

Internet crime

Level

Intermediate and above

Tasks

Defining 'fraud' and discussing experiences of being a victim of fraud

Matching e-mail subject lines to the correct e-mails

Reading a number of e-mails about internet crime

Identifying the 'odd word out' from a set of collocations connected with fraud and crime

Deciding on suitable sentences for some internet crimes

How to use the lesson

- 1 Write the word 'fraud' on the board and tell students the lesson will be about Internet crime. Hand out the worksheet and tell students to discuss their experiences. Elicit some interesting examples. Check the meaning of the words in the box with the class.
- 2 Ask students to read the e-mail 'subjects' and then match four of them to the e-mails below.
Teachers note: *Spam* = emails that are sent to large numbers of people on the Internet, especially when these are not wanted (*Macmillan English Dictionary*. Text © Bloomsbury Publishing Plc 2002).

Answers

(a) – (4) (b) – (3) (d) – (1) (e) – (2)

- 3 Ask students to read the mails and tell you which crimes are mentioned.

Answers

E-mail (1): *scam e-mails (e.g. Nigerian scams; post-Katrina scams; credit card fraud and identity fraud)*

E-mail (2): *click fraud*

E-mail (3): *hacking*

E-mail (4): *selling counterfeit goods over the Internet*

- 4 Ask students to find one word in each line that does not collocate with the word at the end.

Answers

1 – (b) *crime* 2 – (a) *to make* 3 – (c) *fraud* 4 – (f) *to suspend*

- 5 Ask students to decide on their sentences in small groups. Encourage them to think of other 'punishments', such as: suspended sentence / community service. Ask each group to report their ideas to the class and collate the results on the board. Finally, give students any useful language feedback.

Related websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Click_fraud

<http://www.fraud.org/>

<http://www.met.police.uk/fraudalert/419.htm>

www.scambusters.org/