

Samuel Johnson Cryptograms — Set 3

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: J = T

Medium · 51 letters

X N X Q N X U H K O J T X J

X Q U J O N T O I S T

H O P P B T J S O N B T P I

R W D D T R P U J W O 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

2. Clue: C = N

Expert · 51 letters

Z Y R L G O E C O C Q O L

C E G G P R B E S R E N

K E C X R I L D G O E C

D B E C Q Q R C G W R B R C .

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: E = L

Hard · 51 letters

W P X I V N A N V E F

Q B E E W X K I P E D, M B A

A W P J Y B I P N D

Q B E E V P I I X V

N A W P H I.

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: I = T

Medium · 51 letters

G H W M Y S R W M H B N Y

I G N I R W O O A V W I N

P H F I N W Y I X D S F N Y

V Y P H F I N W Y I X .

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: A = E

Expert · 52 letters

I Y A Q Z I A E I R K T R I O

Z C D G Z J R E D G R S Y

M A O Z E F I Y A F G A K W V

Z C K H K G R S 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

6. Clue: W = I

Hard · 53 letters

Y V W X B W X P U C W O W U

Y V W X B W X P F P W S,

E W N C N C V I C P X I V

K J Y V W X B H T K E X V 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

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

Samuel Johnson Cryptograms — Set 3

1. "A man may write at any time if he will set himself doggedly to it."

— Samuel Johnson, 1791, Boswell, *Life of Johnson, Life of Johnson (Boswell)*. Vol. IV. Chap. II. 1773
(in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

2. "Questioning is not the mode of conversation among gentlemen."

— Samuel Johnson, 1791, Boswell, *Life of Johnson, Life of Johnson (Boswell)*. Vol. VI. Chap. IV. 1776
(in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

3. "He is not only dull himself, but the cause of dullness in others."

— Samuel Johnson, 1791, Boswell, *Life of Johnson, Life of Johnson (Boswell)*. Vol. VIII. Chap. V. 1784
(in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

4. "He is no wise man that will quit a certainty for an uncertainty."

— Samuel Johnson, 1760, *The Idler*, No. 57 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

5. "The potentiality of growing rich beyond the dreams of avarice."

— Samuel Johnson, 1791, Boswell, *Life of Johnson, Life of Johnson (Boswell)*. Vol. VIII. Chap. II (in
Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891)

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

6. "Being in a ship is being in a jail, with the chance of being drowned."

— Samuel Johnson, 1791, Boswell, *Life of Johnson, Life of Johnson (Boswell)*. Vol. II. Chap. III. 1759
(in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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