

Marcus Aurelius Cryptograms — Set 1

6 puzzles · Standard 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: C = O

Hard · 42 letters

A P U R Q T H C R Y C C I M C S

R P B T A U S X Q T H C R Y C C I

M C S R P B N B 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

2. Clue: M = O

Expert · 42 letters

P N P L O Z U T G P V X N M K V Q

N M G M A Z Z A Z Q N C M L Z

B C M S M B X M Q E .

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: C = E

Medium · 44 letters

K D K H R F C H D B M R M R K H Q

C J C L R , H I R U C W C Y R

C J C L R U V I R F C J 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: Y = E

Hard · 45 letters

W Z Z N T E O U R W P Y

S T W O U Y , G Y N L Y O Y Y H

O Q N K Y W P W O G N T E O U

O Y 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

5. Clue: E = T

Hard · 45 letters

O J O E O W U L E W P P B Z C ,
 S L O E U L E ; O J O E O W U L E
 E I X P , W Q P Y A O E U L E .

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: E = O

Medium · 46 letters

O D O P P K D O P G K M D O E V D E
 K W K V D E C E D X L Z H E Z L H
 U E H B P E G K W K 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
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. "What is not good for the swarm is not good for the bee."

— *Marcus Aurelius, 170, Meditations, VI. 54 (in Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891)*

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

2. "It is peculiar to man to love even those who do wrong."

— *Marcus Aurelius, 1862, Meditations (George Long translation, 1862)*

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

3. "A man then must stand erect, not be kept erect by others."

— *Marcus Aurelius, 1862, Meditations (George Long translation, 1862)*

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

4. "All things are change, yet we need not fear anything new."

— *Marcus Aurelius, 1862, Meditations (George Long translation, 1862)*

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

5. "If it is not seemly, do it not; if it is not true, speak it not."

— *Marcus Aurelius, 170, Meditations, XII. 17 (in Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891)*

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

6. "It is satisfaction to a man to do the proper works of a man."

— *Marcus Aurelius, 1862, Meditations (George Long translation, 1862)*

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