

# Cryptogram Instructions for Short Words

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<b>E</b>	<b>T</b>												<b>BOLDFACE</b>
A	O	I	N	S	R	H	L						CAPITALS
d	c	u	m	f	p	g	w	y	b	v			lower case
<b>TO</b>	<b>IN</b>	<b>Of</b>	<b>bE</b>	<b>dO</b>	<b>by</b>	<b>ALL</b>	<b>dId</b>	<b>THAT</b>	<b>WERE</b>	<b>EvEN</b>	<b>bEEN</b>	<b>wILL</b>	
<b>HE</b>	<b>IS</b>	<b>If</b>	<b>wE</b>	<b>gO</b>	<b>my</b>	<b>TOO</b>	<b>EyE</b>	<b>HIgH</b>	<b>HERE</b>	<b>AwAy</b>	<b>gOOd</b>	<b>wELL</b>	
<b>IT</b>	<b>AS</b>		<b>mE</b>	<b>uS</b>	<b>up</b>	<b>SEE</b>	<b>EvE</b>	<b>AREA</b>	<b>dATA</b>	<b>EyES</b>	<b>TOOk</b>	<b>LESS</b>	
<b>AT</b>	<b>ON</b>					<b>Off</b>	<b>NuN</b>	<b>SAYs</b>	<b>ASkS</b>	<b>EvER</b>	<b>LOOK</b>	<b>FREE</b>	
	<b>OR</b>					<b>ILL</b>	<b>pOp</b>	<b>dEAd</b>	<b>uSES</b>	<b>NINE</b>	<b>ROOM</b>	<b>TELL</b>	
	<b>AN</b>					<b>Add</b>	<b>pup</b>	<b>ELSE</b>	<b>mERE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NEEd</b>	<b>fuLL</b>	
	<b>NO</b>					<b>Odd</b>	<b>dAd</b>	<b>TEST</b>	<b>SAgA</b>	<b>RARE</b>	<b>dOOR</b>	<b>mISS</b>	
	<b>SO</b>					<b>INN</b>	<b>mOm</b>	<b>TAcT</b>	<b>SOLO</b>	<b>AfAR</b>	<b>wEEk</b>	<b>cALL</b>	

<b>ISSuE</b>	<b>STOOd</b>	<b>STILL</b>	<b>gOINg</b>	<b>wHICh</b>	<b>THERE</b>	<b>AgAIN</b>	<b>STATE</b>	<b>AREAS</b>
<b>wEEKS</b>	<b>fLOOR</b>	<b>THREE</b>	<b>RIVeR</b>	<b>ORDER</b>	<b>THESE</b>	<b>EvERY</b>	<b>NEvER</b>	<b>TRuTH</b>
<b>NEEdS</b>	<b>bLOOD</b>	<b>SmALL</b>	<b>SALES</b>	<b>kNOwN</b>	<b>wHERE</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>cOLOR</b>	<b>AHEAd</b>
<b>boOkS</b>	<b>gREEN</b>	<b>cLASS</b>	<b>STEpS</b>	<b>uNION</b>	<b>bASIS</b>	<b>pApER</b>	<b>SEVEN</b>	<b>uNduE</b>
<b>ALLOW</b>	<b>HAppy</b>	<b>SHALL</b>	<b>SIdES</b>	<b>START</b>	<b>cOSTS</b>	<b>uSuAL</b>	<b>vISIT</b>	<b>cATCh</b>
<b>OccuR</b>	<b>TREES</b>	<b>pRESS</b>	<b>TRAIT</b>	<b>SERvE</b>	<b>cASES</b>	<b>pupIL</b>	<b>LEVER</b>	<b>cOAcH</b>

- |             |             |             |             |  |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| <b>THE</b>  | <b>ANd</b>  | <b>wAS</b>  | <b>buT</b>  | 1) <b>pEOpLE</b> is common in wise sayings and is a good pattern word.                     |
| <b>ARE</b>  | <b>OLD</b>  | <b>fOR</b>  | <b>wHO</b>  | 2) <b>TRuTH</b> is rare (no pun intended) but common in wise sayings.                      |
| <b>OuT</b>  | <b>ENd</b>  | <b>HIS</b>  | <b>uSE</b>  | 3) <b>THAT</b> is the most common four-letter word; compilers avoid it.                    |
| <b>AcT</b>  | <b>TOp</b>  | <b>HAd</b>  | <b>gOT</b>  | 4) <b>THE</b> usually appears twice; a single instance might be <b>ARE</b> .               |
| <b>ART</b>  | <b>AId</b>  | <b>yOu</b>  | <b>puT</b>  | 5) <b>ANd</b> declines mildly; beware of words with very low thirds.                       |
| <b>AgE</b>  | <b>ARm</b>  | <b>HER</b>  | <b>guN</b>  | 6) <b>dId</b> is good but rare; no others have a low bracketing a high.                    |
|             |             |             |             | 7) <b>Of</b> is sixteen times <b>If</b> , but puzzles include <b>If</b> to confuse people. |
| <b>fROm</b> | <b>HAvE</b> | <b>wITH</b> | <b>THEy</b> | 8) <b>wHICh</b> is the most common five-letter word; ware <b>kNOwN</b> .                   |
| <b>uSEd</b> | <b>LIkE</b> | <b>wHEN</b> | <b>THEm</b> | 9) <b>fROm</b> and <b>HAvE</b> are common four-letter words with no <b>TH</b> .            |
| <b>fINd</b> | <b>mAKE</b> | <b>wHAT</b> | <b>THEn</b> | 10) Check other four- and five-letter words with repeated letters.                         |

The columns are ordered by frequency; start at the top and eliminate words that differ in one of their letters. For instance, **THAT** is a well known pattern word and it is particularly good because **HIgH** and **SAYs** are easily distinguished by their third letter being lower than A. **dEAd** is distinguished by its outer letters being lower than T. **AREA** and **ELSE** might be conflated with **THAT**. **pEOpLE** is good; the E in **pROpER** and the I in **INDIAN** distinguish them. **TRuTH** is distinguished from **AREAS** and **AHEAd** by its low third. **THE** and **ANd** exceed all other three-letter words combined; most of them are consonants bracketing a vowel, but **wAS...HER** are the most common. **NOT**, **ONE** and **ITS** have all high letters.

## Example Cryptogram

Following is a cryptogram that is grammatically correct and contains no foreign or scientific words. It is plain English that any twelve year old boy could read and understand. My *Cryptogram Instructions for Short Words* provides all the information you need... if you read it carefully. You cannot expect **THAT** in every cryptogram; that would be too easy. Good luck!

MQV JVQJTV JBZG ZHZXDCO FTPLZDXPZB JXDAZBB FZPLXDTC GQK FKCO

LZET CKJTVA PQQVIXDZOXQD ATPZKCT XM XO OXBOC GQK MZXB.

### Frequency

Z	11
X	10
Q	7
T	7
B	6
C	6
D	6
O	6
J	5
K	5
P	5
V	5
A	3
G	3
M	3
F	3
L	3
E	1
H	1
I	1