

A. Reading comprehension

Read the following text and then answer the questions:

Online fraudster¹

It's easy money says online fraudster who stole £250,000

On the outside, Tee was a typical student. Living away from home was expensive and he owed² money. Like most students, he had a computer and a phone in his room – but instead of using them to study, he turned them into the tools of a 21st century crime.

In his short career as a fraudster, Tee - who is trying to rebuild his life after serving a long time in **prison** – thinks that he stole as much as £250,000 through stolen credit card details, identity theft and bank account takeover. Police officials last week said the volume of online crime was so high that they could not investigate³ every case, and that big criminals were moving into the fast-growing field.

For Tee, who went to prison almost four years, the chance to use people's **ignorance** against them was just too easy. "Maybe it took an hour a night if I really felt like it. But to me it felt like a bit of fun and a pastime which developed into an easy way of **making money**," he said.

In his freetime – he was studying law – Tee would get card details taken from insecure websites or passed on from other criminals, and spent a lot of money in a short time getting cars, clothes and cash. Sometimes all he needed was a name and phone number. "I used to go through different methods depending on how certain I felt," he said. "I used to call people up and pretend to be from a fraud department and just ask them for their details. But sometimes it's as easy as getting information from a local video shop." Now, 26, Tee says that by the time he was caught he was thinking of getting bank credits using stolen identities.

"It was just a game to see how **far** you could go," he said. "My favourite trick was to get a card in someone's name and use it. Then, within 24 hours, you call the bank up and tell them that you're the real person and that you haven't made those transactions – and they return the money. Then you just go to the cash machine and take it all out again." He even sent flowers to one victim, using their stolen bank details to pay for the bouquet.

Martin Gill is a criminologist at the University of Leicester. He has studied the actions and **motivations** of fraudsters and Tee was one of the people he interviewed. Gill **believes** that fraudsters think that online crime is easy. "One of the things that comes through is the belief that they're not going to get caught," he said.

"The **common** reaction of companies selling **goods** is a real **frustration** at how hard it is to find the people who commit fraud," said Keith Marsden, managing director of 192.com, which sponsors Prove-ID, a private industrial forum on dealing with fraud. Instead, companies are choosing **tougher** security procedures and programs to educate the public about safe Internet use.

Adapted from *The Guardian*

¹ Betrüger

² schulden

³ überprüfen

1. True or false? (3 points)

- a. Tee used his computer mainly for his studies. **True/False**
- b. He wanted to become a lawyer. **True/False**
- c. Tee brought flowers to someone he had stolen money from. **True/False**

2. Answer the following questions in complete sentences (do not copy from the text) (11 points)

2.1 Why did Tee steal money? (3)

2.2 Give at least three examples of how Tee stole money (3)

2.3 According to the text, how can the Internet become safer? (2)

2.4 What do you use the Internet for? (3)

B. Vocabulary

1. **Explain the following words in English using a synonym or giving an example: (6 points)**

prison

ignorance

motivations

to believe

common

goods

2. **What are the opposites of these words (4 points)**

make money

far

frustration

tougher

C. Grammar

1. Complete the following sentences. Put the verbs in brackets into the past simple (e.g. I did) (8 points)

Yesterday I _____ (get up) early, at about seven o'clock. I then _____ (drive) to the sports centre. On my way I _____ (stop) and _____ (buy) a bagel for breakfast. I _____ (swim) 500 meters in the swimming pool and then I _____ (run) 5 kilometres. At lunchtime I _____ (meet) my friends in a café. After lunch I _____ (sleep) for a few hours, I was tired!

2. Make these sentences negative. Use the same tense. (4 points)

2.1 Tee has a lot of money.

2.2 He broke into shops to get information.

2.3 He could save a lot of money, but they caught him.

3. Make questions for these sentences. Ask for the information which is underlined. (5 points)

3.1 _____ ?

Tee committed the crimes while he was at University.

3.2 _____ ?

He did it because he needed the money to pay for his living.

3.3 _____ ?

Tee spent four years in prison.

3.4 _____ ?

He lost all his friends.

3.5 _____ ?

After he left prison he went to live in Scotland.

4. Complete the following sentences using present simple (e.g. I do) or present continuous (e.g. I am doing). (6 points)

- 4.1 Look! The bank robbers _____ (run) out of the bank.
4.2 Why _____ (Jenny/not / dance) tonight? She usually
_____ (enjoy) dancing very much.
4.3 Oh no! The children _____ (make) a mess in the dining room.
4.4 School _____ (not / finish) at half past twelve on Fridays.
4.5 What _____ (swim) in the river over there?

5. Complete the following sentences using past simple (e.g. I did) or past continuous (e.g. I was doing). (6 points)

- 5.1 While I _____ (drive) into town I _____
(see) a bad accident.
5.2 The children _____ (run) wild when their mother _____
(come) home.
5.3 I _____ (have) a nice cup of tea when the phone
_____ (ring)

D. Text production

**Choose one of the following topics and write a short text on an extra sheet.
(about 80-100 words) (10 points)**

1. The influence of the Internet: More harm (Schaden) than good or vice versa (umgekehrt)
2. Criminals should be given a second chance after they get out of prison.
3. Life without Internet