

## Listening 1 (5 Marks)

**Listen to a radio programme about online identity theft and decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F)**

What's the most likely thing to get stolen; a mobile phone, a wallet full of money or a digital camera? According to statistics, every 2 seconds, another person becomes the victim of an increasingly common crime; identity theft.

Identity theft occurs when somebody uses your personal information without your permission to commit fraud or other crimes. This information could be your name, address or date of birth, your passport number or driving license number, or even your bank account details. For example, identity thieves steal people's credit card numbers in order to buy things online. They also use other people's details to become members of organisations or even to travel illegally between countries!

Anyone can be the victim of identity theft; children, teenagers, adults or the elderly. The problem is that we live in a world of information exchange. Every day, we have to enter our personal details on websites, answer questions over the phone or provide information in emails. This is dangerous because it's very easy for all this data to fall into the wrong hands and it's difficult to know who to trust. What's worse, people usually know that their identity is being used by a complete stranger until a massive bill comes through their letterbox which they know nothing about!

In order to avoid identity theft, the police recommend that you follow some rules. For example, never write down important personal information or give it to anyone else. Also, when you lose something, such as an ID or bank card, report it stolen immediately and regularly change your online passwords.

**Listening 2 ( 5 Marks ) Listen to five speakers talking about the chewing gum habit. Match each statement (a-f) to the right speaker (1-5). Note that there is an extra statement.**

1. The habit of chewing gum was first popular with the **Ancient Greeks**. They chewed mastic gum, a resin obtained from the mastic tree. Modern chewing gum, however, originated around the 1860s in **America**. A substance called chicle was found in the sapodilla trees of Mexico and made a smoother, more elastic gum than previously. William Wrigley, **a flour factory owner**, found a way to flavour it with mint and started making the first mass-produced gum. Nowadays 90% of chewing gum is manufactured by Wrigley, and the basic process has changed little since manufacture began in 1892.

2. Sales of chewing gum are at record levels; last year in **the UK**, £317 million was spent on gum. This figure has risen nearly 40% in the last five years, with the sugar-free brands now making up three-quarters of the total market. Consumer analysts say it's no longer considered just a sweet. It's become more relevant to today's consumer with people regarding it as a kind of two-in-one: a sweet fix and a breath-freshener at the same time. **Stress relief** is another factor, although not so many gum users admit to that one.

3. I've just heard **the most incredible** story about Britney Spears' chewing gum! Apparently, she's always spitting her chewing gum out onto **the pavement** and one day, someone saw her spit some out, picked up **the piece of gum** and decided to sell it online ... you know, on eBay. Basically, they sold her piece of chewed chewing gum by online auction! Nobody could guarantee it was real, of course, but lots of people bid for it - and in the end, it was sold for about \$100. I can't believe anyone would want chewing gum that's been in someone else's mouth - whoever that person is!

4. An incredible three and half billion pieces of gum are disposed of in the UK every year. In **London**, there are 300,000 pieces of discarded chewing gum on the pavement in **Oxford Street** alone. Better enforcement of fines has helped to reduce the problem slightly, but it is almost impossible to catch people spitting out their gum. Some areas have installed special boards which people are invited to stick their used gum to. Meanwhile, eco-friendly gum is being developed which in the end may well be the ultimate answer to the seemingly never-ending problem of chewing gum litter.

5. **A man** from north London has come up with a new idea for dealing with chewing gum on our pavements - not by removing it or cleaning it, but by painting on it. Forty-one-year-old Ben Wilson says he intends to paint gum all the way across London, from north to south. Using acrylic paint and varnish, and a little burner to dry it, he paints different things including **animals**, flowers and tiny landscapes. Many people stop and look at his Work and most have praised him for trying to make beautiful what is, ultimately, just rubbish on our pavements.