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■ Added on: December 25, 2025 at 01:36 AM

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**Here is the detailed exam note for the first classification:** Email Spoofing.

1. **Email Spoofing Definition:** Spoofing comes from the word "spoof," which means to trick or deceive. Email Spoofing is the act of sending an email with a forged (fake) sender address.

The goal is to make the receiver believe that the email has come from a trusted source (like a Bank, a Boss, or a System Administrator), when it actually came from a hacker.

**The Real-World Analogy (Write this to understand):** Imagine writing a physical letter. You can write anyone's name on the back of the envelope as the "Return Address." You could write "From: The Prime Minister." The post office will still deliver it. Email Spoofing works the exact same way—the "From" address is just text that the hacker can change.

**How it Works (The Mechanism):**

**The Flaw:** It relies on the weakness of the core email protocol called SMTP (Simple Mail Transfer Protocol).

**The Hack:** When sending an email, the sender allows the user to specify the "From" field. SMTP does not strictly verify if the person sending the email actually owns that account.

**The Tool:** Hackers use simple scripts (in PHP or Python) or "Mass Mailers" to manipulate the email header.

**Example Scenario:**

**Hacker:** Sends an email.

**Header Modification:** Changes "From" to security@facebook.com.

**Victim Receives:** "Urgent: Your account is hacked. Click here to reset password."

**Result:** Victim trusts the "From" address, clicks the link, and gets hacked.

Why do Hackers do it? (Objectives)

**Phishing:** To trick users into revealing sensitive passwords or credit card numbers.

**Spreading Malware:** If you get an email from a "friend," you are more likely to open the attachment (which contains a virus).

**Business Email Compromise (BEC):** Pretending to be the CEO and asking an employee to transfer money to a fake bank account.

**Summary for your Notes:**

**Concept:** Faking the sender's identity.

**Core Weakness:** SMTP Protocol lacks verification.

**Primary Goal:** Phishing and Malware distribution.

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Challenges of Cyber Crime.

**In the exam, the question is usually:** "Why is it difficult to investigate or stop cyber crime?" or "Discuss the major challenges faced by law enforcement agencies in cyber crime."

**You need to write these 4 Key Challenges:**

1. Anonymity (The Biggest Challenge) The internet allows criminals to hide their true identity easily.

**How:** Attackers use tools like VPNs (Virtual Private Networks), Proxy Servers, and the Dark Web (Tor Browser) to mask their IP addresses.

**Result:** A hacker can destroy a server while sitting in a coffee shop, and the police will only see the IP address of a random server in another country, not the hacker's real location.

**Exam Term:** This is often called "Masquerading" or hiding behind a digital mask.

2. Jurisdiction Issues (The "Border" Problem) Cyber crime is borderless, but laws are limited by borders.

**Scenario:** A hacker sitting in North Korea hacks a bank account in India using a server located in Germany.

**The Problem:**

Whose law applies? India's? Germany's?

The Indian police cannot simply fly to North Korea to arrest the person. They need international treaties (like extradition), which take months or years. By then, the criminal is gone.

3. Loss of Evidence (Volatile Evidence) In a physical murder, the weapon or fingerprints stay there for days. In cyber crime, evidence disappears in seconds.

**Volatile Data:** Much of the evidence (like data in RAM or active network connections) vanishes the moment the computer is turned off.

**Easy Destruction:** A criminal can delete terabytes of logs with a single command (`rm -rf /`) or use "Disk Wiping" software to make recovery impossible.

4. Lack of Awareness & Under-reporting Most cyber crimes are never even reported to the police.

**Corporate Fear:** Big companies (like banks) often hide the fact that they were hacked because they are afraid of losing their reputation and customers.

**Individual Ignorance:** Many people don't know they are victims. For example, in a "Salami Attack," you might not notice 50 paise missing from your account, so you never file a complaint.

■ **Summary for your Answer Sheet If asked to list the challenges, use these bullet points:**

**Technical Challenges:** Hiding identity (Anonymity) and destroying logs (Evidence).

**Legal Challenges:** Crimes crossing international borders (Jurisdiction).

**Social Challenges:** Victims not reporting the crime (Awareness).

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2. **Spamming Definition:** Spamming is the act of sending unsolicited bulk messages (junk mail) to a large number of recipients indiscriminately.

**Unsolicited:** The receiver did not ask for it.

**Bulk:** It is sent to millions of people at once.

While we usually think of spam as annoying "Ads," in Cyber Security, it is considered a crime because it steals resources (bandwidth and storage) and spreads danger.

**How it Works (The Mechanism):**

**Harvesting:** Spammers use software (crawlers) to scan websites, chat rooms, and social media to collect millions of active email addresses.

**Botnets:** To avoid getting blocked, spammers don't send emails from their own computers. They use Botnets (a network of thousands of infected computers) to send the emails for them.

**Sending:** The spam is blasted out to the harvested list.

**Types of Spam (for Exam):**

**Commercial Spam:** Ads for illegal drugs, fake watches, lottery scams, or "get rich quick" schemes.

**Malicious Spam:** Emails that contain viruses, spyware, or links to phishing websites.

Why is it a Cyber Crime?

**Resource Theft:** It floods the network, slowing down the internet for everyone (Bandwidth Theft).

**Storage Cost:** Companies have to spend millions on servers just to store and filter out junk mail.

**Security Risk:** It is the primary delivery method for Ransomware and Phishing attacks.

**Summary for your Notes:**

**Keyword:** Unsolicited Bulk Email (UBE).

**Tool:** Botnets.

**Impact:** Wastes bandwidth and spreads malware.



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Testing Update/Append button callback.