

Plautus Cryptograms — Set 1

6 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: W = I

Expert · 42 letters

F G R M P P L Y A N M Z R

M P B W N X G N W R W G F W N

V W N B G C Y U J Z W A L 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: X = N

Expert · 60 letters

Z Y C K M X F Y H F U

X F Y I Z X L Y I K Y Y I T

U K J T X C K M S E M Y

X F C Q U F K R Z X L F X

P G N T H Y I K X 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

3. Clue: D = E

Medium · 60 letters

K U V X D Y U D X C U O X D

K P Z C Q Q S K U B C

P V Y U D, I X K J D X D

P X Y I P V X D E Q D C O

K U V X D Y V X D Q.

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: M = H

Expert · 67 letters

V M Q Y X G B M Q E M F C N

J C Y C V M C I A

M O I I A Y L C W A

K W A Z N A Y V T F V M O Y

V M Q Y X G B M Q E M F C N

J C M C I A .

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: P = E

Easy · 84 letters

S I U G J W P D N V P

K J N N K P Z I F G P, V I L

G H O H S J I F G H U

H U J Z H K J N J G

L V J S V U P Q P D

P U N D F G N G J N G K J B P

N I I U P V I K P I U K R.

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: B = T

Easy · 99 letters

B J Z U Z B J F T N U K G Z

T R B Y R G B J Z W Z U B ,

T R G K U F B J F T V

B J Z D R X N J B B R W Z ;

W X B U B F S S B J Z D

K G Z W Z B B Z G B J K T

B J K B O J F A J F U

M R O T G F N J B W K 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

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

Plautus Cryptograms — Set 1

1. "Not by years but by disposition is wisdom acquired."

— *Plautus*, 194 BC, *Trinummus*, Act II. Sc. 2, 88. (367) (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

2. "It was not for nothing that the raven was just now croaking on my left hand."

— *Plautus*, 195 BC, *Aulularia*, Act IV. Sc. 3, 1. (624) (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

3. "In the one hand he is carrying a stone, while he shows the bread in the other."

— *Plautus*, 195 BC, *Aulularia*, Act II. Sc. 2, 18. (195) (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

4. "Things which you do not hope happen more frequently than things which you do hope."

— *Plautus*, 195 BC, *Mostellaria*, Act I. Sc. 3, 40. (197) (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

5. "Consider the little mouse, how sagacious an animal it is which never entrusts its life to one hole only."

— *Plautus*, 189 BC, *Truculentus*, Act IV. Sc. 4, 15. (868) (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

6. "These things are not for the best, nor as I think they ought to be; but still they are better than that which is downright bad."

— *Plautus*, 194 BC, *Trinummus*, Act II. Sc. 2, 111. (392) (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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