

THIRD ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CRYPTOGRAMS

(FIRST YEAR DIDN'T COUNT)

So here's how it works. Each of the numbered messages below has been encoded from some original English text by replacing one letter consistently by another throughout the message. Thus, for example, GLOOMY TIME could turn into CHEERS WORK, with G becoming C, L becoming H, etc. Different messages have different encodings. Your job is to discover the original messages. Sometimes a word in the encoded message gives a hint about the true message. Long messages are often easier to decode than short ones, because there are likely to be common words in them, such as "the," "and," etc. The messages are not necessarily listed in order of increasing difficulty. The first few messages have a Christmas theme; they get more secular later. Good luck, and have fun.

Answers are available from wright@uoregon.edu.

1 . E K E S Z U O C K H ,
H K A Y H B D Y B D A I D O C K H S Z Y K O U O U C ;
O H O Y H K A U O C K H
E M E N D T A B D Y B P O E D ' Y I O D H K !
S E U C S B Z H K A R E D S T
O U Y O U B U T A D D E D X O U O U C ,
H O S S K A B X X A B D A T
B U T H K A Y E N S M A S H O H Y R E D H K .
- T R O C K H & B T B W

2 . N Y A L W F E L T N U L T L N K R B Y T H A T
F E L L O W S F H Y A H Y A B ' L K O T L I W N H Y F
N Y R O T L P B G Y O N H Y F H Y K L I W S ,
L M T B H Y A O T L H K V B S B G F F O K N H Y F .
- I N L N Y O B L M T B W B M N O H B Y

3 . OREY GRANT AH YRAH , ORU NEAT YU
ILHY UP KEIX 'H NEM AH HNLLMAPS?
ORUK EPSLNH SILLY OAYR EPYRLKH HOLLY
ORANL HRLMRLITH OEYGR EIL DLLMAPS?
- OANNAEK GREYYLIYUP TAB

4 . FWHOUL QGRB SNO GOFUBL RQ HURGD
TEWH DRMG QUEHNS R 'OG FUU SNO OFGSN .
DO , TNR LFWH AGOFSERW 'L LSRGD
WRT IGRAUFEB BOLLEFN 'L XEGSN .
ARBO FWY TRGLNEI , ARBO FWY TRGLNEI .
TRGLNEI ANGELS SNO WOTXRGW PEWH .
- ARBOMIIFWAO COGLO

5 . FORCEP SPEED! FORCEP SPEED! FORCEP
WEE LAP YWU . HA , YAWL QNR OL OD LH
MOIP OR W HRP - AHMDP HVPR DEPOCA . -
DRHY DHRC

6 . NAVOUB YVAAN HOWU , EHV SE
AONGVWOW ' ?
OW GBV AEWV NWIM ON UAONGVWOW ' .
E YVEKGOTKA NOUBG , MV 'HV BELLS GIWOUBG
MEADOW ' OW E MOWGVH MIWZVHAEWZ!
- THINGS TEWGENS

7. SEE MY ARC MARCH HCTOKCCH DUCK AM
ESDNR SOK ISEE RTF OSFCU. ARCB
PMDEKO'A ECA GMMH HDKMEGR XMT0 TO SOB
HCTOKCCH NSFCU. - ZSK VSHFS

8. PIGS UPN LEFT OR IWNKOBI HOGG
KNBNOYN BPKOTUWIT DKNTNRUT UPOT VNIK,
VNU SNH ES AT DIATN UE BERTOLNK UPN
WOTNKIMGN GOSN ES UPN DOF - IR IROWIG
NITOGV IT ORUNGGOFNRU IT I LEF - UPIU
MNBWNT UPN BPKOTUWIT PIW. - WOBPING
DEGGIR

9. REVOLTER SPELT RGHO EDGE OY.
RESYX'R MLAEVYLR ILYL OVMMLY EDGT
OHRDIGELY, TSE EDL OHRDIGELY GPELY G
DSMHOGN XLGM IHED CYHUDEM N ASMSYLO
FLULEGCML CHER GTO RDHXXLYHTU UMSRRLR
SP FHTGHUYLEEL, CVE EDL OHRDIGELY
GPELY G ILOTLROGN THUDE XGAGYSTH
OHTTLY, IDLT EDL ADLLRL DGR
OHRHTELUYGEL0 HTES RMHXL GTO EDL
XGAGYSTH DGR CLASXL XVRD AMSUUHTU EDL
OYGHT. - GMGHTL RLZVMFLOG

10. TWOP OPB AGPIP EIP HWUP BWA E
YEFLBY FLY, TWOP AGEA EIP OER LK AGPC
XPGWHR E SEA, EBR WAGPIT MGPB AGP
XEYFLFP TLBYT L' AG' BWTP SEBBWA
SWBAELB AGPLI NILBP. - TGEVPTFPEIP

11. G THUD EWHHCY BORGE BWTCR EPGETCHR
FSUYOEC BUSC CIIR, WHY ZWELUSN DUSTCSR
FSUYOEC BUSC; MOL PUD BOEP BUSC EWH
LPCN ICL UOL UZ NUO UH WH CKCAWLUS? -
AGELUS MUSIC

12. FTA FWUMOSA DEFT DUWJR ER FTXF NUM
BAZAW IBUD DTURA PUMFTR FTAN'ZA OAAB
EB. - JABBER GUFFAW

13. MATH WHAWOH SUCH U THEQUO SAXBLAE
AN XURBYM LHXA, UER PUOO BQ QSHBX
WABEQ AN CBHG. - RUCBR SBODHXQ

14. USK NEF'H RO E MOED NSKFHMU KFDODGG
USK ZEPO E ROOM EFT EF EWMDWFO; WH
ZODLG WA USK ZEPO GSIO VWFT SA E
ASSHREDD HOEI, SM GSIO FKNDDEM
JOELSFG, RKH EH HZO POMU DOEGH USK
FOOT E ROOM. - AMEFV BELLE