

ELEVENTH 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. ANGELS, ISS GO FIPUNFT HUTO, ANUF PRO
PHULJYR NE PRO TVUOT; DUPR PR' IFWOSUM
RNTP YHNMSIUJ, "MRHUTP UT ZNHF UF
ZOPRSOROJ!" – MRIHSOT DOTSOG

2. RU URN GULP BRICK, EYTATCH GUL ARICK,
R'LE UTOO YCK KYOL, GLOOTCH GULTE GYOL,
HYTOP GULP ETCH NUTOL BLRBOL ATCH ARCHA
RM HRRK QULLE QUETAGSYA TA ULEL SLEEP,
SLEEP, SLEEP, SLEEP QUETAGSYA SLEEP,
SLEEP, SLEEP, SLEEP QUETAGSYA
– GTCGTCCYWIOYGTRC

3. CIDUS LISWISTOL CMHXISO HISDT RUNXGL
KP EDZIH, MUU LSMHSO NE HIS ZTNBEO, HIS
MEZSU NR HIS UNTO XMAS ONCE, MEO ZUNTP
LINES MTNBEO. – EMIBA HMHS

4. DYYW GUWUODI QA FLUOD GY SYZ ROW SYZL
MUO. QA QUIT SYZ R BALLS VTLUIGBRI ROW R
TREES OAQ SARL. - RCC GTA FAIG

5. DRO NROCROSEN TD DRANO DWEWHPN
SOYAWZOE KXZR WH KWHE, THE VOID DROWS
IVAZBN T-I00EWHP WH DOKCOND, NDASK THE
LWHE, THE LOHD DA UODRVOROK NDSTWPRDLTM,
DRWN UVONNOE UTUO DA IWHE. - ZAKIASDTUVO
YAM

6. LU, EUR DRIEURY LTECWNR WC SYWQUESTA,
GTE EUR SWYR WC CL NRAWQUESTA, ION CWOHR
DR'ZR OL KAIHR EL QL, ARE WE COLD, ARE WE
COLD, ARE WE COLD. - KYRATNR

7. E'S PELLERY JA LUG BENG XGOMERY DONS
ORK XWHHA LUGR E UGON O PTWRK EL PWTRKP
FEVG CWFFA WFK POERL REXV ORK E YW WTL
PEKG ORK E PGG OR OSOHERY LUERY EL XWL SA
GAG BWN LUG BENPL LESG E RGIGN NGFGHGK EL
JTL E POD LUG LUERY E'IG JGGR DOLERY BWTN
UWD STXU GZPELSGRL E UOK ER SG LUGR E
PLWWK LUGNG ORK POL ER BGON W E POD EL E
POD EL NWN LUG BENPL LESG. - AWT DUOLU
WTN

8. SLOEO UMNO ARC R KOMOEUZC VRM ALU
AEUSO POECO SLRS MOPOE AUZYX CNRM. ALOM
SLOW CRGX, "TZS SLO SLGMK XUOCM'S KU AGSL
R CAGMK," LO CRGX, "WOC, TZS G RYARWC
YGH0 SU KOS RC VRMW AUEXC GMSU SLO YRCS
YGMO RC G BUCCGTYW NRM." - POETRY
UPOECZBBYW

9. YOU PLAYING LR DIY EXBEGR YI YOU
RBLSY, DIN YOU MEYYXU YI YOU RYNIDH, MCY
YOEY'R YOU BEG YI MUY. - TEVID NCDGID

10. LABNBYM LBHH RAGING SKAMGNSPHYGEE BY
NOG HGIAYGAE' EKPHE, XGRIPEG NOGZ LBHH
YKN PEG NOGBA UGUKABGE. - THINK

11. AI TESTFORTAU PLICKY ZT ZTKOTHTY
CAUOK OU LMP ZTTA VIABOFRTY ZG ULTIFG. -
MFULCF P. TYYOAXUIA

12. LR IMAZRFPY PLR YWVFD HRRW AH O NOU
GLA'Y PMEVUX PA YRWW EAT YANRPLVUX PLOP
EAT BAU'P GOUP SE PRWWVUX EAT YANRPLVUX
PLOP EAT BAU'P SRWVRCR. - FLOMWRV SWAG,
MRHRMMVUX PA NVPP MANURE

13. IAL HUMAN HI WLLD MA YMAP MO HUTH
JULA BMCL NMFLO RIG YLBIAO RIG YTR ZL
PROBLEMS. - CVGMHCGB TPFMSL

14. HUMPYHUMBLE BE COY CA MPY RYYDYEM UOR
HCEM DCXYTAIS YNDTYEEBCOE CA DITY PIHUO
TYUECO UOR, UM MPY EUHY MBHY, MPY HCEM
AIORUHYOMUS TYECITLY ACT RYELTBDMBCO UOR
UOUSKEBE CA MPY YNDYTBYOMBUS XCTSR. -
PKHUO FUEE