

GAP FILL

There is a new scam on the Internet for those looking for love. Criminals are (1) _____ to trick people by using old love letters and romantic language. Conmen can (2) _____ buy "scam packs" to help them trick would-be daters into their scam. The pack is (3) _____ online and only costs a few dollars. It includes love-letter templates, photos, videos and (4) _____ identities. This is all that is needed to (5) _____ to be someone looking for love. The criminals pose as potential partners and contact people seeking (6) _____ on dating sites. After a (7) _____ of correspondence, they start asking their victim for money. They use many different kinds of (8) _____ and reasons why they need money.

pretend
period
easily
excuses
false
trying
romance
available

The police force in London reported 3,900 people being scammed online in 2016. The (9) _____ amount of money they lost was \$12,500. The average age of the (10) _____ was 59 years old. More women than men were scammed, with 61 per cent of the victims (11) _____ female. A senior police officer described the (12) _____ the scams do to victims. He said: "These crimes destroy lives and the emotional damage often (13) _____ outweighs the financial loss. He advised people against giving (14) _____ money. He said: "Never give money to people you meet online, no (15) _____ what emotional sob story the person uses." He added that to be safe, people should always be on their (16) _____ when communicating with a stranger online.

being
far
matter
victims
guard
damage
average
strangers

2. SYNONYM MATCH

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| 1. trick | a. possible |
| 2. available | b. targets |
| 3. false | c. exceeds |
| 4. potential | d. fake |
| 5. seeking | e. careful |
| 6. amount | f. fool |
| 7. victims | g. wreck |
| 8. destroy | h. looking for |
| 9. outweighs | i. on sale |
| 10. on your guard | j. sum |

Glossary:

scam - oszukać

conman - oszust

template – wzór, model

on one's guard – mieć się na baczności