

Alexander Pope Cryptograms — Set 1

6 puzzles · Large print · answers on the last page

Every letter has been swapped for another letter. The same cipher letter always stands for the same letter, and no letter ever stands for itself. Write your answer in the blank under each letter. Answers are on the last page.

1. Clue: H = E

Hard · 46 letters

Y U W H X H J Y J U D X Q

F B Z Z B O V I H H , J

T I E N V B L C I H J A ,

J D A Z U C H I V Q .

Decoder — write your answer under each cipher letter:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

2. Clue: B = A

Hard · 49 letters

I B J J T S I F V B O

H I L N F H P N I B O W

R B U F B A F H

J B S F U O B K B R U F N

D L M O W .

Decoder — write your answer under each cipher letter:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

3. Clue: N = R

Hard · 53 letters

D B N P N B H A U W V V

U J R D B N V L D B N K,

J K I D K U Q N H X F H K

R J N N W K P J L W

N W A B N K.

Decoder — write your answer under each cipher letter:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

4. Clue: T = E

Hard · 53 letters

G W I T C T F M S H X K F
P K G H T W X H U G P V W
W V T J X X F, X F S K P V W
V K R S I T Q T H J G H T.

Decoder — write your answer under each cipher letter:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

5. Clue: U = E

Medium · 57 letters

I E U W V F V K U P S R P

W I K V P R G A W S V E U W

V E P S U B G A B U W U G P

I J R P S I Y W R E B

K V E U W .

Decoder — write your answer under each cipher letter:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

6. Clue: B = E

Medium · 57 letters

P W B N N B F S N C B H C R
B D V B T G N X R G C S X Z ,
O R E C B N C M W W
X B Y B E P B
F S N M V V R S X G B F .

Decoder — write your answer under each cipher letter:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

Solver's cheat sheet

Most common letters

E T A O I N S H R D L U

Most common 1-letter words

A I

Most common 2-letter words

OF TO IN IT IS BE AS AT SO WE HE BY OR ON DO IF ME MY
UP AN GO NO US AM

Most common 3-letter words

THE AND FOR ARE BUT NOT YOU ALL ANY CAN HER WAS ONE
OUR OUT DAY GET HAS HIM HIS HOW MAN NEW NOW OLD SEE
TWO WAY WHO BOY DID ITS LET PUT SAY SHE TOO USE

Common double letters

LL EE SS OO TT FF RR NN PP CC

Common word endings

-ING -ION -ENT -TION -LY -ED -ER -EST

After an apostrophe

T (don't) S (it's) RE (we're) VE (I've) LL (we'll) D (I'd)

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Answer key

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1. "Give me again my hollow tree, A crust of bread, and liberty."

— Alexander Pope, 1738, *Imitations of Horace, Satires, Epistles, and Odes of Horace. Satire VI. Book II. Line 220* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891*)

Cipher key: A=D B=O C=B D=N E=U F=H G=P H=E I=R J=A K=Q L=F M=K N=S O=W P=X Q=Y R=Z S=J T=C
U=I V=T W=V X=M Y=G Z=L

2. "Happy the man whose wish and care a few paternal acres bound."

— Alexander Pope, 1717, *Ode on Solitude* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891*)

Cipher key: A=F B=A C=X D=B E=K F=E G=V H=W I=H J=P K=L L=O M=U N=S O=N P=I Q=Z R=C S=T T=Y
U=R V=M W=D X=G Y=Q Z=J

3. "Our fruitless labours mourn, And only rich in barren fame return."

— Alexander Pope, 1726, *The Odyssey of Homer (Pope's translation), Book X. Line 46* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891*)

Cipher key: A=T B=U C=W D=O E=J F=H G=X H=I I=D J=A K=N L=M M=V N=R O=Z P=F Q=Y R=B S=Q T=G
U=L V=S W=E X=C Y=P Z=K

4. "It never was our guise to slight the poor, or aught humane despise."

— Alexander Pope, 1726, *The Odyssey of Homer (Pope's translation), Book XIV. Line 65* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891*)

Cipher key: A=Y B=F C=V D=X E=B F=R G=I H=S I=N J=P K=U L=Q M=W N=C O=Z P=G Q=D R=M S=A T=E
U=L V=H W=T X=O Y=J Z=K

5. "One simile that solitary shines in the dry desert of a thousand lines."

— Alexander Pope, 1738, *Imitations of Horace, Satires, Epistles, and Odes of Horace. Epistle I. Book II. Line 111* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891*)

Cipher key: A=Y B=D C=V D=P E=N F=M G=R H=G I=O J=F K=L L=K M=Z N=C O=Q P=T Q=X R=A S=H T=W
U=E V=I W=S X=B Y=U Z=J

6. "Blessed is he who expects nothing, for he shall never be disappointed."

— Alexander Pope, 1727, *Letter to Gay, Oct. 6, 1727* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891*)

Cipher key: A=K B=E C=H D=X E=R F=D G=T H=W I=J J=U K=M L=Z M=A N=S O=F P=B Q=Y R=O S=I T=C
U=Q V=P W=L X=N Y=V Z=G