

Publius Syrus 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: W = O

Medium · 40 letters

C W P R S W P A K M W D W E
 N F E T - D T F F Q W T N F E T R ,
 H W D D W E H F A 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: A = O

Hard · 40 letters

M B Y B W K F W J Q K C A J W A D M
 Q G I E H B G M K A N M A K F B W ' Q
 I A W 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

3. Clue: B = N

Hard · 40 letters

B Q T Q C P A B G X Y J C

G Q W A S D N A B K B Y N D Q C ' O

F A O P Y C N J B 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: R = E

Hard · 40 letters

G L P U G R L Z I K E M B R U

X L Z R D O U , M O J R L U Z I K

I L Z R U I T R 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

5. Clue: T = E

Hard · 40 letters

J R J F G B R T L T Q U

M Y T F R J B G R K D R

A T F T Q L T F D G D G F N T 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

6. Clue: C = N

Expert · 41 letters

C F J E S C Q N X C M A Y F C A

X J F C N A E X V J S T P X C Y

R I Z Y A C J T 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. "You should go to a pear-tree for pears, not to an elm."

— *Publilius Syrus, 42 BC, Sententiae (Maxims), 674 (in Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891)*

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

2. "Never thrust your own sickle into another's corn."

— *Publilius Syrus, 42 BC, Sententiae (Maxims), 593 (in Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891)*

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

3. "Never find your delight in another's misfortune."

— *Publilius Syrus, 42 BC, Sententiae (Maxims), 467 (in Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891)*

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

4. "Prosperity makes friends, adversity tries them."

— *Publilius Syrus, 42 BC, Sententiae (Maxims), 872 (in Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891)*

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

5. "It is not every question that deserves an answer."

— *Publilius Syrus, 42 BC, Sententiae (Maxims), 581 (in Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891)*

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

6. "Nothing can be done at once hastily and prudently."

— *Publilius Syrus, 42 BC, Sententiae (Maxims), 557 (in Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891)*

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