

Samuel Johnson Cryptograms — Set 9

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: H = E

Easy · 122 letters

C E H O H Y Q X Z L D H Q Q

T D Z U U Y X U Y X Z N O

U O H J C Q R E Z Z D Q

C E J X T Z O K H O D P, -

I N C C E H X D H Q Q Y Q

D H J O X H W C E H O H; Q Z

C E J C L E J C C E H

I Z P Q U H C J C Z X H

H X W C E H P D Z Q H J C

C E H Z C E H O.

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: K = E

Easy · 122 letters

L D X N T V R J T I M I

N V T I Y M I M N K K T P

R D P C K V I M L T D P ; N W L

P D I D D P K V Q D K I J K

L M Y K M F K P T P J T I

J M P Q L J M P T L

N K R D X K I M L D V F K Q D

L D J T X , M P Q

N K P W X N I M G G J T I

S M R W G L T 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

3. Clue: C = T

Easy · 125 letters

F R Q K K X M F J L Z Z ,

O I C L K I Z Z X J L Z Z ;

W L C M C G L F C R I Y Q

C I H Q O R M G I E K Q I C

J Q I Z T P V I M O F C T

W Q D T G Q S R I C S Q

O T S F Q Q R M G . F L D R

I O I D D Q F F T P

F C L V M J M C X , F M K , M F

O T C M O O I C L K Q .

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: O = E

Easy · 133 letters

G V S Y S K B C O U K C A

Y S F O K O H

S J R T S G K A S K J O U S U

P O S B Q S K J O U

A P N C T L P Z G V O , P O

H G Z Z U C C K V G K B

P G Y U O Z V Z O V A

S Z C K O . S Y S K , U G N ,

U P C T Z B F O O M P G U

V N G O K B U P G M G K 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

5. Clue: R = I

Easy · 140 letters

K R W , R V T R F Z S I I

Y T W R K V R S F K ,

X T G V T G W L S L R K V K

N W L W N V G K V S F V K ,

S J W G G R F V T G

G K K G F V R S I

S W V R Y I G K , S F C

V T S V V T G R W

C R E E G W G F Y G K S W G

V W R M R S I , S F C

W S V T G W L N I R V R Y S 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

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. "There is now less flogging in our great schools than formerly, - but then less is learned there; so that what the boys get at one end they lose at the other."

— Samuel Johnson, 1791, Boswell, *Life of Johnson, Life of Johnson (Boswell)*. Vol. VI. Chap. I. 1775 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

2. "Tom Birch is as brisk as a bee in conversation; but no sooner does he take a pen in his hand than it becomes a torpedo to him, and benumbs all his faculties."

— Samuel Johnson, 1791, Boswell, *Life of Johnson, Life of Johnson (Boswell)*. Vol. I. Chap. VII. 1743 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

3. "Sherry is dull, naturally dull; but it must have taken him a great deal of pains to become what we now see him. Such an access of stupidity, sir, is not in Nature."

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

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

4. "If a man does not make new acquaintances as he advances through life, he will soon find himself left alone. A man, sir, should keep his friendship in a constant repair."

— Samuel Johnson, 1791, Boswell, *Life of Johnson, Life of Johnson (Boswell)*. Vol. II. Chap. II. 1755 (in *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, 9th ed., 1891)

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

5. "Sir, I think all Christians, whether Papists or Protestants, agree in the essential articles, and that their differences are trivial, and rather political than religious."

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