

Oliver Wendell Holmes Cryptograms — Set 2

4 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: V = E

Medium · 76 letters

P B V Z K T J G ' X M T V R P A V O

B R L V O K P Y K A A K O J C

W V V O M T V R P X Y B K J R T X ,

O K T H P X M T V R P

X Y B K J R T X M T V R P A V O .

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: U = E

Medium · 91 letters

Z H , B U Z D C U D B Z B B U D U T

U M G X E M T L V M ! F L M E C Z G

X B V Z K U T L M C X E C , Z M T

Y Z M H Z M U H U C Z G

T Z M R U T B L G U U B C Z B

J Z M M U D X M B C U G O 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

3. Clue: B = E

Medium · 93 letters

B J B M P F G T P S V Z B O N R T

M B O H B D E O O B S K - U N T B

U B R . V E V O N W M B N E

T B N S F B E E B M E G F B

U N T B V R E I N E X N P E I N R

R G E E G F B U N T B N E N S S .

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: N = E

Medium · 139 letters

R W I Y U C V M Y U N R B A N
F A I P B E N A P P N V Y D A W J
P W J N C V D N A V B X F X C J N ,
Y W Q X I F M Y U N N R N P W D
P N V Y C J N V Y B V E E W F M
Y U N Y B C X W D A U R J N , Y W
F A B F M Y U N H W C F N W D
J N X W E R B V E G A N B M Y U N
X N K P W D Y C J N .

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 world's great men have not commonly been great scholars, nor its great scholars great men."

— Oliver Wendell Holmes, 1858, *The Autocrat of the Breakfast-Table*, VI (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

2. "Ay, tear her tattered ensign down! Long has it waved on high, And many an eye has danced to see that banner in the sky."

— Oliver Wendell Holmes, 1836, *Poems (1836)*, *Old Ironsides* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

3. "Everybody likes and respects self-made men. It is a great deal better to be made in that way than not to be made at all."

— Oliver Wendell Holmes, 1858, *The Autocrat of the Breakfast-Table*, I (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

4. "You think they are crusaders sent from some infernal clime, To pluck the eyes of sentiment and dock the tail of Rhyme, To crack the voice of Melody and break the legs of Time."

— Oliver Wendell Holmes, 1836, *Poems (1836)*, *The Music-Grinders* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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