Read the following articles:

* <https://www.digitaltrends.com/mobile/sim-swap-fraud-explained/>
* <https://www.itworldcanada.com/article/warning-protect-your-mobile-phone-numbers-from-being-hijacked/396018>
* <https://www.wired.com/story/sim-swap-attack-defend-phone/>
* <https://krebsonsecurity.com/2015/11/talktalk-script-kids-the-quest-for-og/>

Questions:

1. What is a SIM card?

An integrated circuit that stores a person’s mobile identity so that cellphone service providers can identify who they are. Therefore, the service provider can charge the person for using cell service usually in a monthly subscription.

1. Why is a SIM card required for your phone to work?

The phone has the necessary radios to communicate with cell towers, but the SIM card allows the user to subscribe to a cell service provider and in return the service provider gives them cell service.

1. What is “[text-based two-factor authentication](https://www.wired.com/2016/06/hey-stop-using-texts-two-factor-authentication)” ?

The service that the user is requesting to login sends a code to a phone number that the user has input during the creation of the account.

1. How is two-factor authentication related to your phone?

Since the phone is generally on the person attempting the login, they can take a look at their phone, type in the code to login.

1. How is two-factor authentication related to your SIM card?

The code is sent via SMS which requires the person’s SIM card because that’s their mobile identity.

1. List some of the services criminals can access if they get control of your SIM card.
   1. Banking & Financial

They can use your phone to commit identity fraud. The criminals can withdraw money or transfer money because the bank thinks they are you. Also, criminals can steal investments by posing as you.

* 1. Social Media

Take complete control of your account and do whatever they please. Also they can post malicious content on your social media page and tarnish your reputation.

1. Explain how criminals can get control of your SIM card.
   1. Collecting Personal Information

Criminals can obtain your address, age, name, birthdate very easily through social media.

* 1. Create False Identity

Pretending to be a close relative.

* 1. Requesting a new SIM card

The criminal can say that you have lost your SIM card and need a new one.

1. What are some signs of SIM swap fraud?

The victim’s SIM card may be invalid so they don’t have any services in a cell signal rich area.

1. How can you prevent SIM swap fraud?
   1. What are some general methods

Tell your cell service provider to ask specific questions to answer when a call comes in to change phone number.

* 1. Who is your Canadian phone company / carrier?

Rogers/AT&T

* 1. What do they offer regarding SIM swap fraud prevention?

Rogers informs customers to perform regular security maintenance. Examples include: keeping device security up to date, using secure and hard to crack passwords, and don’t visit suspicious looking websites.