

# 1 Generated Items

ID	Item	Wording from	Inspired by
s_1	I constantly worry about cybersecurity.		Being worried[1, 2]
s_2	I am extremely terrified about cyberthreats.		Being terrified[3]
s_3	I often worry about information technology (IT).		Being worried[1, 2]
s_4	I constantly worry about artificial intelligence.	Being afraid of AI[4]	Being worried[1, 2],
s_5	I often worry about the rapid development in technology.		Being worried[1, 2]
s_6	I am concerned about my cybersecurity vulnerability.	Worried that data is stolen[5]	Expectation of the worst [1, 2]
s_7	Worrying about cyberattacks frequently keeps me up at night.		Insomnia[1], Restlessness[2]
s_8	Overthinking keeps me awake at night.	Restlessness[2], Worrying thoughts[6]	Insomnia[1],
s_9	The cybersecurity topic irritates me.		Being irritable[1, 2]
s_10	I get irritated frequently.		Being irritated[1, 2]
s_11	I increasingly fear the internet.		Being fearful[1, 3]
s_12	I am extremely afraid of the internet.		Being fearful[1, 3]
s_13	Thinking about cyberattacks makes me fearful.		Being fearful[1, 3]
s_14	I fear strangers getting access to personal information.	Loss of personal information[7, 8]	Being fearful[1, 2, 3, 6]
s_15	Worrying about cyberattacks makes me unable to relax.		Being worried[1, 2] Being unable to relax[3, 6]
s_16	After being affected by a cyberattack, I get depressed.		Being depressed [1, 6]
s_17	After being affected by a cyberattack, I isolate myself.		Loss of interest [1, 6]
s_18	After being affected by a cyberattack, I lose pleasure in activities I normally enjoy.		Loss of interest [1, 6]

ID	Item	Wording from	Inspired by
s.19	I get a headache when trying to implement the recommended security measures.		Somatic symptoms [1]
s.20	I get uncomfortable when trying to implement the recommended security measures.		Somatic symptoms [1, 3]
s.21	I feel physically unwell after a cyberattack		Somatic Symptoms [1, 3]
s.22	I have more important matters to worry about than being targeted by cyberattacks.	Adapted from: I have much bigger problems than my risk of a security breach. [5, 9]	
s.23	I feel secure against cyberattacks.		The aspect of feeling secure [10]
s.24	I get nervous when other people use my technology devices.	Author Generated	
s.25	My shyness hinders my ability to socialize online.	Participation in group and dyadic conversations [12]	Talking to strangers[11],
s.26	I prefer socializing online.	Participation in group and dyadic conversations [12]	Talking to strangers[11],
s.27	Shyness reduces my social interaction with others.	Participation in group and dyadic conversations [12]	Talking to strangers[11],
s.28	I have no fear of speaking up in conversations.	Directly adopted from [12]	
s.29	I am afraid to answer phone calls in public.		Telephoning in public [11]
s.30	I am afraid to give a speech in front of an audience.		Feelings when talking in front of an audience[11, 12]
s.31	I struggle to reach out to unfamiliar people online.		Talking to strangers [11]
s.32	I have difficulties talking to people I do not know well.		Talking to strangers [11]
s.33	I have difficulties talking to strangers.		Talking to strangers [11]

