

TWELFTH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CRYPTOGRAMS



(FIRST YEAR DIDN'T COUNT)

Each of the numbered messages below has been encoded from some original 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,” “that,” 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. A P H I K A T E T E H H U H O
K E L R X P N M L N P I K X P N T I G G T F ,
K T E U H G N P H B L O G N L P H B Y D H ,
T I G P H E P L A H G D H N P H A T F .
X L N H B B K N L I N P H D L R I N T K I ,
L C H O N P H P K B B E T I G H C H O F A P H O H ,
X L N H B B K N L I N P H D L R I N T K I ,
N P T N W H E R E S P O K E N K E M L O I . – P K X P H O
S T B B K I X

2. T H E F I S H F W B O Y A R G A W U H E I , F I S H F W B
W H I A W L A M P I : B I G S Y P L H M P E I C P I S W Y B R R U P
F K H I Y A W W Y H F R G P E : B I G Y A W I B C P W Y B R R U P
O B R R P G D H I G P E T F R , O H F I W P R R H E , S Y P C A L Y S N
L H G , S Y P P M P E R B W S A I L T B S Y P E , S Y P K E A I O P
H T K P B O P . – A W B A B Y

3. PLS PASS IT DUTS BE KIND LFPL KSSY,
DFRSY CUPL TANUP FYR FDCFEK MASSY:
PLS PASSK IT YFPNAS TANUPDSKK XS
GIBOFASR CUPL GLAUKP PLS FOODS PASS. -
FYIYEBINK

4. ROMPOG DUSK, ROMPOG SUNSK,
MUT DRH FIX P APGGSI HGPSS;
UCIO SUNROL, SRGGSI VOUNROL
ADTRHG, GDI FPGI, RH SUTX UM PSS.
HNRMG PTI NROLROL, POLISH HROLROL,
OUSH TROLROL, GRXROLH FTROLROL:
ADTRHG GDI FPGI RH SUTX UM PSS. - WUSRHD
APTUS

5. SO UGH MIHRC DSYESOUHA, PATNUL ESOY
DRYH DTRO,
HRAUG NUTTY GRAY RN SATO, ERUHA ISCH R
NUTOH;
NOTE GRY PRIIHO, NOTE TO NOTE, NOTE TO
NOTE,
SO UGH MIHRC DSYESOUHA, ITOW RWT. -
XGASNUSOR ATNNHUUS

6. ICE EBRL KCEM HO IOLLE CYK HLASTU, CYK
ICE CDD EBRL XTLAMUICMOM HO PTAUO -
ALWAYS HOLIDAY

7. BEDID'O LABEMLU CMHD VNOMT BA BDRTE
PAN BERB DKDLBNRCCP MY PAN XAIH ERIS
DLANUE, MB SADO UDB ZDBBDI. PAN ODD BED
IDONCBO. - TENTH BASS

8. TLR'I HAGI GUI IZOPO POSTURE QUIZ FLAP
ZOST WORL YLPQSPT: WST YLP FLAP ROMN,
DSNOG FLA VLLN VUNO S GOPY. - PLF WVLARI,
HP.

9. V GVI VIM V NDGVI PVIIDY SCZA YDHAYUAE
NCYUDRY UVZCIH VHVCILY AVPU DYUAE V BCIM
DO AZAESVLYCIH KDBA. AVPU UVL MCLPDZAEAM
YUVY YUA DYUAE CL V ODDS, TRY V HEAVY
ODDS. - H.B. PUALYAEYDI

10. ENC XCHCVRGUCAE RD UIENCUIETLIV
URXCVO DRY SCIENCY GYCXTLETRA TO RAC RD
ENC KYCIE OLTCAETDTL EYTZUGNO RD ENC
ESCAETCEN LCAEZYP. - GCECY VPALN

11. YC EDNA CZ ASTUDASSA BALRYBP SIRS MCD
PICK DF SC R ZDYAERN - DYNAPP TS IRFFAYP
SC OA MCDE CKY. - BARE ROOM

12. U BANAL HELLS OTEMG REH U IGOLG GRA
WOS ... UG'I REH UG ABWI MY GROG TEGRALI
PA. - DROLCUA TLEHB

13. ONE OULDW CT WIT BNRULOT WN BILDOT
WIT WISDOM S BLDDNW LBBTXW, MTUTDSWZ WN
LBBTXW WIT WISDOM S'AT BILDOTE, LDE WIT
HSMENC WN PDNH S'C ESVVTUTDW. - MWTXILD
XLMWSM

14. BRINE, ARON BATTLE, SNWL ST MT HUNIN
SUNK UPCN MTWN XNBTIN. - ARCRWM HRSU BRIN