

Laozi Cryptograms — Set 2

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: H = E

Hard · 64 letters

Y W H L H M W H M S C Y W H

X H Y S C W H R K H X R B H

Q R B I H ; C R B R A R B Y ,

J D Y Q H Y Y U X I

X S Y W U X I H M F R A 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

2. Clue: E = T

Easy · 66 letters

B E B V K R E E R X E Q

Z R D L R D L R V V R Z

C J O B Z Z R A , E S D J E Q

D E E R T G E E Q N D X X U

B E Y S R J B E B V

O C Z Z .

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: L = E

Hard · 66 letters

P J L H Q F L J Q H Z D

N Z E Q X N Q S M L W N Z C

D A J N H D O Z ; J L

W Q Y L H P J L W N Z C D A

P J L V L D V M L J N H

W N Z C .

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: S = E

Hard · 68 letters

Y I S G P N Y B P D

C S E Q X S A E Q X G D S Y S ;

Y I S E N Q Q F S T ,

A Y N P B H I Y ; Y I S

S X G Y Z , K O D D ; Y I S

U Q N R Q O Y , R S U .

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: L = O

Medium · 75 letters

T Z J L O R H D Q J H U
U L R I H L D O T I D B L C
T Q E L O R N L C H J H P ; T
I F U U R H C T J H U L R I
H L D O T I D B L C D E R
Q E L O R U T 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

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

Answer key

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1. "The meshes of the net of Heaven are large; far apart, but letting nothing escape."

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

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

2. "It is better to leave a vessel unfilled, than to attempt to carry it when it is full."

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

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

3. "The sage has no invariable mind of his own; he makes the mind of the people his mind."

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

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

4. "The partial becomes complete; the crooked, straight; the empty, full; the worn out, new."

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

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

5. "A violent wind does not last for a whole morning; a sudden rain does not last for the whole day."

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

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