

William Cowper Cryptograms — Set 3

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: A = S

Medium · 64 letters

U T B B W R N A A K N B N R K A , T A

R T P X I N A U Y M A , E N A A Y R

N Q P N I W Y I P U W R Z A P U T R

J Y A P A X B B Y A N .

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 · 66 letters

R S Y A B T O K X Z , A Y C B F S B

T Y K M B U D T O X A D X C ,

U G K Q F S B M U B O F

X Y U X G Y F , O K J Y Q Q F Y A A

O F S D P 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: M = E

Medium · 67 letters

W F D Q E B W C H E S B M P W C P

W C U X M M S U M S P P F T F C Q

M Z B M A U C H E S B M P W C P

W C U X M M S N M O P C P W F Q M !

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: T = E

Medium · 76 letters

U T I T J U T U T V I J P V X

Q E O T V F N T Y F Z Z T N N M H

J M J U T U T V L , V H L

Z T V I H E H Q C E N T I Q I M C

C E J U M F J U E N A M M W N .

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: D = T

Medium · 83 letters

D P O V H R E P F H E S A Q P U V D

D E C U B C O B F O V T H I P U Q D ,

O V A I X G O D H D X G G Z G H

E R B O S S G P Z I P U D U I H W Z

O D X E T H O V A O P D H .

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: R = E

Medium · 83 letters

I H W P J C X P F X P J R B L H F R N

I C Y R R P R I X R F H S

P C J X H P F E V H V C N R G F R ,

G X Y R Y X P N B R N N B H L F ,

Q R R P I X P T G R N X P J H

H P 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

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. "Happiness depends, as Nature shows, Less on exterior things than most suppose."

— William Cowper, 1782, *Poems (1782)*, *Table Talk*. Line 246 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

2. "While fancy, like the finger of a clock, Runs the great circuit, and is still at home."

— William Cowper, 1785, *The Task*, Book IV. *The Winter Evening*. Line 118 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

3. "How much a dunce that has been sent to roam Excels a dunce that has been kept at home!"

— William Cowper, 1782, *Poems (1782)*, *The Progress of Error*. Line 415 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

4. "Here the heart may give a useful lesson to the head, And Learning wiser grow without his books."

— William Cowper, 1785, *The Task*, Book VI. *Winter Walk at Noon*. Line 85 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

5. "Transforms old print to zigzag manuscript, and cheats the eyes of gallery critics by a thousand arts."

— William Cowper, 1785, *The Task*, Book II. *The Timepiece*. Line 363 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

6. "Mountains interposed make enemies of nations who had else, Like kindred drops, been mingled into one."

— William Cowper, 1785, *The Task*, Book II. *The Timepiece*. Line 17 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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