Extra training

Reading and Vocabulary
Task 133

Fill in:

robbery *traffic* *spam* *public* *spread* *gain* *stay* *theft* *computer* *open*

1. identity_____

2. armed _____

3. _____ transport

4. to_____ access

5. _____ system

6. _____ mail

7. _____ congestion

8. to_____ an attachment

9. to _____ viruses

10. _____ safe

Read the text about illegal music downloads.
For the questions 1-6 choose the correct option.

Think Twice before Downloading!

The music industry is recovering from years of falling sales when CDs were replaced by MP3s.

Thanks to legal downloading, UK music sales rose from £101.5 million in 2008 to around £154 million in 2010. However, the industry still has a big problem. More than three quarters of music downloaded in Britain today is obtained illegally - £218 million worth, in fact. So, now, faced with a whole generation of young people who have only ever downloaded music, how can the authorities persuade people that music should be paid for?

The record companies argue that for good music to survive, the writers and performers need to profit from their work. However, it seems the public and the record companies disagree as to how much income the artists and record companies deserve. The band Radiohead released their album ***In Rainbows*** online in 2008 and invited fans to pay whatever they thought it was worth rather than a set price. The average price paid was just £2.80, with three in five people paying nothing at all.

The American singer Tori Amos likens downloading music without paying for it to shoplifting. She said in 2009: "Listening to a song is like a wine tasting. I can taste the wine, I can decide if I like it or not... but you don't then take a bottle and put it in your bag. If you don't support the wine producers you like, or the artists you like, then they're not going to be able to continue."

Politicians seem to share Amos's opinion that illegal downloading is theft. In 2009, the French parliament created an agency to monitor illegal file sharing. It also passed a law under which anyone who is caught sharing copyrighted material such as music receives a warning letter. If you are caught three times, you are cut off from the Internet. The Australian, New Zealand and British governments have announced plans for similar legislation, but there have been protests about the proposals in all those countries. Two British Internet service providers have argued in court that they are not responsible for the traffic on their services and it's unfair to expert them to take action against people who download illegally. In Ireland, meanwhile, a judge has ruled that people who download music illegally cannot be cut off from the Internet.

One thing seems certain - there will be plenty more debate until harmony is restored between record companies, governments, performers and music fans.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1. According to the article, the UK music industry's main problem is that _____.

1. young people have never paid for music.
2. people have stopped buying CDs.
3. most music is now downloaded illegally.
4. it doesn't make enough money.

2. Radiohead's experiment suggested most music fans want music on the Internet to be_____

1. legal.
2. cheap.
3. free.
4. profitable.

3. Tori Amos thinks people should be able to_____

1. tell musicians what they think of their music.
2. sample only a small amount of music without paying for it.
3. have music sharing parties.
4. decide how much music to download free of charge.

4. The French created a law with the aim of _____ .

1. making people want to download music legally.
2. following a suggestion by Tori Amos.
3. counting the number of people downloading music illegally.
4. destroying illegal files online.

5. In Britain, Internet service providers have said they _____.

1. support the government's efforts to stop illegal downloads.
2. cannot stop illegal downloads.
3. don't agree with the government's solution.
4. don't want to stop illegal downloads.

6. The writer thinks resolving the issue is _____ .

1. important.
2. difficult.
3. simple.
4. impossible.

LIVEWORKSHEETS