

Shakespeare Cryptograms — Set 1

5 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: D = T

Easy · 41 letters

M A D D A B D V B A A V C T B G

D C C G C C J D V H J H

Y Q J T D A D C C I H D 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

2. Clue: C = E

Hard · 46 letters

F G C O K L L C R F G P F

V D E N C V V F C P N V

V K D C F G E H B Y O K D F G C

F G E C Y .

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: A = I

Medium · 49 letters

B S X E X A U M J B S A M L

X A B S X E L J J I J E C V I ,

C D B B S A M O A M L N V O X U A B

U J .

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: Z = E

Easy · 51 letters

O P P L V Z E G B P N ' C O

C L O S Z , O M N O P P L V Z D Z M

O M N E G D Z M D Z B Z P A

J P O A Z B C .

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 = E

Medium · 58 letters

Y B J H R R W G R Y B Y B Z D S

B J Z F K Z F J , P Q Y Y B J

K Z F J A N D S D R K F

B Z A F J W H Y R P J N H R R W .

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

Shakespeare Cryptograms — Set 1

1. "Better three hours too soon than a minute too late."

— William Shakespeare, 1597, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*

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

2. "The robbed that smiles steals something from the thief."

— William Shakespeare, 1603, *Othello*

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

3. "There is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so."

— William Shakespeare, 1600, *Hamlet*

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

4. "All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players."

— William Shakespeare, 1599, *As You Like It*

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

5. "The fool doth think he is wise, but the wise man knows himself to be a fool."

— William Shakespeare, 1599, *As You Like It*

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