

Online Romance Fraud Is On the Increase

B1-B2

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. What are authorities urging those looking for love to be?
2. What percentage increase in Internet fraud was there last year?
3. What feelings does the article say people experienced during lockdown?
4. What can romance fraud leave victims besides being out of love?
5. What did an organisation say romance scammers can be?
6. How many British people used dating apps during lockdown?
7. What did the average romance fraud victim lose?
8. Who is most vulnerable to romance fraud?
9. What does a fraud expert say it is important for people to be?
10. Who did the expert urge people to be careful of?



LISTEN:

GAP FILL

DRAG and DROP ☺

Authorities are urging those looking for love on the Internet to be (1) _____ . There was a 20 per cent spike in online romance fraud last year. The organisation UK Finance reported that cyber fraud increased considerably and

(2) _____ with a rise in the number of people looking for a partner online. This has been (3) _____ by feelings of loneliness and (4) _____ during the coronavirus pandemic. There was a (5) _____ rise in the number of scams related to dating sites and around Valentine's Day. UK Finance said: "Romance (6) _____ can leave customers out of love and out of pocket." It warned: "Romance scammers can be very (7) _____ by forming an emotional attachment with their (8) _____."

The Online Dating Association in the UK reported that around 2.3 million British citizens used dating apps during

(9) _____. Cyber criminals have taken (10) _____ of this to scam people. A total of \$26 million is believed to have been lost in bank (11) _____ fraud. The average loss per (12) _____ is around \$11,000. According to data from a UK bank, people aged 55 to 64 are the most (13) _____ to romance fraud. Pauline Smith, a fraud (14) _____, said: "Any online platform that allows you to connect with and talk to other people could be (15) _____ by romance fraudsters, so it's important to remain (16) _____." She urged extreme caution if an online love interest requests money for things like medical care.



sharp

cautious

victims

scams

exacerbated

convincing

isolation

coincided

transfer

vulnerable

targeted

lockdown

vigilant

victim

advantage

expert

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS! ☺