Homework Assignment #18: Cryptograms

Each cryptogram is a message in substitution code. “THE SMART CAT” might become “MRX DGYUM LYM if M is substituted for T, R for H, X for E, etc. One way to break the code is to look for repeated letters. E, T, A, N, O, R, and I are the most often used letters. A single letter is usually A or I; OF, IS, and IT are common 2-letter words; try THE or AND for a 3-letter group. The code is different for each cryptogram.

1. VLYU ETIH FYNK TUST RTZC XYE, QS’H XYDNZHY SLYR NETCY XYQUI VQSL RTZ. VLYU DNSH FYNK TUST RTZC XYE, QS’H XYDNZHY SLYR NETCY RTZC XYE.
2. LSXGP, FDLU GZZ LUDJ DTWGLDST HSDTH ST, GQSYL GZZ PSY RGT HKLWSB G XSZZGB DJ G CDRLYBK SW HKSBHK FGJUDTHLST.

3. ONHS OIKSAWKOWO OML WGMW M CQSMW HMAL MAKHMEO EMFCG. GNB IMA WGSL GSEX KW BGSA WGSL BMWIG BGMW XSNXES ZN?

Homework Assignment #18: SOLUTIONS

1. When dogs leap onto your bed, it’s because they adore being with you. When cats leap onto your bed, it’s because they adore your bed.
2. Today, with all this inflation going on, about all you can get for a dollar is a picture of George Washington.

3. Some scientists say that a great many animals laugh. How can they help it when they watch what people do?