GIVEN A MONKEY . . .

THE ORIGIN OF THE SPECIES --- Twenty-one letters and four spaces
Twenty-five strokes; 25 seconds.

A typewriter -- 44 keys (26 letters, 9 digits, a space bar, symbols, punctuation)

T -- One chance in 44

THE -- One chance in 85,184 (44 times 44 times 44)

THE ORIGIN -- 44^{10} or about 27,720 million million
Success half way through or after about 13,860 million million attempts.

2000 sheets of paper to a foot
2,000,000 sheets to 1000 feet
10,000,000 sheets to a mile
13,860 million million sheets would be 1,386 million miles high.

1000 sheets weigh 8 pounds
1,000,000 sheets weigh 4 tons
13,860 million million sheets would weigh 55,440 million tons
(In 1966 the U.S. produced 1,600,000 tons of writing and other
fine papers. World paper production (all types) in 1960 was
95,000,000 short tons).

Five seconds per sheet, 12 sheets per minute,
720 per hour, 5760 sheets in an 8-hour day.

13,860 million million sheets in about 2,350,000 million days
With 235 working days in a year, that would be 10,000 million years.

THE ORIGIN OF THE SPECIES -- 44^{25} or $10^{41.08625}$ or roughly 1 followed by 41 zeroes.

Log 44   1.6435
times   25
41.08625

Log 1.2197 equals 08625

Thus 44^{25} equals $10^{41.08625}$ or 1.2197 X 10^{41}

10^{41} = 100,000 m m m m m m

$10^{41.08625}$ = 121,970 m m m m m m

Conclusion: The odds that 44 typewriter keys hit at random might correctly type out
the title--THE ORIGIN OF THE SPECIES--on the first try is one in
121,970 million, million, million, million, million, million tries.

After that number of attempts at blindly hitting 44 keys, chances are
that the title would have been typed correctly only once.

Chances are 1 in 2 that it could be done in half the number of tries
(because success could occur on any attempt and would thus on the
average occur at the halfway mark).