Cryptoquip

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This is a passage enciphered using a substitution cipher in which each letter is replaced by another:

J I Z W R C B Z V X L X V R L Q X V R W
Q Z B N T U X V I R C B Q Z M M K I G M
J Z R M I Z Q , X M V G N U A T Z R
W X W Z M K - A Z F Q Z Z R W F G U R.

Hint: Z equals E

This puzzle is taken from CryptoClassics, ©2002 by King Features Syndicate. The date of this puzzle is unknown.

Answer

In what follows, CAPITAL LETTERS are the ciphertext and lower case letters are the plaintext.

J I E W R C B E V X L X V R L Q X V R W
Q E B N T U X V I R C B Q Z M M K I G M
J E R M I E Q , X M V G N U A T E R
W X W E M K - A E F Q E E R W F G U R.

From the hint, we have:
Z equals E

J I E W R C B E V X L X V R L Q X V R W
Q E B N T U X V I R C B Q Z M M K I G M
J E R M I E Q , X M V G N U A T E R
W X W E M K - A E F Q E E R W F G U R.

Note R is a single letter word. That means it is a or i. It ends the last word in the cryptoquip, and more English words end in “a” than “i”. So we guess:
Guess R equals a

J I E W a C B E V X L X V a L Q X V a W
Q E B N T U X V I a C B Q e M M K I G M
J e a M I e Q , X M V G N U A T e a
W X W e M K - A e F Q e e a W F G U a.

Look at the first word. It begins the passage, the next word is “a”, and there is a comma before there is a period. So, the first word probably introduces a clause, and would be a conjunction. The word “when” comes to mind. Let’s try it:
Guess J I E W equals when

w h e n a C B e V X L X V a L Q X V a n
Q e B N T U X V h a C B Q e M M K h G M
w e a M h e Q , X M V G N U A T e a
n X n e M K - A e F Q e e a W F G U a.

The first word in the third line is almost certainly “weather”:
Guess weaMheQ equals weather

w h e n a C B e V X L X V a l r X V a n
r e B N T U X V h a C B r e t K h G t
w e a t h e r , X t V G N U A T e a
n X n e t K - A e F r e e a W F G U a.
The first word in the third line is almost certainly “weather”:
Guess `weaMheQ` equals `weather`

```
when a C Be V XL X V a Lr X V an
re BNT UX V ha C Brett K h G t
weather, Xt V G N U A Te a
n X net K - Ae Free an F G U a.
```

The first word in the last line looks like “ninety”:
Guess `nXnetK` equals `ninety`

```
when a C Be Vi Li V a Lr i V an
re BNT Ui V ha C Brett y h G t
weather, it V G N U A Te a
ninety - Ae Free an F G U a.
```

The third word in the second line can only be “pretty”:
Guess `B` equals `p`

```
when a C pe Vi Li V a Lr i V an
re p N T Ui V ha C pretty h G t
weather, it V G N U A Te a
ninety - Ae Free an F G U a.
```

The last word in the second line could be “hat”, “hit”, “hot”, or “hut”. Between “pretty” and “weather”, only “hot” makes sense. So:
Guess `G` equals `o`

```
when a C pe Vi Li V a Lr i V an
re p N T Ui V ha C pretty hot
weather, it Vo N U A Te a
ninety - degree an F G U a.
```

As the passage talks about weather, “ninety” is probably a temperature. So the word following the “ninety” is likely to be “degree”:
Guess `AeFree` equals `degree`

```
when a C pe Vi Li V a Lr i V an
re p N T Ui V ha C pretty hot
weather, it Vo N Ud Te a
ninety - degree an G O U a.
```

In the third line, the words after “it” probably are “could be” or “would be”. On the first line, the third word ends in `V`, so `V` is probably `c` and not `w`:
Guess `VoNUd Te` equals `could be`

```
when a C peci Li c a lr i can
re pub lic ha C pretty hot
weather, it could be a
ninety - degree an go U a.
```

The last word on the first line is undoubtedly “african”:
Guess `L` equals `f`

```
when a C specific a fr i can
re pub lic ha C pretty hot
weather, it could be a
ninety - degree an go U a.
```
The third word on the first line has to be “specific”: 
Guess C equals s

when a specific african republic has pretty hot weather, it could be a ninety-degree angola.

Thus, the passage is:

When a specific African republic has pretty hot weather, it could be a ninety-degree Angola.