ID	Item	Wording from	Inspired by
s_34	I have difficulties meeting strangers in person.		Talking to strangers [11]
s_35	I have stopped reading cybersecurity-related news since they stress me out.	Author generated	
s_36	I use the internet to distract myself from ongoing problems in my life.		Excessive use of social networking[13]
s_37	Generally, I am confident in my computer skills.		Feelings about working with a computer[10, 14]
s_38	I expect to be targeted by a cyberattack.		Expecting the worst [1, 10]
s_39	I frequently get targeted by cyberattacks.	Author generated	
s_40	I believe it is inevitable that my data gets stolen.		Lost cause to implement measures to keep data safe[9, 10]
s_41	I limit my online activities on personal matters to protect my privacy.	Adapted from ‘I avoid using the internet on personal matters so as not to have my details accessed.’ [7]	
s_42	People do not worry enough about cyberthreats from their use of technology.	Directly adopted from [7] *	
s_43	I do not share sensitive information online.		Sharing information online[8]
s_44	I make sure that my credit card information is not saved in online accounts.	Adapted from: ‘I make sure that my credit card information is not saved.’[8]	
s_45	I only open e-mails from verified senders.		Origin of E-mails[8]
s_46	I ensure the safety of links in e-mails before I click them.		Risks regarding E-mails[5, 8]
s_47	I consistently scan downloaded files for malicious software.		Handling of downloaded files [5, 8]
s_48	I do not trust corporations to keep my data safe.		Risk of giving data to companies[7, 15]
s_49	I dislike working with information technology (IT) which I do not understand.		Understanding of and attitude towards computers [14] and technical systems [16]

ID	Item	Wording from	Inspired by
s_50	I'm more comfortable with information technology (IT) whose decision-making processes are clear to me.		Understanding of and attitude towards computers [14] and technical systems [16]
s_51	I feel apprehensive about using computers.	Directly adopted from [14]	
s_52	I feel apprehensive about cybersecurity.	Wording from: 'I feel apprehensive about using computers.' [14]	Cybersecurity[5, 8]
s_53	I feel apprehensive about using e-mail services.	Wording from: 'I feel apprehensive about using computers.' [14]	Risks regarding E-mails[5, 8]
s_54	I feel apprehensive about using two-factor authentication.	Wording from: 'I feel apprehensive about using computers.' [14]	Implementation of recommended security measures[5, 8]
s_55	I feel apprehensive about using a VPN service.	Wording from: 'I feel apprehensive about using computers.' [14]	Implementation of recommended security measures[5, 8]
s_56	I am afraid of making irreversible mistakes when using technology devices.	Adapted from: 'I hesitate to use a computer for fear of making mistakes that I cannot correct.'[14]	
s_57	I pay people to manage my cybersecurity.		Money spending on cybersecurity[5]
s_58	I only accept essential cookies when browsing the internet.	Author generated	
s_59	I avoid websites that are marked as unsafe by my browser or my antivirus program.		Websites without security certificates [8]
s_60	I often put myself in situations with increased cybersecurity risks.	Author generated	
s_61	I regularly review my account login history for unusual activity.	Author generated	
s_62	I tape my webcam on most of my devices.	Author generated	
s_63	I believe cyberattacks are common.	Author generated	

ID	Item	Wording from	Inspired by
s_64	I frequently change my passwords.		Password management[5, 8, 9]
s_65	I fear being impersonated online.		Identity theft[5]
s_66	I constantly worry about my identity being stolen online.		Identity theft[5]
s_67	I expect artificial intelligence to significantly impact the job market.		AI impact on the job market[4]
s_68	I expect to lose my job to artificial intelligence in the future.		AI impact on the job market[4]
s_69	I believe people in my social circle want to have access to my personal data.	Author generated	
s_70	I am uncomfortable with people in my social circle having access to my personal data.	Author generated	
s_71	Generally, I am aware of existing cybersecurity threats.		Cybersecurity awareness[5, 10]
s_72	I consistently follow good cybersecurity practices.		Implementation of recommended security measures [5, 8, 10]
s_73	My own lack of knowledge makes me lose interest in good cybersecurity practices.	Author generated	
s_74	I trust experts' recommendations about cybersecurity measures (e.g., using unique passwords or a password manager, installing recommended software updates, etc.).	Directly adopted from [5]	
s_75	I have completed an education in the field of technology or a field related to technology.	Author generated	
s_76	I have increased my usage of technology devices in the last six months.		Spending time on technical systems [16]
s_77	I feel confident in my understanding of how computers operate.		Understanding of computers [10, 14] and technical systems [16]
s_78	I enjoy using technology devices.		Attitude towards computers [14] and technical systems [16]
s_79	I have attended a cybersecurity training course.	Author generated	
s_80	Increasing computer usage is changing children's brains for the worse.	Directly adopted from[7]	

