

Reading

Read the text and questions below. For each question choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

- 1 Why is internet safety more important now?
 - A We do more things on the internet now.
 - B There are more criminals than before.
 - C People often have fewer friends these days.
 - D We often don't receive the things we buy online.
- 2 When you chat with someone on the internet, you are safer if you
 - A ask for a photograph.
 - B only chat to teenagers.
 - C pretend to be someone else.
 - D use video.
- 3 When you give personal information in a chat room
 - A everyone can see it.
 - B people learn to trust you.
 - C you can meet more people.
 - D your parents don't need to know.
- 4 Putting personal information in an email could mean that you lose
 - A friends.
 - B time.
 - C money.
 - D your computer.
- 5 When you get an email offering you a prize you should
 - A reply to it immediately.
 - B remove it from your computer.
 - C do what it asks you to.
 - D ask where to collect it.

Internet Safety

We're spending more and more of our lives online. We buy things over the internet and chat to friends in chat rooms. In fact, many of us live a large part of our lives in cyberspace. It's easy to forget, though, that there are the same kinds of risk there as there are in real life. It's important that all of us learn about internet safety from a young age to protect ourselves.

For example, one thing about chatting on the internet is that you often can't see the person you are chatting with. Using video may be getting more common, which means that you can see if the person really is who they say they are. Without that, though, it's very easy for someone to pretend to be someone else. Remember that a photograph can come from anywhere and doesn't prove anything. Be very careful who you trust because the teenager who wants to chat and be your friend might not really be a teenager at all!

Another thing to be careful of is meeting online friends in real life. You should never give your address or telephone number

to people in chat rooms. Apart from the danger of not being sure who they are, there's also the danger of other people seeing what you write. If you are thinking of meeting an online friend, always get your parents' permission. Ask them to come with you to meet your friend in a public place, such as a café.

You should also be careful with other information. Never send anything important, like a credit card number, in an email, for example. The journey the email takes from one computer to the other seems instant. However, it goes through other computers where people could possibly read your email and use that information. That can be a very expensive mistake to make!

Finally, remember that if something sounds too good to be true, then it probably is. Some criminals try to fool people with emails that say you have won a prize. It might look exciting, but almost all those messages are false. When you reply, they will ask you to send money to get your prize. You should always ignore those messages and delete them.