

Marcus Aurelius Cryptograms — Set 16

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: V = I

Hard · 121 letters

T M E W C F V J Y T X N W

F L N N P V J Y V J C M

W O V T C W J D W, X J I

M C F W N T X N W

F L N N P V J Y M L C M H

V C; X J I M H C F X C

K F V D F V T D M E V J Y

V J C M W O V T C W J D W

R X N C V T X Q N W X I P

W O C V J Y L V T F W I.

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: I = O

Medium · 122 letters

I P N D A H M R H

H M D P Q A S I P I H

H I X V M H M N A I X U,

G I L H M N F R L N

N K H N L P R U R P S

L N C R D P D C C I O R T U N;

T X H I X L

Z N L H X L T R H D I P A

V I C N I P U F G L I C

H M N I Z D P D I P Y M D V M

D A Y D H M D P.

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 = O

Easy · 123 letters

Q X Q D Q A G O F R G Z W F

X G C K U W A G

G R Q A Q G A K P G O X K

X C Q A J , K A L A G X X G

P W L Q D X O F P W L Q A

G O F D G O Y ; V G F

X C Q A J D

X C W E D W Y U W D C K U W

A G A K X O F K Y R G Z W F

X G V G F E G O F

B O L J E W A X 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

4. Clue: F = I

Easy · 123 letters

Q Z N Z N J Z Q X O L X

X O F Y I O F R O E S U U Y

X O Z Y X Q F P H Y F Y

X O Z X O F P H I O F R O

F Y O F W W Z P I F X O F P :

X O F Y F Y X O Z E M I Z Q

M V E Z Q Y S L Y F M P ,

X O F Y F Y U F V Z ,

X O F Y , F V M P Z N L B

Y M Y L B , F Y N L P .

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: F = E

Medium · 124 letters

E F G F G C F E H T N H

B T N H K L Y Y O H T F

O H E R P Q O R O H T F

X J E M F T R A A F P

B R H T R P ; H T F E F

Y R F O H T F K J B F E H J

K F E O L N A F , H T F E F

H T F Y R X F , - H T F E F ,

R X J P F G L O H O K F N S

J L H , H T F E F N Y G N P .

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. "Some things are hurrying into existence, and others are hurrying out of it; and of that which is coming into existence part is already extinguished."

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

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

2. "One is that things do not touch the soul, for they are external and remain immovable; but our perturbations come only from the opinion which is within."

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

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

3. "It is in our power to have no opinion about a thing, and not to be disturbed in our soul; for things themselves have no natural power to form our judgments."

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

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

4. "Remember that this which pulls the strings is the thing which is hidden within: this is the power of persuasion, this is life, this, if one may so say, is man."

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

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

5. "Remember that what pulls the strings is the force hidden within; there lies the power to persuade, there the life, - there, if one must speak out, the real man."

— *Marcus Aurelius, 170, Meditations, X. 38 (in Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891)*

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