ID	Item	Wording from	Inspired by
s_81	Generally, I am interested in technology.		Attitude towards computers [14] and technical systems [16]
s_82	I like the possibilities enabled through technology.	Author generated	
s_83	I am up to date with the newest cybersecurity practices.		Common cybersecurity practices [5, 8, 10]
s_84	I regularly read news related to technology.		Interest in inquiring information about cybersecurity [5]
s_85	I cannot imagine life without technology devices.	Author generated	
s_86	I have researched how to best protect myself against cyberattacks.		Inquire information about cybersecurity[5, 10]
s_87	Newer technology devices are too complicated for me.		Attitude towards new technologies [16]
s_88	I like to experiment with new features of my technology devices.		Attitude towards new technologies [16]
s_89	I like to automate mundane tasks with the help of technology.	Author generated	
s_90	I use a digital calendar to keep track of my appointments.	Author generated	
s_91	I prefer using pen and paper compared to digital tools.	Author generated	
s_92	I have increased my social media usage in the last six months.		Time spend on social networking sites[13]
s_93	I spend too much time using technology devices.	Author generated	
s_94	I consistently avoid screen time one hour before I go to bed.	Author generated	
s_95	If one of my accounts gets breached, it would be worrisome for me.		Reactions to cyberattacks[5]
s_96	At least one of my accounts has been breached in the last six months.	Author generated	
s_97	I have more online accounts than the average person.	Author generated	

ID	Item	Wording from	Inspired by
s_98	I generally use the cyber environment to solve the problems I encounter in my daily life.	Adapted from: ‘I widely use the cyber environment to solve the problems I encounter in daily life.’ [8]	
s_99	My social media accounts are important to me.		Social networking usage[13]
s_100	I like to share my life with others on social media.		Social media[8] and Facebook[17] usage
s_101	I disclose more personal information on social media than is strictly required.		Facebook usage[17]
s_102	The absence of social media would be a major loss for me.		Attitude towards social media[13] and Facebook[17]
s_103	If I were to be prevented from using social media, an essential part of my life would be missing.		Attitude towards social media[13] and Facebook[17]
s_104	If I were to be prevented from using social media, I would feel lonely.		Social networking usage[13]
s_105	If I were to be prevented from using social media, I would lose friends.	Author generated	
s_106	I have an up-to-date antivirus program on my device.	Directly adopted from [8]	
s_107	I regularly perform backups.	Author generated	
s_108	I make sure to back up my devices.	Author generated	
s_109	Generally, I use a VPN to disguise my internet movement.	Author generated	
s_110	I use a password manager for most of my passwords.		Password creation and management[5, 8]
s_111	I only use a password manager for my most critical passwords.		Password creation and management[5, 8]
s_112	While creating my password, I choose a hard-to-guess password consisting of symbols, numbers, and capital letters.	Directly adopted from [8]	
s_113	I use two-factor authentication to secure the majority of my online accounts.		Implementation of recommended security measures[5, 8]
s_114	I am careful about what personal information I disclose online.		Attitude towards sharing data online[8]

