

Samuel Johnson Cryptograms — Set 7

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: O = E

Medium · 74 letters

R F I V C S K L N ,

N F Z O A O U , Z X C X S X P

Z N F Z N X L O A O U N O

Z U F L O , V K V K L

J O L L O U L N X P X P T

F L N O U S X P E F M I V

V 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

2. Clue: J = E

Medium · 75 letters

Q R J G E M T J U Q

F W E U F J D Q Y R P D R V

U D E Q D R X V G J N J W

U J J U P U Q R J

R P L R - W E V S Q R V Q

T J V S U R P X Q E

J G L T V G S .

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

Easy · 76 letters

M D P B Z C Z B H G

W H Q P V L O T L B V L B

D P H G W H Q P V L O

T H O P ; O L Q W D P Q P H G

H B T L B V L B Z T T

W D Z W T H O P J Z B

Z O O L Q V .

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 = A

Medium · 76 letters

C M B W W X Q U V C U

P C N B I D X M S Z G A B

S D E X P T C D J , C D F

V C I C P S D F C I

D C A A X Q C I U V B

D B E N X M C

O S D B Z C A - E A G B 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

5. Clue: Y = A

Easy · 80 letters

Y D Y G W X K C E E W

U P Y J A X R E Y R

N G T H N G Y E N W G

H P Y J R C N D ; S W U

O C Y E C P U P Y J R Y R Y

E Y R M O N H H J W C N D

H N E E H P K W W 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. "Goldsmith, however, was a man who whatever he wrote, did it better than any other man could do."

— Samuel Johnson, 1791, Boswell, *Life of Johnson, Life of Johnson (Boswell)*. Vol. VII. Chap. III. 1778 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

2. "The noblest prospect which a Scotchman ever sees is the high-road that leads him to England."

— Samuel Johnson, 1791, Boswell, *Life of Johnson, Life of Johnson (Boswell)*. Vol. II. Chap. V. 1763 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

3. "When a man is tired of London he is tired of life; for there is in London all that life can afford."

— Samuel Johnson, 1791, Boswell, *Life of Johnson, Life of Johnson (Boswell)*. Vol. VI. Chap. IX. 1777 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

4. "A fellow that makes no figure in company, and has a mind as narrow as the neck of a vinegar-cruet."

— Samuel Johnson, 1773, *Tour to the Hebrides*. Sept. 30, 1773 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

5. "A man ought to read just as inclination leads him; for what he reads as a task will do him little good."

— Samuel Johnson, 1791, Boswell, *Life of Johnson, Life of Johnson (Boswell)*. Vol. II. Chap. VI. 1763 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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