

Michel de Montaigne Cryptograms — Set 6

5 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: T = E

Easy · 109 letters

N F T S U K I J S S Y

F E H N S L E T H D L T N F S H T

N F D N F D C T R T T U

X L E N N T U R I N F T

W T L H S U H N F T V H T K C T H

X F S P S V V D U Y T Y E U N F T

D B B D E L H X F T L T S B N F T I

X L E N T .

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 = E

Easy · 110 letters

Y U I [X C N E K I] N I V K C N I Y

S N W K L U S D Q Y E W N H F

A S Y Y S L I ; Y U I P C Z Z

U S X I I C E U I N W K E P S N Q

Q C G G C B K Z E C I Y E W

P N I Y E Z I P C E U , . . W N

C D E I N D S Z

Q C G G C B K Z E C I 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

3. Clue: X = E

Easy · 127 letters

B N X G X U J ,

A X H X G B N X Q X J J , R

P X G B R U A G X J S X P B R A I R

T X A X G R Q I C B K Z M

N C D R A U B K B N R B B U X J

C J , A Z B Z A Q K B Z W X R J B J

B N R B N R H X Q U M X R A I

J X A J X , W C B X H X A B Z

B G X X J R A I S Q R A B 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

4. Clue: L = E

Medium · 130 letters

Q N Q R A W R D A W M C L

O D G X L , F I L G L Q A P Q A S N ,

G L H J M C Q X N , D A U

L T H L G W G N I D K L O W G N W

T D A Z D S L N H C D Z L U

R I L Q G H D G R N , D A U R W

F I Q X I R I L F I W C L K D N R

J A Q K L G N L N L G K L N O W G D

R I L D R G 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: R = E

Easy · 130 letters

F T A Y F K P Y S B R K S R Y F T R
 K N A S F Y A B K F E N L D P,
 X L A F T R O N T E R P F K P
 U R T O R S A R P X J P R I T R R Y,
 X J N O A R K M F K P D B K I F K P
 U N D B Y M B K I, F Y X R F T Y
 D R B Y L T R D J D B S Q A M R B T
 S L X Y B K A N O N T 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

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

Michel de Montaigne Cryptograms — Set 6

1. "The only good histories are those that have been written by the persons themselves who commanded in the affairs whereof they write."

— Michel de Montaigne, 1580, *Essays, Book II, Chap. X. Of Books* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891*)

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

2. "She [virtue] requires a rough and stormy passage; she will have either outward difficulties to wrestle with, . . . or internal difficulties."

— Michel de Montaigne, 1580, *Essays, Book II, Chap. XI. Of Cruelty* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891*)

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

3. "There is, nevertheless, a certain respect and a general duty of humanity that ties us, not only to beasts that have life and sense, but even to trees and plants."

— Michel de Montaigne, 1580, *Essays, Book II, Chap. XI. Of Cruelty* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891*)

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

4. "Is it not a noble farce, wherein kings, republics, and emperors have for so many ages played their parts, and to which the whole vast universe serves for a theatre?"

— Michel de Montaigne, 1580, *Essays, Book II, Chap. XXXVI. Of the most Excellent Men* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891*)

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

5. "Arts and sciences are not cast in a mould, but are formed and perfected by degrees, by often handling and polishing, as bears leisurely lick their cubs into form."

— Michel de Montaigne, 1580, *Essays, Book II, Chap. XII. Apology for Raimond Sebond* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891*)

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