

Luke Martin

Professor Sonnefeld

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Open Genre Literacy Project

As humans, we have become so dependent on technology that it's become an essential part of our lives. Without a doubt, technology has made our lives easier, more convenient, safer, and more entertaining. However, technology has also made it possible for individuals to commit crimes anonymously right from their homes. This act is known as cybercrime and “59% of Americans report they have experienced cybercrime or in some way fallen into the hands of a computer hacker” (Vojinovic). This is why in today's world cybersecurity is so important. It not only helps to secure information but also secures entire systems from virus attacks.

There are many different types of Cyber Security, however, they are all aimed at protecting your devices and network from unauthorized users or modifications. So, what can cyber security prevent exactly? Mainly anonymous users from accessing your personal computers, mobile phones, gaming systems, and other internet/Bluetooth-connected devices. Once a hacker has control of the device it is very easy for them to damage your accounts by blocking your access or deleting your personal information.

Most people nowadays use the internet to buy and sell products, communicate through various platforms, perform financial transactions, etc. In other words, it is a medium through which people do business which makes it perfect for hackers and cybercriminals to use as a tool

to spread malware and carry out cyber-attacks. Thankfully, there are many ways you can stay safe from cybercrime while you're on the internet. Always think twice before clicking on links or opening attachments, especially from sketchy websites. Keep your personal information private. It is very important to keep your personal information secure so you can prevent identity theft. Furthermore, you should always protect your passwords. This is best done by using a password manager app or by writing them down on paper and keeping them safe. Your passwords are the first defense against a hacker trying to access your computer and personal information. A strong password is ideal to keep your computer protected from malicious software. You should have strong and differing passwords for all your accounts. You're also going to want to keep your devices, browsers, and apps all up to date. These updates will often contain security patches and new security features, both of which are very important. Patches and bug fixes matter because they remove the known flaws that criminals can use to compromise your devices and data. It is also very important that you delete sensitive information when it's no longer needed. Removing unnecessary information stored on your computer or mobile device can make it much harder for a thief to steal your information and compromise your data. Finally, you should also back up critical files. The purpose of the backup is to create a copy of data that can be recovered in the event it is lost in a malicious attack (virus or malware).

Since I am pursuing a computer engineering degree at the University of South Carolina, I plan on exploring careers in this field. Cybersecurity has two key advantages of a strong career. First, there's low to hardly any unemployment and solid compensation. Technology gets better day by day, so you'll always have room to grow. You'll continually be learning new skills and working to understand new technologies. For my open genre project presentation, I am going to be using my engineering knowledge to create a website about cybersecurity. I recently learned in

my computing in the modern world class how to use Html and Git to create a basic website displaying a potential idea for an app. I will be incorporating what I've learned from this experience and applying it to my own website. I will be using the website to display the advantages of cybersecurity as well as instructions for how you can be safer on the internet.