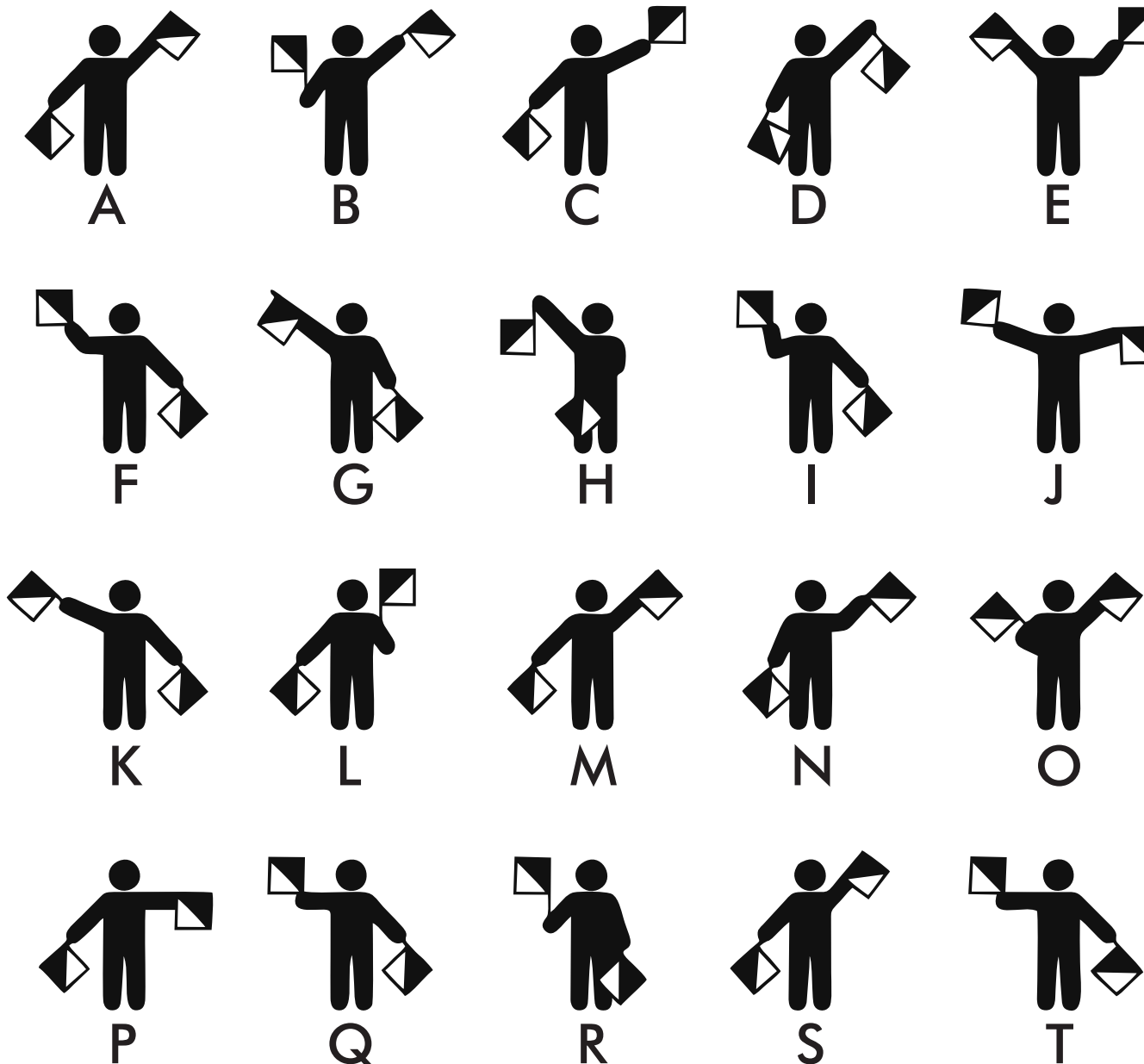


# Flag Signalling (Semaphore) Chart



## How Flag Signalling (Semaphore) Worked

### 1. The Basics

A sailor held a flag in each hand and moved their arms to different positions to represent letters of the alphabet. Each letter had its own unique arm-angle combination, a bit like hand signals or clock positions.

### 2. The Flags

The flags were usually red and yellow, bright and easy to see at a distance. They were held at full arm's length to make the shapes clear.

### 3. Sending the Message

The signalman stood in a clear place, often high up on the ship (like the bridge). They would form each letter one at a time using the correct flag position. The person receiving the message watched and wrote it down as each letter was shown.

### 4. Spacing and End of Message

To show a new word was starting, the signalman would briefly hold the flags in a rest position.

There were also specific signals to mean "end of message", "error", or "repeat".

Example: To signal the word HI: The sailor would make the arm position for H, pause, then move to the arm position for I.