

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CRYPTOGRAMS



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. These pages themselves, as well as puzzles from previous years, can be found at <http://pages.uoregon.edu/wright/cryptos>.

1. UBNKYAKEGY, EHEMT, YEPWAT ABT BELLS
RING HBTNTIG ABT YEFKIWN IV ABT HINPO HEY
DING. NKYT AI EOINT ABT RSYATNS IV PIFT
HBKUB BIYAY IV EGXTPY UBEGATO VNIR EDIFT.
HKAB ABTR ABT ZISVWP AKOKGXY VKNYA DTXWG
IV XIO KGUENGEAT EGO ABT FKNXKG'Y YIG. —
ZIBG DSNIG

2. NIGHT FITBITOZF NRKDITZ KITGO CHUDLF
WM EGPIK, RHH FTRKTZ UE KIT POUSEZ, KIT
REPTH UC KIT HUOZ DRAT ZUNE, REZ PHUOM
FIUET ROUSEZ. "CTRO EUK," FRGZ IT, CUO
AGPIKM ZOTRZ IRZ FTGVTZ KITGO KOUSWHTZ
AGEZ, "PHRZ KGZGEPF UC POTRK YUM G WOGEP
KU MUS REZ RHH ARELGEZ." — NUUH PRKITOGE P

3. CLOA CGOA! ITEELNZ GO BLAB, LO BTSK'O
MBT HTNNY SET ELOALOA: CLOA CGOA! KTELNZ
MBT YFZ LY ELK'O DLMB SOATN YLOALOA.
ANGELS, BGYSOOS LO TRUTNYLY! T'TO YG BTET
HTNGD, HTNGD, NTM YMTTWNT HTNNY HT
YDPOATO, SOC "LG, LG, LG!" HZ WELTYM SOC
WTGWNT YPOATO. ANGELS, BGYSOOS LO
TRUTNYLY! - ETOSLYYSOUT MPOT

4. PROK AT NTE HOGG O WSUIASSW PUKR
SOWBELLY? OINKRUIF NTE GUMS. RS HOI'K
RSOW NTE. - - MUA YKELL

5. I, CHIEFP FRY EAIXSMA XME MUKLY ME RY
GIOUN DY, MAN FRY GRKUNHYA EMP RY GIOUN
UMOBR MAN TUMP ZOEF FRY EMSY ME PIO MAN
SY. FROSTYFFP FROST FROST, FROSTYFP FROST
FROST, UIIV MF CHIEFP BI. FROSTYFFP FROST
FROST, FROSTYFP FROST FROST, ILYH FRY
RKUUE IC EAIX. - - XRKFY SMBKG

6. NEEW MAIN DERZMZPRY FEEMUW ERY EI OAD
HUUYD RIUCUI, TOUZU YOU DIEE FPS ZERIW
PGERY. DIEE? TOPY'D DIEE? IEY BRLO.
TOPY'D DIEE TAYO SER? - - TPFY MUFFS

7. HOLLY AT HAIR. APT GAPRL
BRLSXHR GLREPYRT E CASR US DEPYRLAID
DCUUh. TULLUNAID, TADY AID, GCRRKAID,
KOAID TRECRK AI PYR TPUIR-MUCK PUHG. -
MUHBELR LYOHR TBRCCAIDT

8. B SHY YA EAYONT RHBW BY H OTASNTF
KWATN EBYN, AT EBYONT CAT H WTHCCBS
EBOIW, AT NUNY GHLKN EAYO NYALOI WA ENW H
PHONE GAG CTAD WIN WAHKWNT, RBWIALW
TNCENZBUNEF TNHSIBYO CAT DF KDHTWGIAYN. -
WBD AWIF NOHY

9. HAM PMRCTI RMN GNMVNBYEX NLHELNS VHM
YON GENCIYHBNTN, PAY RMN THY RI FNEE
IACYNS VHM YON MCIDI FN VRBN YHSRX. CV
HTEX BECKRYN BORTUN BRAINS IORMG
CTBMNRINI CT ITRDN GHGAERYCHTI, YONT FN'S
PN HT YHG HV YON GMHPENK! - TCBOHERI
DMCIYHV

10. OUR THINGS FHVRC HW TEOURTEONPL NL
GHO CRELHGNGS DAO NTESNGEONHG. — EASALOAL
BR THCSEG

11. NO A00S BY ULRO EY BGYPFTO MOSLEMHEX
BULB SYMOGLBO SPATHSA KYEMOSE BUO
GLMHKLTA, FPB NO'GO TOAA HSWG0AAHRO NUOE
HB KYSOA BY SYMOGLBO LSOGHKLEA BLIHEX L
ABLEM LXLHEAB YPG YNE ODBGOSHABA. —
ILBUTOOE WLGIOG

12. O IF I PORRPY NICROSCA . . . BLYT O RED
RS IRRING ASFY HESWPYF WYNICAY RLY
HESWPYF NIT IRRING WING. — MSLT USEWYA
TIAL ME.

13. OY LETS WUXSECY FYGG HT H TSHSY OFYCY
YMYCNDIY UT WYCWYSEHGGN XDIXYCIYP HADES
FUT DOI PUKIUSN HIP HPMHIXYLYIS HIP OFYCY
YMYCNDIY FHT H KCUYMHIXY. — X. T. GYOUT

14. WARWXA, DAGAGMAD EXPECT SR ALWAYS EH
OHALWAYS AK — TODWDUTA!