




Reference answers

Task 1

			
hacking	Internet fraud	phishing	ransomware

Task 2

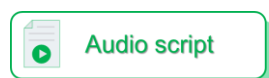
hacking	Internet fraud	phishing	ransomware
Criminals illegally break into a computer system or network for various purposes.	Criminals make use of the Internet to defraud people of money or property.	Criminals pretend to be a real organization, such as a bank, and trick victims into giving their sensitive information.	Criminals threaten to publish the victim's data or block their access to it unless a ransom is paid.

Task 3

1. I think hacking is the most dangerous because everyone could be the victim even if they do nothing to incur the risk. If my computer got hacked, I would probably have no other choice but to reinstall my operating system, and I might lose my important documents forever.
2. Yes, I think so. In a traditional way, it's difficult for criminals to run away with a large sum of cash, which could be too heavy to transport. But cyber criminals may transfer a huge amount of money from your account to someone else's account by just a few clicks without leaving a trace.

Academic listening

Listening 1 Ask an expert



Ask an expert

HOST: Greetings listeners, and welcome to *Ask an expert*, the weekly show in which we interview experts from a variety of fields. Today's topic is cybercrime, and our expert is Robert Braun, professor of law at Pennbrook University. Professor Braun, welcome to our show.

BRAUN: Thank you.

HOST: Let's start with a simple definition. What is cybercrime, and how common is it?

BRAUN: Well, it means any illegal activity committed with a computer. Now that covers a broad range of criminal activities, including crimes against people, such as stealing someone's identity or online bullying, crimes against property, such as illegal movie downloads, and crimes against governments, mainly spying.

HOST: That is a broad range, indeed. Well now, let's get specific and look more closely at some of the cybercrimes you mentioned. I suppose many of our listeners have heard the term "malware." Could you explain what that means?

BRAUN: Sure. “Malware” isn’t a crime. It’s a general term that means any kind of software that’s used to commit crimes, for instance stealing private information, spying on users, or displaying unwanted advertising. The victims can be individuals, corporations, or governments. To give just one example, in its December 30, 2015 issue the respected magazine *Business Insider* reported that in 2014 hackers used malware to break into a computer system at the White House, the home of the President of the United States! In another famous case, about 15 million customers had their personal information stolen when criminals hacked into the website for the finance company Experian.

HOST: Yes, I remember that. All right, I’d like to continue now and discuss the topic of computer piracy. What is that?

BRAUN: It means illegally downloading movies, books, or music from the Internet, without paying for the content.

HOST: Why is that illegal?

BRAUN: Let me explain. We have a concept called “intellectual property.” According to the Macmillan Dictionary, “intellectual property” is something that someone has created or invented and that no one else is legally allowed to make, copy, or sell. In other words, it’s against the law to download intellectual property without paying for it.

HOST: What’s the punishment for illegally downloading a movie?

BRAUN: People who are caught downloading movies illegally can face up to a year in jail and a fine of \$100,000. That’s just for personal use. If you turn around and sell those illegally downloaded movies, the crime is much more serious. You could go to jail for five years and face a penalty of \$250,000.

HOST: That seems pretty severe.

BRAUN: It’s a serious crime. It’s expensive to make movies, and if companies can’t make money, they’ll stop doing it.

HOST: I’m speaking with law professor Robert Braun. Let’s take a break, and then we’ll talk some more.

Words and expressions

bully v. 欺侮，恐吓

Proper names

Robert Braun 罗伯特·布朗（人名）

Experian 益博睿（一家信息服务公司）

Macmillan Dictionary 麦克米伦词典