Read Chapter 10: Crime, Inc from the Future Crimes book. Prepare your responses to the following questions.

1. Describe the hoax perpetrated by Innovative Marketing. What are the two ways in which a user could respond to the hoax? What were the outcomes?

The hoax perpetrated by Innovative Marketing is the warning messages displayed when clicking on the button to close the system defender’s critical system pop-up message.

Two ways to respond: Not click on anything and downloading software. And report the issue so that investigation can take place and security controls can be tightened. FBI and Interpol were looking for the company’s founders.

Outcomes: Criminal enterprise was exposed, Paid receipts to the criminals was found

2. Describe crimeware aka scareware, ransomware, or rogue antivirus. How is this similar to modern-day ransomware?

They are similar because they all are malicious computer programs that infect computers and cause significant damage. They also pray upon user’s fears.

3. The chapter briefly mentions Albert Gonzalez (pg. 220). What is he known for?

He was a criminal that realized that it was possible to earn a good living by illegally breaking into the computer systems of others. He is the founder of the hacker group ShadowCrew, which offered fellow criminals’ tutorials on everything from cryptography to card-cloning techniques. His organization was responsible for the stealing and reselling of more than 180 million credit and ATM cars.

4. List names of three major organized cyber crime groups. What are their notable (rather, notorious) achievements?

List of hacker groups and their achievements: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_hacker_groups>

5. What are Uber-like services to assist in robbery/theft?

Sensing a market need by criminals without wheels, Nicole Gibson of Londonderry created a real-time “text a getaway driver” service to help robbers make a clean escape with the goods they had stolen from homes and businesses along the Irish border. In San Francisco, drug dealers in Dolores Park began using Square, a small white plastic device that connects to the iPhone and allows anybody to accept credit card payments, enabling hipsters who eschew cash to charge their ecstasy and pot.

6. How are hackers using affiliate marketing to further their objectives?

Affiliate networks form the very backbone of the cyber-criminal enterprise and many of the very best are located in Russia. These so-called Partnerkas work day and night to drive as much traffic as possible to the Web sites of their criminal partners. These low-level criminals handle product placement, whether the product be fake antivirus software, child pornography, Rolex reproductions, or counterfeit Viagra. The affiliate’s role is to introduce the criminal merchant to the unsuspecting consumer. Partnerkas spread their schemes via spam in e-mails, chat forums, blog comments, social media, and SMS messages. Crime, Inc. pays affiliates per click or per install each time an affiliate drives traffic to the criminal enterprise or when malware is downloaded to a victim’s machine.

7. Research the Zeus and Citadel Trojans. Describe origin, mode of operation, extent of damage, and counter-strategies.

Zeus Builder: Ranging in price from $5,000 to $7,000, the program has many functions ranging from surreptitiously capturing a user’s keystrokes to the theft of digital encryption certificates required for online banking. Over the years, Microsoft has estimated the Zeus Trojan has infected more than thirteen million computers worldwide and been used to steal more than $100 million.

The malware, a variant of the infamous Zeus Trojan, allowed criminals to steal banking information, log user keystrokes, and install other forms of crimeware on a victim’s machine. When the Citadel hackers sold their malware to fellow criminals, they wanted to ensure their customers were happy with the crimeware they had created.

Counterstrategies: Best practice against any Trojan

8. How are cyber-criminals using open source intelligence?

They use it to uncover any threats to their massive profits.

9. What tangible or intangible incentives are offered to modern-day hackers to hone their skills and stay on top of the game?

Tangible

Intangible

10. Research a recent hacktivist attack.

Turkish ‘hacktivists’ take over social media accounts of US journalists: <http://cnbc.com/2018/08/24/turkish-hacktivists-make-cyberattacks-on-us-journalists.html>

11. How are CAPTCHAS being defeated?

They are being defeated by criminals as being used as a phishing scam instead of the designed purpose [P 239-240].

12. What is the current status of tools being developed to defeat Apple's biometric TouchID?

\* Tools have been invented to break the TocuhID system, However, other means such as face ID seems not trustworthy for authentication purposes

13. Comment on the Assassination Market.

It is the work of a dedicated anarchist who goes by the pseudonym Kuwabatake Sanjuro. As of late 2014, eight U.S. government officials have been selected via crowdsourced voting for assassination, with the former Federal Reserve chairman Ben Bernanke receiving the greatest number of votes.