

That isn't ALLOWED HERE ...

I was away with my parents in Honolulu, Hawaii last year. One afternoon, we were leaving a restaurant when it started raining hard. My mom suggested visiting the Natural History Museum as we were directly opposite it. We were crossing the road, when I got out my phone. I wasn't really thinking. I wanted to check my messages. Anyway, almost immediately I heard the noise of a loud motorbike. My first thought was: phone thief! But when I looked up, I saw a police officer. We looked at each other for a few seconds and then I noticed she was pointing at my phone! I had no idea, but it's actually **illegal** to look at your mobile phone on a pedestrian crossing in Honolulu. I'm only 16 but I had to pay a \$15 **fine**! It was really unfair!

Alexa, San Diego, US



In Singapore, few people chew gum on the streets. You can't bring it into the country and you can only buy it from the chemist's with an ID card! What unusual rules or laws have you come across around the world? And how did you find out about them?



We went camping in Italy last year and the campsite had a huge pool. When we arrived, my brother and I got changed straight away and jumped in. We were really enjoying ourselves when suddenly we heard a loud noise. Everyone was looking at us and two lifeguards were shouting in Italian. There was probably a **rule** about jumping in, we thought. It was quite crowded. But then the lifeguards started pointing to their heads. For a few seconds we were really confused. Then we realised: everyone was wearing swimming caps! We looked it up online later. It's actually **the law** there. Even my dad had to wear one, and he's completely bald!

Martin, Dublin, Ireland

When my dad got a job in Sydney, Australia, we moved there from the UK for two years. We were living close to the centre and Dad started going to work by bike. He didn't even have one back in the UK! We knew that bike helmets are **compulsory** in Australia. And Dad always wore one. So when the police stopped him and some other cyclists at a traffic light one morning, he was feeling relaxed. But can you believe this? While the officers were checking the bikes, they noticed that several of them didn't have bells – including Dad's. And all bikes must have them in the city. They were each **fined** \$106 – about £60! That feels so unfair.

Louise, Brighton, UK



READING

1 Read the stories quickly. Complete three sentences about each story.

1 In Honolulu, Hawaii, you mustn't

2 In Italy, you must

3 In Sydney, Australia, all bikes must

2 Read the stories again. Are the sentences true or false?

	True	False
1 Alexa had the idea to go to the museum.	☐	☐
2 The police officer stopped Alexa near the museum.	☐	☐
3 Martin and his brother understand Italian.	☐	☐
4 Jumping into the pool was allowed at the campsite.	☐	☐
5 Louise's dad has always been into cycling.	☐	☐
6 Her dad had to pay \$106.	☐	☐

- 3 Complete the sentences with the highlighted words in the stories.

compulsory

fine

fined

illegal

rule

The law

- 1 We were once [] for cycling at night without lights.
- 2 [] downloading of music, TV and films is a common problem throughout the world.
- 3 [] in Brazil says that everyone between 18 and 70 must vote in an election.
- 4 At my school, it's [] to wear the uniform.
- 5 The minimum [] for driving and texting in the UK is £200.
- 6 There's a [] in our house about using phones at the dinner table.



TALKING POINTS

Do you know any unusual laws?
What rules do you disagree with at your school?

1 Read the blog quickly. What is the author doing?

- ☐ a explaining that all types of hackers send spam emails
- ☐ b explaining that all types of hackers want to make money
- ☐ c explaining that different types of hackers have different reasons for hacking



Hacking

Hacking has been in the news a lot recently, and is a growing problem all over the world. But did you know that there are different types of hackers out there, with different **aims**? At first, I thought that these people were all just criminals trying to make money. I thought that they were the people who are responsible for those **nasty** emails I get in my inbox or for stealing money from people's bank accounts.

But then I did some research on the Internet. I found out that there are different types of hackers, and each one has different reasons for hacking. Here is what I found out about some of the different types of hackers:

White Hat Hacker

This type of hacker is a professional hacker who works for companies and governments. These hackers are allowed to use their skills to hack computer systems so that the company or government can repair any **weaknesses** in its own system before another hacker tries to enter the system for criminal reasons.

Black Hat Hacker

This is the type of hacker that you usually read about in news stories. These hackers enter computer systems illegally to steal companies' or people's money and information. They also attack computer systems so that they stop working, and send **spam** emails.

Grey Hat Hacker

This type of hacker is between a White Hat Hacker and a Black Hat Hacker. Sometimes, these hackers find weaknesses in a computer system and repair it for the company for free. Other times they find the weaknesses and then tell the company about them and offer to repair them for **cash**.

Hacktivists

These people are different from the other types of hackers. They don't hack to make money or to find weaknesses in computer systems, but instead they have social or political reasons for hacking. They usually enter the computer systems of big companies and governments to steal their information.

So now you know that not all hackers are the same. Did any of this surprise you? Leave a comment, and tell me what you think!

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2 Read the blog again. Decide if each sentence is true or false.

- 1 At first the author didn't know that there were different types of hackers.
- 2 White Hat Hackers are criminals.
- 3 Black Hat Hackers help companies and governments to fix their computer systems.
- 4 Grey Hat Hackers always ask for money to fix weaknesses in computer systems.
- 5 Hacktivists don't have the same reasons for hacking as the other types of hackers.
- 6 Companies and governments pay hacktivists to steal information for them.



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3 Match the **highlighted** words in the text to their meanings.

spam

aims

weaknesses

nasty

cash

- 1 results that you want to achieve
- 2 money
- 3 very bad or not nice
- 4 parts of something that are not strong or good
- 5 emails that you do not want, especially advertisements