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Cryptography - HW2

→ Q1. Define Threats, Vulnerabilities, and Controls

- Threats: A threat is any potential negative action or event that can cause damage or harm to information assets. This could include unauthorized access, destruction, modification, or disclosure of data.
- **Vulnerabilities**: Vulnerabilities are weaknesses in a system, network, or organization that can be exploited by threats. For example, a software bug, lack of security measures, or unprotected communication lines can be considered vulnerabilities.
- Controls: Controls are measures taken to reduce or eliminate vulnerabilities. They
 include actions, devices, procedures, or techniques used to protect a system from
 threats.

→ Q2. What are the types of Threats?

- **Interception**: Unauthorized parties gaining access to an asset, such as wiretapping or copying data files.
- **Interruption**: Loss or unavailability of assets, like malicious destruction of hardware or denial-of-service (DoS) attacks.
- Modification: Unauthorized changes to assets, such as altering values in a database.
- **Fabrication**: Creation of fake objects or data, such as inserting false transactions into a network.

→ Q3. What are the methods of defense from Threats?

Methods to defend against threats are often classified as:

- System Access Controls: Ensuring that unauthorized users cannot access the system.
- **Data Access Controls**: Monitoring and controlling who can access which data and for what purpose.

- **System and Security Administration**: Managing system security through proper user training, administrator responsibilities, and offline procedures.
- System Design: Using security features inherent to hardware and software.
- **Encryption**: Providing confidentiality and integrity to data and communication.

→ Q4. What questions should you ask when determining threats?

When assessing potential threats to a system, you should consider the following:

- Who are the potential attackers? (Who might want to harm the system, such as hackers, insiders, or competitors?)
- What methods or tools could they use? (Could they use malware, social engineering, or physical access to attack the system?)
- What are the motivations of the attackers? (Are they seeking financial gain, political motives, or causing harm for personal reasons?)
- What are the possible points of entry or vulnerabilities in the system? (Are there software bugs, unprotected networks, or weak passwords that attackers could exploit?)
- What is the potential impact of the attack? (How much damage could the attack cause to data, services, or system operations?)
- What countermeasures or controls are already in place? (Are there sufficient protections to mitigate the identified threats?).

→ Q5. What is vulnerability, threat, and control?

- Vulnerability: A weakness or flaw in a system, network, or process that can be
 exploited by a threat. Examples include software bugs, inadequate physical security,
 or poor password policies.
- Threat: A potential event or action that could cause harm or damage to an organization's information assets. Threats may include hackers, natural disasters, or system failures.
- **Control**: A measure taken to reduce or eliminate vulnerabilities and protect against threats. Controls can be physical (e.g., locks, alarms), technical (e.g., firewalls, encryption), or administrative (e.g., security policies, training).