

Henry David Thoreau Cryptograms — Set 16

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: X = E

Medium · 90 letters

O V X B T Y Q P L X G Q O V X

X P Y O V N B B G Q O P F U

N C M Y X B B N D J X D E O V X

Q X X O G Q C X F ; P F U B G

S N O V O V X M P O V B S V N L V

O V X C N F U O Y P I X J 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: F = I

Easy · 90 letters

Z R O J O F Y Y N H O N T Z R O

Y P H O T F Z G O Y Y F G P

H P G ' Y S W F D C F G I R F Y

N A G R N W Y O Z R P Z Z R O J O

F Y F G P S F J C ' Y

S W F D C F G I F Z Y N A G

G O Y Z .

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: V = E

Medium · 90 letters

C M C N M C P V M A L M E V A L G

Q I D B P P B I N D A B B T N ,

M A L M E V G C G I B M T V L F V

B K K B Q O V G Q D L M C B I

E A V I E V J V Y C I M B J V

P V I L I G E B P V 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: Y = A

Medium · 90 letters

Z C Z H R U Y L Q Y K F E

M Z Y H L F Q Z B E T L F K E J

V E U B Y K K Y A Y T L Y K

E J F Z L Y K Q Z Y O Y N Z K ,

O Q Z F Q Z H J H E U K M Z Z B E H

Y L R Y X K F H Y V F T E L .

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: K = A

Easy · 91 letters

O R P Z O P O K S I , O P

Z K U Y B K S S Q W F U F U R P

C T P S A X K Z A O F F A X :

O R K U O F Y S A M P V F D P F C

Y X , T C O P O K S I P A F Z S Q

T Z K W K B A P Z F B K D K S 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

6. Clue: X = T

Easy · 91 letters

S O L U I J P L L U L O S V X G L
 A N I J J L A X Q L J J C A ,
 X G I X Q G L O K S P J S S Y
 C O X S C X K S P A L L X G I X
 L I D X G C A O S X
 Z S O X C O L O X M P X
 C O A P J I D .

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. "The surface of the earth is soft and impressible by the feet of men; and so with the paths which the mind travels."

— Henry David Thoreau, 1854, *Walden*

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

2. "There is some of the same fitness in a man's building his own house that there is in a bird's building its own nest."

— Henry David Thoreau, 1854, *Walden*

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

3. "It is time that we had uncommon schools, that we did not leave off our education when we begin to be men and women."

— Henry David Thoreau, 1854, *Walden*

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

4. "Every man has to learn the points of compass again as often as he awakes, whether from sleep or any abstraction."

— Henry David Thoreau, 1854, *Walden*

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

5. "When we walk, we naturally go to the fields and woods: what would become of us, if we walked only in a garden or a mall?"

— Henry David Thoreau, 1862, *Walking*

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

6. "One value even of the smallest well is, that when you look into it you see that earth is not continent but insular."

— Henry David Thoreau, 1854, *Walden*

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