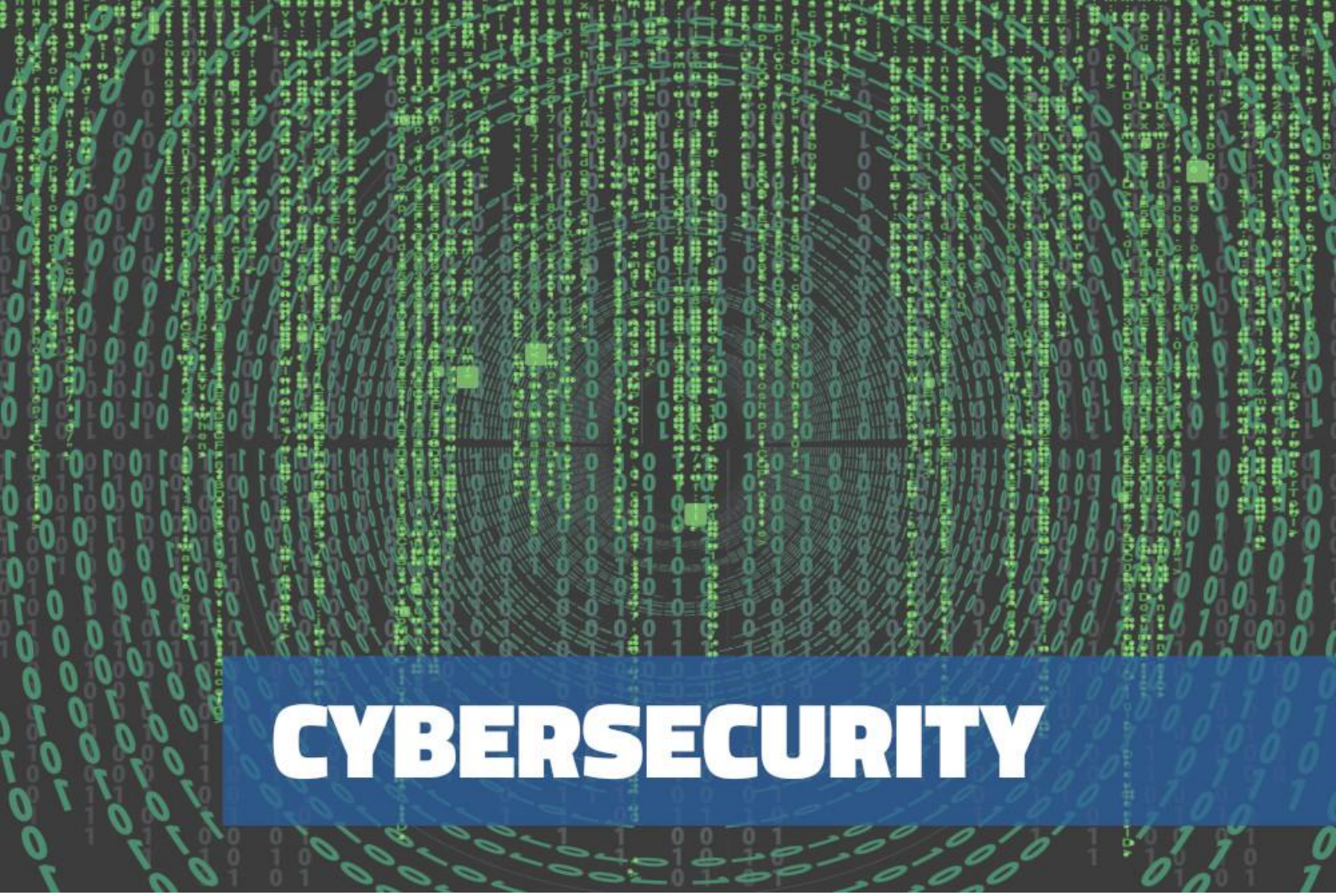

"Passwords are like underwear: don't let people see it, change it very often, and you shouldn't share it with strangers."

