

Time Cryptograms — Set 23

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

Hard · 70 letters

R B I O J N Y N U X A O L M

S U A X Y W X Z B J X S F X U J

N X O S F Y ; S F X K O G U O L S

L X K X J S O Y S X B Z N X O S F

W E S B L R 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

2. Clue: N = T

Hard · 70 letters

S A Z X N ' G M W S B I T G W E T

U Q E S N C Q N , W S B F C M Q S B

B W R G N W S B G N A Y N C T C S

N X T D A G N R

D C Q S N W A S - N C Y 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

3. Clue: Q = E

Hard · 70 letters

G Q F Z C G Z N H W Q F Z R F Q I

O T W H B Q M J O Q

N Z G Q H T G Q N P V

H W J F N X W Q N N T F X G Z N H

H W B K V S Q E H H M Q K J R .

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: B = E

Medium · 70 letters

I T X O O B V , H E A O , I V O

X V B L W B G J B O P X B T J D E V

O E J N U I V R J D U B T

T X M W M D T B I U I V , I V O

A I R N D U E W B 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

5. Clue: J = O

Medium · 71 letters

J R H X W T P V R K J O T W ! M J

P J J M T W C K J O M C F V

C K H P V T Q , P J R V P X K Y T M

B W X Z W J P T R H Q X M A

V X Z T K T P P K 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

6. Clue: B = O

Medium · 72 letters

Y J Y O H E C H A O I H Y M S P E

J B I H G J S G B D I L B I E L

C T B D B M L T H O Z M B C M

S B G H U L G A V G Y L S

O I H N L B S J Y D 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

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 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. "Cowards die many times before their deaths; the valiant never taste of death but once."

— William Shakespeare, 1599, *Julius Caesar*

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

2. "Night's candles are burnt out, and jocund day stands tiptoe on the misty mountain-tops."

— William Shakespeare, 1595, *Romeo and Juliet*, Act III. Sc. 5 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

3. "Men of most renowned virtue have sometimes by transgressing most truly kept the law."

— John Milton, 1645, *Tetrachordon* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

4. "A sudden, bold, and unexpected question doth many times surprise a man, and lay him open."

— Francis Bacon, 1625, *The Essays or Counsels, Civil and Moral*

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

5. "O fairest flower! no sooner blown but blasted, Soft silken primrose fading timelessly."

— John Milton, 1673, *Ode on the Death of a Fair Infant, dying of a Cough* (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

6. "It is always painful to part from people whom one has known for a very brief space of time."

— Oscar Wilde, 1895, *The Importance of Being Earnest*

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