

1 Read the news report. Replace the words in *italics* (1–7) with the words from the list.

was down ~~*victims*~~ *prevent* *vulnerable* *hackers*
network *encrypted*

More than five hundred Canadians have been notified that they may have been the ¹*people who suffered* *victims* of a major security breach at a large consumer-credit reporting agency. According to reports, staff noticed the problem when the whole ²*connected system of computers* _____ ³*stopped working* _____ for an hour. During that time, unauthorized access was gained to personal, detailed credit files containing customers' banking details and home addresses. Although, the ⁴*people who tried to steal the information* _____ weren't able to access all the information because some of it was ⁵*unreadable because it needed a password* _____, the company wasn't able to ⁶*stop* _____ them from stealing details on around 500 customers. This is the second time this month that a major business has found that its customer records are ⁷*weak and easily attacked* _____ to identity theft.