ID	Item	Wording from	Inspired by
s.115	I want to live off the grid.	Author generated	
s.116	The rise of technology has brought more problems than good.	Author generated	
s.117	I am a late adopter of new technologies.	Author generated	
s.118	My fear of artificial intelligence prevents me from using it.		Being afraid of AI[4]
s.119	My difficulty grasping artificial intelligence prevents me from using it.	Author generated	
s.120	I believe artificial intelligence will become dangerous in the future.		Being afraid of the future of AI[4]
s.121	I dislike everything digital.	Author generated	
s.122	I am certain that my devices listen to my conversations.	Author generated	
s.123	To prevent devices from listening to my conversations, I ensure their microphones are disabled.	Author generated	
s.124	I worry about people editing my social media page without my consent.	Adapted from: ‘I worry about others editing my Facebook page (or similar) without my consent’[7]	
s.125	Companies that store data on customers are very vulnerable to theft of my personal information.	‘Private details’ changed to ‘personal information’ [7]	
s.126	I worry that my location can be monitored via my mobile device.		Worrying about movement being tracked[7]
s.127	I respect other people’s privacy without exception.	Directly adopted from [18]	
s.128	It is important to ask for consent before sharing other people’s personal information.		Private information sharing[18]
s.129	Storing data in cyberspace is not safe.	Directly adopted from [8]	
s.130	I do not mind sharing my contact information in cyberspace.	Directly adopted from [8]	
s.131	Companies store an excessive amount of information on their users.		Online company information collection[15]
s.132	I appreciate companies that give me control over my personal information.		Online company information handling[15]



ID	Item	Wording from	Inspired by
s_133	I am interested in knowing how companies use and protect my personal information.		Online company information handling[15]
s_134	Data privacy laws for companies need to be more strict.	Author generated	
s_135	Authorities should implement stricter data privacy laws.	Author generated	
s_136	There is a need for more cybersecurity regulations.	Author generated	
s_137	There is a need for more regulations regarding artificial intelligence.	Author generated	
s_138	I constantly worry about being tracked.		Worrying about movement being tracked [7]
s_139	I constantly fear losing my online data.		Risk of data loss[8]
s_140	I often fear strangers posting on my social media accounts.		Others editing social media [7]
s_141	I own a significant amount of monetary assets making me nervous about cyberattacks.	Author generated	
s_142	I own cryptocurrency.	Author generated	
s_143	I fear becoming a victim of cyberbullying.	Author generated	
s_144	I fear unauthorized access to my social media accounts.		Others editing social media[7]
s_145	I fear hackers could gain access to my social media accounts for cyberbullying purposes.		Others editing social media[7]
s_146	Losing my social media accounts is worse than losing my e-mail accounts.	Author generated	
s_147	I own digital goods that are irreplaceable.	Author generated	
s_148	I fear losing access to my accounts containing digital purchases.	Author generated	
s_149	During last year, I have suffered financial loss due to a cyberscam.	Author generated	
s_150	I fear strangers reading old chat messages of mine.	Author generated	
s_151	I often fear hackers reading old chat messages of mine.	Author generated	
s_152	I often fear the police reading old chat messages of mine.	Author generated	
s_153	I know what to do if I get affected by a cyberscam.	Handle unforeseen situations [19]	Self efficacy in cybersecurity [5, 10]

ID	Item	Wording from	Inspired by
s.154	I have implemented the necessary security measures for me to feel safe from cyberattacks.		Implementation of recommended security measures[5, 8, 10]
s.155	I know my strengths and weaknesses when it comes to cybersecurity.		Self efficacy in cybersecurity[5, 10]
s.156	I have been taught good cybersecurity practices.		Learning about cybersecurity [5, 10]
s.157	I know how to distinguish a valid e-mail from a suspicious e-mail.		Risks regarding E-mails[5, 8]
s.158	I have never been deceived by a cyber scam.		Experience with cyberattacks[8]
s.159	I have adequate knowledge to help other people with cybersecurity issues.		Self efficacy in cybersecurity[5, 10]
s.160	I have adequate knowledge to help myself in case of a cyberattack.		Self efficacy in cybersecurity [5, 10]
s.161	I believe I can recover from a cyberattack on my own.		Self efficacy in cybersecurity [5, 10]
s.162	I avoid clicking links from websites unfamiliar to me.		Caution in the internet [5, 8]
s.163	I feel helpless when it comes to cybersecurity.	Wording from: ‘I feel helpless’ [10]	Lack of knowledge and Being hit by a cyberattack is inevitable [5, 8]
s.164	I feel that cybersecurity is not under my control.		Being hit by a cyberattack is inevitable [5, 7, 10]
s.165	I am overwhelmed and unable to act after being the victim of a cyberattack.	Author generated	
s.166	I have a specific person I go to regarding tech support.		Seeking help [10, 20]
s.167	I feel help is available in the case of a cyberattack.		Seeking help [10, 20]
s.168	There are people in my life I can talk to about cybersecurity.		Seeking help [10, 20]
s.169	I often consult a psychologist.	Author generated	
s.170	I often consult a cybersecurity expert (e.g., IT help desk, professionals).	Author generated	
s.171	I would seek guidance from family and friends in case of a cyberattack.		Seeking help [10, 20]
s.172	I would seek help from a psychologist in the case of a cyberattack.	Author generated	

