

James Russell Lowell Cryptograms — Set 4

5 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 = E

Easy · 100 letters

P J W E W F A H K

M W P P W E M X T T X A P

L K E Q W W O F H Z P J W

U F H R A P W X R I K H

F P A Q W W T, X H R

A X G F H Z F P L E K U

X T T E F A Q K L

Y E X H Q F H W A A, P J X H

M V A F H W A 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: A = N

Medium · 120 letters

Q A I M Q A N C F M G G

U G H A U Z Q U A Y

J K H V C , M A H T C A H

U K E F U A Y F Q C A F C Z U

U K E H C M G Q A V ; Z S C

Z C A F U D D M A H D C A Z Y

N Q G G A U Z T K H V C ,

M A H Y Z C M G Q A V N Q G G

F U A Z Q A K C

Y Z C M G Q A V .

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: G = T

Easy · 121 letters

G M H K Y P W A Z F G M

G M Z G E H Z X Q E H P P

Z Y L M K P L Q F G Q

R K P K X F Y Z P P

E H Z G M H X Q, F Q G M Z G

E M F R M F Q E K N H Y K A

R K Y N F R G F K Y Z Y L

Q H G E F G M G M H

Q M Z X V B K X L Z Y G K A

H O V H X F H Y R H.

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: Z = E

Easy · 121 letters

S L S X Z C Z I U P Z H

X V I N Q E E P S U

Q Z N N Z C N V I M I

G V Z I J Q E E P, S

U V E Y W H I M U X Z C

N V I N N V Z C Z S U E M Z

Q E E P Q Z N N Z C N V I M

I G V Z I J Q E E P, - I M H

N V I N S U I Q E E P

V E M Z U N W B G E O Z Q B.

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: K = E

Medium · 131 letters

Z X R D F Z L U D W Z L P

K H N O D X Z A L L A X

A L Q I O A U U A L X A

D Q Q, E N X Z L F A U K

F K L F K O A U T N Q F A Y I

A L D Q Q, X S D X X S K

H K F X Z L I A J X S K

J Y K K Y K T N E Q Z O F A J

D U K Y Z O D R D F

T Y D O X Z O D Q Q I

F K X X Q K H.

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. "There is no better ballast for keeping the mind steady on its keel, and saving it from all risk of crankiness, than business."

— James Russell Lowell, 1870, *Among My Books, First Series. New England Two Centuries ago* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891*)

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

2. "In vain we call old notions fudge, And bend our conscience to our dealing; The Ten Commandments will not budge, And stealing will continue stealing."

— James Russell Lowell, 1885, *Motto of the American Copyright League* (written Nov. 20, 1885) (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891*)

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

3. "The only faith that wears well and holds its color in all weathers, is that which is woven of conviction and set with the sharp mordant of experience."

— James Russell Lowell, 1871, *My Study Windows, Abraham Lincoln, 1864* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891*)

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

4. "If I were asked what book is better than a cheap book, I should answer that there is one book better than a cheap book, - and that is a book honestly come by."

— James Russell Lowell, 1886, *Before the U. S. Senate Committee on Patents, Jan. 29, 1886* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891*)

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

5. "It was in making education not only common to all, but in some sense compulsory on all, that the destiny of the free republics of America was practically settled."

— James Russell Lowell, 1870, *Among My Books, First Series. New England Two Centuries ago* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891*)

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