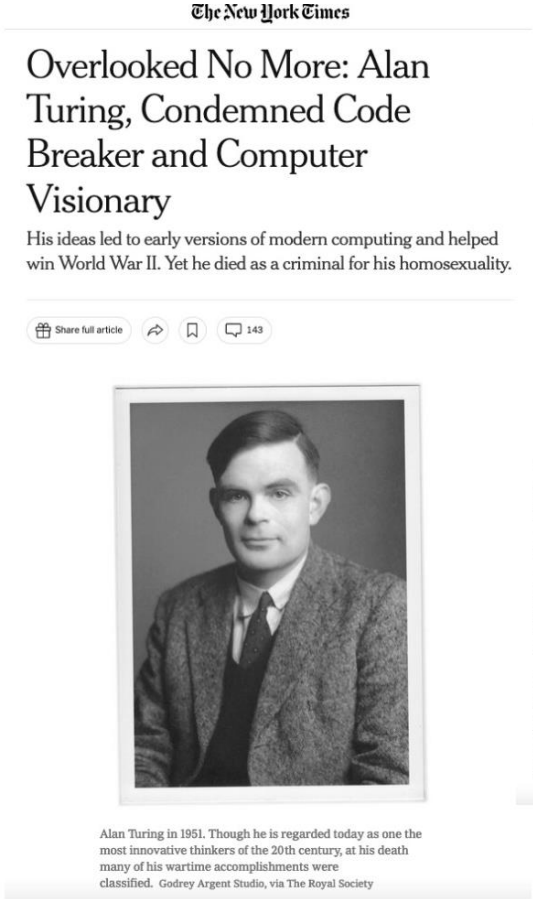
Pass Phrase: Alan Turing









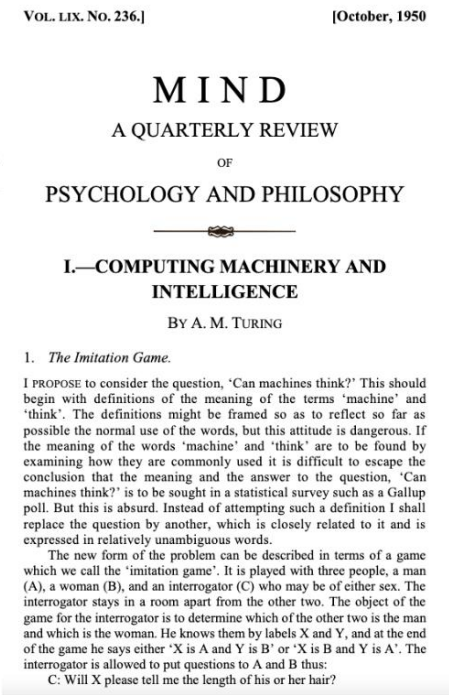
The New York Times

Overlooked No More: Alan Turing, Condemned Code Breaker and Computer Visionary

His ideas led to early versions of modern computing and helped win World War II. Yet he died as a criminal for his homosexuality.

Share full article 143

Alan Turing in 1951. Though he is regarded today as one the most innovative thinkers of the 20th century, at his death many of his wartime accomplishments were classified. Godrey Argent Studio, via The Royal Society



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MIND

A QUARTERLY REVIEW

OF

PSYCHOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY

I.—COMPUTING MACHINERY AND INTELLIGENCE

BY A. M. TURING

1. *The Imitation Game.*

I PROPOSE to consider the question, 'Can machines think?' This should begin with definitions of the meaning of the terms 'machine' and 'think'. The definitions might be framed so as to reflect so far as possible the normal use of the words, but this attitude is dangerous. If the meaning of the words 'machine' and 'think' are to be found by examining how they are commonly used it is difficult to escape the conclusion that the meaning and the answer to the question, 'Can machines think?' is to be sought in a statistical survey such as a Gallup poll. But this is absurd. Instead of attempting such a definition I shall replace the question by another, which is closely related to it and is expressed in relatively unambiguous words.

The new form of the problem can be described in terms of a game which we call the 'imitation game'. It is played with three people, a man (A), a woman (B), and an interrogator (C) who may be of either sex. The interrogator stays in a room apart from the other two. The object of the game for the interrogator is to determine which of the other two is the man and which is the woman. He knows them by labels X and Y, and at the end of the game he says either 'X is A and Y is B' or 'X is B and Y is A'. The interrogator is allowed to put questions to A and B thus:

C: Will X please tell me the length of his or her hair?

1. Benedict Cumberbatch played Alan Turing in the 2014 movie The Imitation Game https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2084970/
2. Turing was an avid Monopoly player https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2012/sep/10/alan-turing-monopoly-board-google
3. Turing was 5th in the British marathon trials for the 1948 Olympics https://kottke.org/18/04/alan-turing-was-an-excellent-runner
4. Turing led the effort to break Nazi code ("Enigma") at Bletchley Park https://www.nationalww2museum.org/war/articles/alan-turing-betchley-park
5. Turing was a gay man who given a choice between "chemical castration" and imprisonment for homosexual acts https://www.nytimes.com/2019/06/05/obituaries/alan-turing-overlooked.html
6. Turing write what is the considered the first major paper on AI https://academic.oup.com/mind/article/LIX/236/433/986238

A warmup, as a group

Solving for everyone is often seen as inefficient. Did these readings change your mind at all?

Innateness

- What are your experiences with math education?
- Are there people that just don’t like math / aren’t good at math? Or is it something else?
- Is it a bad thing if some people just don’t do math?

“If I don’t build it, someone else will”

- Why is this problematic?
- What can we do to break this cycle?

Welcoming “everyone”

- What happens when people don’t want to be welcomed?
- Should we welcome everybody? Why not? Then what?

Solving, now

- What should resistance look like here, now?