TASK 1

You are going to read an article about online safety. For questions 1-6, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

BE WEB WISE

Protect your computer, by all means, but don't forget to protect yourself, advises web safety expert, Amanda Knox.

We're always being urged to stay safe online. But in an era where the internet is part of our everyday lives - for work, fun, study, shopping, even managing finances - it's not always easy to spot the dangers. Web safety expert, Amanda Knox, explores some of the issues lurking in cyberspace.

Her first piece of advice is to install software and a firewall to protect your computer from viruses, hackers and criminals who want to steal your data or financial information. "Think of these as your first line of defence," says Amanda.

So much for protecting yourself against intruders, but what about other problems? Say you've accidentally deleted an important file or you've been at the mercy of a natural disaster. Katy Marsh runs an online photography business from home and when a fire destroyed part of her house it could easily have spelled ruin for her business too. "Luckily I keep a regular back-up of my data so it wasn't a catastrophe." Amanda advises that while back-ups are good to have we must ensure we protect our computers to start with.

Whilst most of us are aware of the need to protect our computers, it seems we're more lax when it comes to looking out for ourselves, at least according to a recent web awareness survey. Web safety specialists say better personal awareness is needed and this is due in part to the rise of 'Social Networking' sites like 'Facebook' or 'Twitter', which allow us to connect with people around the world with similar interests and professional backgrounds. Chris Simpson, a computer programmer, learnt the hard way. "I joined a free online networking group in the hope of making some professional contacts to help me find a new job. After a month, one of my online contacts invited me to take out a subscription to a club that promised access to a network of job recruiters. It turned out to be a waste of money. I ended up a laughing stock with my mates - they couldn't believe that someone in my job could get taken in so easily." No wonder then that Amanda warns, "It's easy to get complacent and let our guard down when we meet someone with the same interests online."

This brings us to other potential pitfalls. Are the people you meet online who they really claim to be? Can you be sure the person you're chatting with is in fact a 22-year-old Maths undergraduate from London and not someone merely masquerading as a student to win your trust? Khaled, a postgrad from Manchester University, quickly realised that it was unwise of him to post his phone number and email address in the public forum of an online academic discussion group. He was soon bombarded with unwanted emails and nuisance phone calls. Yet, it's astonishing how many highly educated people do this without considering the consequences that anyone in the world could use the information to make (unwanted) contact.

When networking and joining online communities it's better to be cautious about the amount of personal information you share. For example, it isn't always necessary to use your real name as a username when registering for a service. You could instead use a pseudonym, or a name that doesn't give away your real identity to other users. And is it really important to tell the world details about your school, college or any local clubs you're a member of? Sometimes it pays to be a little vague and simply say something like 'I'm studying at college in Madrid at the moment and I'm a member of a local tennis club'.

If you do experience problems from another user be prepared to report them for misusing the service. You'll be doing other users a favour too. And if all else fails, check to see if it is easy to delete your account and leave the service if you choose to and that you have the option to delete all your details. A general rule of thumb is not to post any information about yourself that you would not be happy for the world to know - not just now but in years to come. This includes photographs of yourself, particularly embarrassing shots of you at that party which you may later regret! It's not always easy to remove

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information after it's been posted so you - not to mention your future employer - may have an unpleasant surprise a few years down the line.

1. In the second paragraph the phrase 'first line of defence' suggests something

is the only option.

offers protection.

is an instruction.

shows weakness.

2. The effect of the fire was

worse for Katy's business than her home.

to ruin Katy's business.

not as serious for Katy's business as it could have been.

to make Katy start to back up her data.

3. According to the web awareness survey, our attitude to our personal safety is rather

relaxed.

concerned.

positive.

uncertain.

4. Regarding Khaled's experience, the writer is surprised that

people telephone complete strangers.

people don't think of the results of their actions online.

university students take part in online discussions.

people sent emails to Khaled without asking permission.

5. What tip does the writer give for joining an online community?

Always use a false name.

Make sure you are properly registered.

Limit the information you give to others.

Tell other users where you're studying.

6. In the final paragraph, the writer advises people

not to put photos online.

to apply for a job online.

not to have any personal information online.

to consider what may cause problems in the future.

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TASK 2

Instructions
You are going to read a magazine article about a type of fruit. Six sentences have been removed from the article on the left. Choose the most suitable sentence from the list A-G on the right for each part (1-6) of the article. There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

Tongue Trickster

Never mind the tongue twister – here's the tongue trickster Frank Parsons reports on the craze for a strange type of fruit.

Imagine drinking a glass of pure, freshly-squeezed lemon juice with nothing added. It's enough to turn your stomach.

1

I watch as one-by-one they down the drink, tentative at first, and then smiling broadly as they declare, "It tastes just like grandma's lemonade."

Fifty or so people crowd around a table on the rooftop terrace of Larry's small but swish apartment. I edge my way forward and arrive at the table that positively groans with the array of food piled high.

2

My host appears at my shoulder, and says, "Here, have this." This turns out to be a small red berry about the size of a blueberry, but slightly elongated, the shape of a coffee bean.

He looks at the expression on my face. "It's known as the miracle fruit. Just put it in your mouth," he instructs, "and chew it slightly to separate the pulp from its seed.

3

I obey his command and then discreetly spit the remains into my handkerchief while his glance is averted.

"Done?" he asks, turning back to me. I nod. He grabs a glass of the lemon juice from a passing waiter and offers it to me. "Now drink." I take a small sip, and close my eyes. The guests are right.

4

My host states knowingly I have experienced first-hand the phenomenon of the Synsepalum Dulcificum, or the Miracle Fruit. This small berry has the amazing effect of causing bitter or sour foods to taste as sweet as sugar candy.

5

When it comes into contact with acidic foods, like vinegar, it starts to behave like a sweetener.

A native fruit of West Africa, the fruit was discovered by western explorers around 1725.

6

Left uncultivated, the miracle fruit grows in bushes reaching six metres in height. It produces crops twice yearly, usually after the rainy season, and has attractive white flowers.

Despite being around for centuries it is only in recent years that the miracle fruit has been cultivated as a potential sweetener.
There has been some albeit limited interest from the diet food industy.Not only that – the fruit can aid patients receiving medical treatment that may leave an unpleasant taste in the mouth.

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