Chris Pirillo, American entrepreneur and founder of LockerGnome

1. Data Protection Discussion

1. What is data protection? Why is it important?
2. How do you ensure your own personal data is protected?
3. What personal information does your company collect (either from customers or staff)?
4. How does your company ensure this data is kept safe?
5. How could this data be used by criminals?
6. What data protection legislation does your company have to comply with?
7. What would the consequences be if the rules of this legislation were broken?
8. What different cyber threats can you think of?

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2. Cybersecurity Vocabulary

- **to encrypt** (verb), **encryption** (noun), **encrypted** (adjective) – *the process to turn data into code to prevent unauthorised access.*
- **(to) hack** (verb, noun), **cyberattack** (noun), **hacker** (noun, person) – *to gain unauthorised access to a computer system; a person who hacks into computer systems.*
- **cybercrime** (noun, concept), **cybercriminal** (noun, person) – *crimes committed using computer systems or the internet; a person who commits cybercrimes.*
- **credit card fraud** (noun) – *fraud committed using the details of another person's credit card.*
- **ransomware** (noun) – *a computer program, or malware, that infects a computer and encrypts files, in order to secure a ransom in exchange for decrypting the files.*
- **hacktivism** (noun, concept), **hacktivist** (noun, person) – *hacking for social or political purposes.*

Using the vocabulary words above, complete the following sentences (remember to use the correct form of the word, e.g. verb conjugation or plural noun)

1. All emails and messages should be _____ to prevent confidential information being compromised.
2. _____ in the UK in 2020 resulted in losses of £414 million for the banking industry.
3. In 2015, _____ from Anonymous revealed the personal details of nearly 1,000 members of the Ku Klux Klan.
4. It was revealed this week that JBS Holdings had paid $11 million to cybercriminals who had infected their systems with _____.
5. Panamanian law firm Mossack Fonseca suffered a _____ which resulted in more than 10 million confidential documents being leaked to the public concerning offshore companies.
6. Police forces across the world are having to rethink their strategies to combat _____.

Cybersecurity vocabulary comprehension questions

1. What kind of files do you need to encrypt at work? How do you do this?
2. Can you think of any notable cyberattacks? What happened? What was the consequence?
3. Have you, or anyone you know, been a victim of cybercrime? Who did/would you report it to?
4. Why are banks reluctant to report credit card fraud to the police?
5. If your system becomes infected with ransomware, is it better to pay the ransom or not?
6. What kind of information or activities might a hacktivist be interested in?

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3. Video: Quantum Computers & The Future of Cybersecurity

You are going to watch a TED Talk by Craig Costello called "In the war for information, will quantum computers defeat cryptographers?"

Watch the video here: https://yourenglishpal.com/blog/business-english-conversation-lesson-plan-cybersecurity/

Watch the video and after, discuss the following questions:

1. How will quantum computers help society in the future? How about businesses?
2. What are your main concerns about quantum computers?
3. Why is it necessary to encrypt communications? What would the risk to your company be if its communications were revealed?
4. Should the use of quantum computers be regulated? If so, who should get to use them?
5. Which governments or organisations would you trust with quantum computing technology? Which governments or organisations wouldn't you trust?
6. Tim Callan, from cybersecurity firm Sectigo, said that quantum computers could result in a 'quantum apocalypse'. What do you think he meant, and do you agree?

4. Cybersecurity Conversation Questions

1. Do you trust the cloud to keep your company's data safe? Why or why not?
2. Have you received training on cybersecurity at work? If so, what did you learn? If not, do you think this would be a good idea?
3. What kind of software can help keep your computer systems safe?
4. What are the different motivations behind cybercrime?
5. How can cyberattacks lead to a company's reputation being damaged? Can you think of any examples when this happened?
6. Which governments are involved in cyberattacks? How could these attacks affect businesses?
7. Will new technology lead to better cybersecurity in the future, or will this new technology lead to worse cybersecurity? Why?
8. What would happen if all the data in the world were made public? How would this change the world as we know it?

5. Cybersecurity Writing Task

Write a memo to all staff to remind them of their data protection obligations. Explain why data protection is necessary for the business and customers, how data should be stored correctly, how long the data should be kept for, and what cyber threats they should be aware of.

6. Cybersecurity Answers

2. Vocabulary

1. encrypted
2. Credit card fraud
3. hacktivists
4. ransomware
5. hack / cyber attack
6. cybercrime

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