

Samuel Johnson Cryptograms — Set 4

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: L = E

Hard · 54 letters

C W W Y I Y C O N , Y D D C I L D K ,

N Y D I L S L , C W L A L S P

W S Y L D U R L N N D T G L K E L

W S Y L D U .

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: K = A

Hard · 55 letters

K S M B V Q K O X Z H L M M W

K P V J K F V P C A X E V X F W ;

U I C B X C I Z P A X Z M I C M E

K L K Z W X 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

3. Clue: J = E

Medium · 58 letters

P G T G L N J G A Q N P J B R A S

Y Z M H P D G T Z K J T J B A K ;

Q S N A X J U F J J Y Y J S Y H J

Q N S T W P D 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

4. Clue: H = T

Medium · 58 letters

O H H O P U Z G H N J

M J O P H Z V C . Z C J Y J M

H N Z C U Z N O Y J N Z H N O M K

R C E J G G Z H M J S V R C K G .

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: I = E

Expert · 59 letters

A I J E G V I W B Q J T E Z O T J K
I U J I Z V T B I B T I O
V X W B I M S Q Z P T Z L , N W E S
D K T Z Q J E C I W 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

6. Clue: Y = N

Medium · 60 letters

O P D L Q H V X Y F T V X D Y
D I M X R Q Y W ; O D R Y V W
V Z C O M Q F W V H O Y F T V X
D Y X Y F Q I A W D Y F O Y 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

Answer key

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1. "Officious, innocent, sincere, Of every friendless name the friend."

— Samuel Johnson, 1783, *On the Death of Dr. Robert Levet, Verses on the Death of Mr. Robert Levet. Stanza 2* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891*)

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

2. "A cow is a very good animal in the field; but we turn her out of a garden."

— Samuel Johnson, 1791, *Boswell, Life of Johnson, Life of Johnson (Boswell). Vol. III. Chap. VIII. 1772* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891*)

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

3. "I am a great friend to public amusements; for they keep people from vice."

— Samuel Johnson, 1791, *Boswell, Life of Johnson, Life of Johnson (Boswell). Vol. III. Chap. VIII. 1772* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891*)

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

4. "Attack is the reaction. I never think I have hit hard unless it rebounds."

— Samuel Johnson, 1791, *Boswell, Life of Johnson, Life of Johnson (Boswell). Vol. V. Chap. VI. 1775* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891*)

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

5. "Let observation with extensive view Survey mankind, from China to Peru."

— Samuel Johnson, 1749, *The Vanity of Human Wishes, Line 1* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 9th ed., 1891*)

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

6. "I have found you an argument; I am not obliged to find you an understanding."

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

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