ID	Item	Wording from	Inspired by
s.173	I have become the victim of a cyber scam before.		Experience with cyberattacks[8]
s.174	Someone close to me has become a victim of a cyber scam before.	Author generated	
s.175	I get nervous when reading news about cybersecurity.	Author generated	
s.176	If I fall victim to a cyberattack, I am going to take drastic measures to ensure it will not happen again.	Author generated	
s.177	Someone close to me has been a victim of a cyberattack.	Author generated	
s.178	A cyberattack significantly altered the personality of someone I know.	Author generated	
s.179	I often hear about cybercrimes through popular media (e.g., TV shows, movies, podcasts, etc.).	Author generated	
s.180	I follow influencers who discuss cybercrimes or security issues.	Author generated	
s.181	Theft in real life has prompted me to be more mindful of my online security risks.	Author generated	
s.182	Experiencing theft has made me take cyberattacks more seriously.	Author generated	
s.183	I am familiar with how someone I know has dealt with a cyberattack and intend to follow their example.	Author generated	
s.184	I frequently fact-check online information.	Author generated	
s.185	I was the reason for a past data breach.	Author generated	
s.186	I regret things I posted online.	Author generated	
s.187	Online businesses should only share personal information with other companies with consent from the individuals who provided it.		Online company information handling[15]
s.188	I like to get personalized advertisements on websites.		Data used for advertisements[15]
s.189	I fear companies selling my personal information.		Selling personal information[15]
s.190	I believe that the benefits of internet usage exceed the disadvantages of giving my personal information to companies.		Internet usage trade-of [15]
s.191	Whether I create an account depends on the personal information a company requests.		Attitude towards giving out personal data to companies[15]

ID	Item	Wording from	Inspired by
s_192	Companies seeking information online should disclose the way the data are collected, processed, and used.	Directly adopted from [15]	
s_193	It usually bothers me when online companies ask me for personal information.	Directly adopted from [15]	
s_194	Online companies should devote more time and effort to preventing unauthorized access to personal information.	Directly adopted from [15]	
s_195	Compared to others, I am more sensitive about the way online companies handle my personal information.	Directly adopted from [15]	
s_196	Compared with other subjects on my mind, personal privacy is very important.	Directly adopted from [15]	
s_197	I believe other people are too much concerned with online privacy issues.	Directly adopted from [15]	
s_198	I dislike others posting me without my consent on their social media.	Author Generated	
s_199	Artificial intelligence is the next industrial revolution.	Author Generated	
s_200	I fear artificial intelligence generating photos of me.	Author Generated	
s_201	I fear being impersonated by artificial intelligence.	Author Generated	
s_202	I feel like artificial intelligence makes my education useless.		AI impact on education[4]
s_203	I am good at identifying media created by artificial intelligence.	Author Generated	
s_204	Artificial intelligence is going to enslave humanity.	Author Generated	

Table 1: All generated items from the initial item generation phase.

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