Spyware: Understanding Digital Threats

Spyware is a type of malicious software that secretly collects information from a computer or mobile device without the user's knowledge. It can gather personal data, browsing habits, and even passwords. Spyware often enters devices through deceptive downloads or email attachments. Understanding spyware is crucial for maintaining online safety and protecting personal information in the digital age.

Fill in the Blank:

antivirus	collect	Free	browsing	downloads

1. Spyware is designed to _____ information from a user's device without their consent.
2. One common way spyware enters a device is through deceptive _____ or email attachments.
3. Spyware can collect personal data, _____ habits, and even passwords.
4. To protect against spyware, it's important to keep your _____ software up to date.
5. _____ downloads from untrusted sources can often contain spyware.

Multiple Choice Questions: Choose the correct answer from the choices for each question.

1. **What is the main purpose of spyware?**

   a) To improve computer performance

   b) To secretly gather information

   c) To protect against viruses

   d) To speed up internet connection

2. **Which of the following is NOT typically collected by spyware?**

   a) Browsing history

   b) Passwords

   c) Personal photos

   d) Credit card numbers

3. **How can users best protect themselves from spyware?**

   a) Never use the internet

   b) Only use public computers

   c) Install and update antivirus software

   d) Share personal information freely online

4. **What type of software category does spyware belong to?**

    a) Productivity software

    b) Malicious software (malware)

    c) Operating system

    d) Web browser

5. **Which action might increase the risk of spyware infection?**

    a) Regularly updating software

    b) Using strong passwords

    c) Clicking on pop-up ads

    d) Using a firewall