

Hard Cryptograms — Set 31

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: W = T

Hard · 43 letters

X M E C V W Z D W D E K

V W E B Q W A H W E S K

V K K P W M R K

J D E D C M T B Q D A .

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: T = E

Hard · 43 letters

F D F A A D T C V B Z

K T C V R G E H U B Z

P A T T L T I H V Q C D P

R H E T M Y C R .

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: P = T

Hard · 43 letters

X P X K U I B D K D W P P F

N S P P V F W O K F Q

D W F P V B M G D W ' K

I B D P V B M .

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: V = A

Hard · 43 letters

V B N X G F C B L H G V W A
W V Y E X V H B V W C Y
R N E H A O G Z V X A Y N
M C W A .

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 = T

Hard · 43 letters

N Y U L R H Y Q ; J U P A A

N Y U L R H Y Q , X R Q , H R

L K U U Y E X Q S O K U

L Y K H J .

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: C = N

Hard · 43 letters

V G U B W S C O M T Z U V X E

C B A Y J U , V S H U C M U

X E Y C K U J V A B C K S C O .

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)

Answer key

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1. "Words that are strictly true seem to be paradoxical."

— Laozi, 1891, *Tao Te Ching* (James Legge translation, 1891)

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

2. "I will wear my heart upon my sleeve for daws to peck at."

— William Shakespeare, 1604, *Othello*, Act I. Sc. 1 (in Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891)

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

3. "It is pleasant to cut thongs of another man's leather."

— Dutch proverb, 1857, Recorded with English translation in Henry G. Bohn, *A Polyglot of Foreign Proverbs* (London, 1857)

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

4. "A more simple and natural man it would be hard to find."

— Henry David Thoreau, 1854, *Walden*

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

5. "Get money; still get money, boy, No matter by what means."

— Ben Jonson, 1598, *Every Man in his Humour*, Act II. Sc. 3 (in Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891)

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

6. "Speaking comes by nature, silence by understanding."

— German proverb, 1857, Recorded with English translation in Henry G. Bohn, *A Polyglot of Foreign Proverbs* (London, 1857)

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