**Computers in Society-Computer Crime**

Answer the following questions related to computers in society. Make sure to do the following:

* The answers were well written, devoid of errors in spelling and grammar. A box is provided with a number indicating the number of key points to list in your answer.
* The answers contained sufficient evidence\data\stats.
* At least two references are included for each section (URL’s only required)
* Answers are in red font.

**Expert Group A - Software Piracy**

Define software piracy and explain why copying software is considered stealing and illegal.

2

Software piracy is the unauthorized and illegal copying and distribution of software.

Software theft/copying is illegal, just like any other form of stealing, because the software is not your own, but the property of the creator. Copying the software and distributing it is the same as copying an essay off the internet and submitting it as your own.

Why do people copy software? Do you think that most of these people would also steal clothes or food from a store? If not, why do you think their attitudes are different when it comes to copying software?

4

People most likely copy software because it is relatively easy to do compared to walking out of a store with a TV you didn’t pay for. People generally do not read the End User License Agreement while installing the program, which will usually state that the user is allowed to install the original copy of the program and is allowed to make a back-up copy. Since people don’t read the terms of the installation, they may end up accidentally violating the agreement and committing an offense of software theft/piracy. People’s attitudes towards copying software may be different from other forms of theft simply because they don’t know they are doing anything wrong.

How do programmers stop an average user from copying a program? (Name two alternatives.)

2

The software must connect to a remote server to validate its’ identity by using the user name and serial number.

Another method involves the regular updates of the software. These updates require an internet connection to download, and the software is also verified at the same time, or else the software will become incompatible with newer versions.

What kind of work by program developers is involved in developing a computer package? Why is it so valuable?

2

People have put time and effort into creating software, time is money

Why might programmers and software developers stop producing new programs? Explain.

2

If stolen, no money is made off of the program.

**References: 1.**

**2.**

**Computer Crime**

**Expert Group B - Hacking I.**

1

Whatis hacking?

1

Entering a computer system without permission

How do hackers enter a computer system without permission?

Viruses

Why do hackers enter other computer systems?

1

1

For fun, the challenge

Steal information

Is hacking a crime?

Yes, laws are in place to prevent it.

What if the hacker simply looks around a computer system and does not change or damage anything? Would you consider this a crime? Explain.

3

Yes, entering someone’s personal property, like trespassing.

What effect can a hacker have on a computer system?

1

1

Cause damage to the system.

How might hackers' access to government systems threaten security and privacy?

**References: 1.**

**2.**

**Computer Crime**

**Expert Group C - Computer Viruses**

1

What is a computervirus

Software that is intentionally harmful to a computer

What are the components of a virus?

2

Delivery system (spreads), payload (kills)

List 3 possible effects of viruses?

3

Physical damage, steal info, remove files

Define the following:

1

logic bomb

Virus that is only activated until a certain condition (date or time for example) is true

1

worm

Cause damage by replicating so much that it overloads the system

1

How can viruses spread from one computer to another?

Installing non-reputable software

2

What steps can be taken to prevent infection by a virus?

Anti virus program

Soap

Firewall

1

How can viruses be detected and eliminated?

2

With anti virus software

Why do you think someone would create a virus? Do you think it is illegal to create a virus?

For fun, the challenge

Only illegal to use it against others

**References: 1.**

**2.**

**Computer Crime**

**Expert Group D - Fraud and Theft**

List 3 types of crime that can be committed using computers.

1

3

Theft, damage

How do computer crimes differ from other types of crime?

Can be halfway around the world from where the crime was committed, easier to cover tracks.

What does "unauthorized access" mean?

1

Breaking into a system you’re not supposed to access.

Why do you think many cases of computer crimes are not reported by banks and other businesses?

1

Makes banks look bad, lose customer’s trust.

List three things that could have been done to prevent one or more of the computer crimes described from being committed?

3

Keep sensitive info secure, not on your computer.

2

What is EFF and describe its role as it pertains to the use of computers?

Electronic Frontier Foundation

Protect your online rights

**References: 1.**

**2.**