

Richard Brinsley Sheridan Cryptograms — Set 1

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: C = I

Medium · 56 letters

X B G Y H C D E K D Q Y Z C D J C F

 T D D H Y T G H E Y Z H Y C F D Q Y

 S Z K F C X H E E K

 C I S Q F F C V E 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: H = T

Hard · 57 letters

K V W F K X Y W K Y E J F W V

 R V Q Y H V T V P X H E

 I J A A J W H Q O H E J W X H E J F

 P X H E B V A X H X K F .

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: L = E

Medium · 58 letters

L I T B , E S N E Q Z S N L

E Q S L V U V L S L V E X S N L

N T V B L X S S M P L

R Q B L V X S M M B M K S N L

S D 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

4. Clue: C = R

Medium · 65 letters

G Q P D C B E M D B E O M T L M

E Q L O Q D G Q P C

A C M M I B X F , A P E M T L G

D C B E B X F ' L J P C L E O T C I

C M T I B X F .

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: D = A

Medium · 66 letters

D B H W B F O D K H T Z
O H C W D W P H T D K G V T H X
D X D T J S J W Z W J J T K W J J
G U M H D C G O H B D O
N T G V O J M Z 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

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. "Certainly nothing is unnatural that is not physically impossible."

— Richard Brinsley Sheridan, 1779, *The Critic*, Act II. Sc. 1 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

2. "Conscience has no more to do with gallantry than it has with politics."

— Richard Brinsley Sheridan, 1775, *The Duenna*, Act II. Sc. 4 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

3. "Egad, I think the interpreter is the hardest to be understood of the two!"

— Richard Brinsley Sheridan, 1779, *The Critic*, Act I. Sc. 2 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

4. "You write with ease to show your breeding, But easy writing's curst hard reading."

— Richard Brinsley Sheridan, 1771, *Clio's Protest*, *Life of Sheridan* (Moore). Vol. I. p. 155 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

5. "A circulating library in a town is as an evergreen tree of diabolical knowledge."

— Richard Brinsley Sheridan, 1775, *The Rivals*, Act III. Sc. 1 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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