

Samuel Johnson Cryptograms — Set 6

5 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: B = E

Medium · 67 letters

Z M A I S B E L E B A A

Z P X, Q X Q U X R D P X N B

A B Y P I B, D R E E

Y P D T E Q X U Y R V X I S B

I R D D B X I R J S Q A

J P I 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: P = A

Hard · 69 letters

F B N M N Y P M H Q B P F

A W W G F B N

G Z B C W P M ' G W A O N

P G G P A W , - F C A W ,

N T L E , Q P T F , F B N

X P F M C T , P T S F B N

I P A W .

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: H = A

Easy · 69 letters

Z W O I O Y B H X O H W H V

H P B O Y N Z W W O Y T R B

S L O W Z L H I O L H N H

T H N W Z D L B ; H W N

B L O W B L O W H V

B H X O E J 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

4. Clue: P = A

Hard · 69 letters

P A P G U F W H Z L P S Y

Y X Q X A S J P U G X K

Y B H U G C Z P Y U Y O M H

X K Y B X F H R B X B P W H

Z U F H G K P Z P E X W H

B U 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: J = N

Medium · 74 letters

S B O S G W O , R S G T J X ,

Y J V R T W J V E N J V N R

S B O E N J V S B Y S U Y J

O E Q G Y U O O K W Y P P I

X G O Y S S B N J X R Y J V

R E Y P 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

Answer key

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1. "Must helpless man, in ignorance sedate, Roll darkling down the torrent of his fate?"
— Samuel Johnson, 1749, *The Vanity of Human Wishes*, Line 345 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)
Cipher key: A=S B=E C=X D=R E=L F=Y G=J H=B I=T J=F K=Z L=P M=U N=C O=V P=A Q=I R=O S=H T=K
U=G V=W W=Q X=N Y=D Z=M
2. "There mark what ills the scholar's life assail, - Toil, envy, want, the patron, and the jail."
— Samuel Johnson, 1749, *The Vanity of Human Wishes*, Line 159 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)
Cipher key: A=I B=H C=O D=B E=Y F=T G=S H=K I=J J=Q K=U L=V M=R N=E O=F P=A Q=W R=G S=D T=N
U=X V=Z W=L X=P Y=M Z=C
3. "I never take a nap after dinner but when I have had a bad night; and then the nap takes me."
— Samuel Johnson, 1791, *Boswell, Life of Johnson, Life of Johnson (Boswell). Vol. VI. Chap. I. 1775* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)
Cipher key: A=J B=T C=Y D=G E=S F=L G=Q H=A I=V J=M K=X L=H M=O N=D O=E P=F Q=Z R=U S=W T=B
U=C V=P W=N X=K Y=R Z=I
4. "A man is very apt to complain of the ingratitude of those who have risen far above him."
— 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=M B=H C=G D=J E=B F=S G=N H=E I=K J=L K=F L=Y M=D N=Z O=U P=A Q=C R=W S=P T=X
U=I V=Q W=V X=O Y=T Z=R
5. "The true, strong, and sound mind is the mind that can embrace equally great things and small."
— Samuel Johnson, 1791, *Boswell, Life of Johnson, Life of Johnson (Boswell). Vol. VII. Chap. VI. 1778* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)
Cipher key: A=P B=H C=W D=F E=M F=V G=R H=X I=Y J=N K=Q L=J M=Z N=I O=E P=L Q=B R=S S=T T=O
U=C V=D W=U X=G Y=A Z=K