

Hard Cryptograms — Set 86

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: N = E

Hard · 52 letters

X L X F N B F X N G L D

W S X K M L V D A N B G L A F

L A B P B K V B U F L D

I N N J C X G N D P D P N .

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: P = E

Hard · 52 letters

B U Q M N F W A P W R Q

P R Z P T S T B J P

X P U M T P Q M N , Z T Q B Z

B R Q M N T M G K

D G M Z F P 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

3. Clue: H = E

Hard · 52 letters

Q S O H ! R G Q X D H C K P Y

M W H L Z K C W L X G H

O Q L X G Q X O H M M P H Y

R K X G B W P M K C W L !

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: C = N

Hard · 52 letters

N A C V I F J J L X I U K ,

N A C V A C J L X C X D ,

N A C V , L B Q Q E M X U U Z ,

B G N I Z Z J L X Z C I D !

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: W = E

Hard · 52 letters

N U S W Z Q B M S C W

I A G Z F W

W B V S A Y N E W P Q B

F S Z L V N U N V Q Z Q W G ,

S Y B W Q Z L W Y .

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: Q = E

Hard · 52 letters

M D Q B Q V Z S G P S I Z

Z A K Q M D V J L

A W W Q J Z V R Q V J M D Q

U Q M S V G Z A W

X Y J J V J L .

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

Answer key

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1. "It is easier to build two hearths than always to keep fire on one."

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

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

2. "If you have any enterprise before you, try it in your old clothes."

— *Henry David Thoreau, 1854, Walden*

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

3. "Ay me! what perils do environ the man that meddles with cold iron!"

— *Samuel Butler, 1663, Hudibras, Part I, Canto III. Line 1 (in Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891)*

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

4. "Ring out the old, ring in the new, Ring, happy bells, across the snow!"

— *Alfred Tennyson, 1850, In Memoriam A.H.H., CV. Stanza 2 (in Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891)*

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

5. "A poet in love must be encouraged in both capacities, or neither."

— *Jane Austen, 1815, Emma*

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

6. "There is always something offensive in the details of cunning."

— *Jane Austen, 1817, Persuasion*

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