are extreme-
in black and white in the King James and the American Standard Versions of the Old Testament, in Numbers 35:8. Particularly adventuresome readers may try to extend the unbroken sequence to the number 42. For our own best results in that attempt, see Answers and Solutions at the end of this issue.

Any group of English words or names can be treated in a similar fashion. Consider, for example, the names of the 50 largest cities in the United States, according to the 1980 decennial census. Ordinary transposals convert TUCSON into COUNTS, DETROIT into DOTTIER, BALTIMORE into ARTMOBILE, and WASHINGTON into NOWA-NIGHTS, none of which is too difficult to figure out. Adding either one or two letters to the names of some of the cities, on the other hand, we succeed in concealing them effectively from possibly prurient eyes. Two-letter additions produce cloaking terms such as these:

- OMAHA + NN = MONAHAN
- ATLANTA + ET = TANTALATE
- CHARLOTTE + DP = PART-CLOTHED
- CLEVELAND + ER = NEVER-CALLED
- MILWAUKEE + LO = OWL LEUKEMIA
- LOUISVILLE + MN = OLIVE MULLINS

Here are another six examples, already in enciphered form. We've made them real easy by adding only one letter to each city name in the course of transposing it. How many of the cities can you identify at sight?

1. UNSAINT 3. COACHING 5. ANNOTATIONS
2. WAKENER 4. BOLD CHANGE 6. PANDIVISIONAL

Equally amenable to our special form of encipherment are the names of the chemical elements. Ordinary transposals turn ARGON into GROAN, RHODIUM into HUMIDOR, ANTIMONY into the patriotic MY NATION, and YTTERBIUM into BETTY MUIR - who may just be the girl living next door to you! Anyone familiar with the element names, however, won't have much trouble decoding these concealmements. By contrast, adding two letters to each element name, as in the following samples, also adds measurably to the challenge of identifying it:

- THULIUM + DE = MULTIHUED
- FERMIUM + IM = MUMMIFIER
- SAMARIUM + ET = AMATEURISM
- TITANIUM + DE = UNIMITATED
- BERYLLIUM + GN = LUMBERINGLY
- COLUMBIUM + IN = CUMULONIMBI

Once again, it's your turn. Here are the enciphered forms of six other element names, to each of which we have added only one letter in the process of transforming it. How quickly will you restore these element names to their pristine, unsullied condition?

8. MULLIGAN 10. MUSCADINE 12. PRIM-MOUTHED

Of perennial interest to such eccentric wordsmiths are words - hyphens, apostrophes, numbers, almost all long words - that almost all over categories: ordinary, weird place names, exotic, and others. We've added fictitious words that would be impossible to figure out if they ever existed.

HONORIFICABLE, FLOCCIPACIFIC, SUPERCALIFRAJIGILISMO, PNEUMONOULTRA, PNEUMONoulTs

So far as I know, none of these are subject to such conditions.

ANTIDISESTABILIZATION

The fact that a word is long is no guarantee that it will be easy to identify. However, seriously concerned etymologists know that the very long word is not an unlikely word. Perhaps they know that the dictionary that establishes the English word includes such words as ARGILLACEOUS, which is also included in a dictionary.

Isn't it possible that the word is like authentic English words? Certainly. Let's move to the 28 categories identified by

COUNTERCHANGE

This is defined as a category of words which stamps the

Invented by

move to the 28 categories of that length.