

Substitution Cipher Cryptogram Worksheet

Swap every letter using a fixed secret key

ANSWER KEY

Grades 5–9 • 25 minutes • Intermediate • Answer key included

A substitution cipher replaces each letter with a different fixed letter. Use this key to encode and decode: A=Q B=W C=E D=R E=T F=Y G=U H=I I=O J=P K=A L=S M=D N=F O=G P=H Q=J R=K S=L T=Z U=X V=C W=V X=B Y=N Z=M. Encode by looking up each letter; decode by working the key backwards.

1. Encode with the key: CAT

Answer: EQZ

2. Encode with the key: DOG

Answer: RGU

3. Encode with the key: HELLO

Answer: ITSSG

4. Encode with the key: SECRET

Answer: LTEKTZ

5. Decode with the key: LHN

Answer: SPY

6. Decode with the key: EGRT

Answer: CODE

7. Decode with the key: WKQOF

Answer: BRAIN

8. Decode the secret message: QZZQEA QZ RQVF

Answer: ATTACK AT DAWN