

Shakespeare Cryptograms — Set 23

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: Z = E

Medium · 57 letters

R G Z Q V J B Z I R

O W D S W K J L W U

X C P P V J W K I I D Z P P

R G V R Z X Z Q

W U U Z J L Z L J W I R Q C 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

2. Clue: B = E

Medium · 57 letters

U L B V N U U V B W J P A

T R W T V V, U I T G,

D V T R X L, T R W

A H B B U L B T I U, A B B,

U L B G D T I Q T U O 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

3. Clue: I = E

Medium · 57 letters

X I U Y A W M O I I O Z X I

T H Y A A U X I V I W M Z X I

M G F H I K G N Z X O W O

O V I A A Z X I P A I H C I 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

4. Clue: A = S

Medium · 57 letters

T A U U B G R A I J V C

X T L U F Z U B N G R V C A

T V I N U A X T K A ,

A I Z J T V T V F R K G V

I N U A I J Z 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

5. Clue: F = E

Medium · 57 letters

N L K G Z K E L F Z L K M F

K C W W H E W B K Q F B F

B F Z Z P E L K A

F T U F Z N F A O F E W

B K Q F B F X 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

6. Clue: H = E

Medium · 58 letters

J O H B O Z S H

C H Z X P U H G C Z W B Z

C K N H J F J U H Z G Z

C H Z X P U H E K J O B F P

F W J O K X R U Z X 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

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 wordsOF 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 apostropheT (don't) S (it's) RE (we're) VE (I've) LL (we'll) D
(I'd)

Answer key

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1. "The rankest compound of villanous smell that ever offended nostril."

— William Shakespeare, 1597, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, Act III. Sc. 5 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

2. "The little dogs and all, Tray, Blanch, and Sweetheart, see, they bark at me."

— William Shakespeare, 1606, *King Lear*, Act III. Sc. 6 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

3. "He was indeed the glass Wherein the noble youth did dress themselves."

— William Shakespeare, 1598, *King Henry IV, Part II*, Act II. Sc. 3 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

4. "I see you stand like greyhounds in the slips, Straining upon the start."

— William Shakespeare, 1599, *King Henry V*, Act III. Sc. 1 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

5. "I had rather have a fool to make me merry than experience to make me sad."

— William Shakespeare, 1600, *As You Like It*, Act IV. Sc. 1 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

6. "They have measured many a mile to tread a measure with you on this grass."

— William Shakespeare, 1597, *Love's Labour's Lost*, Act V. Sc. 2 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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