

## Functional Skills English | Level 2 Reading | Group Reading Activity | Text One

### Leaflet

### **Beware of identity theft**

#### **Paragraph 1**

Identity theft is when someone uses your details to pretend to be you in order to steal your money or commit another crime. They may open a bank account, take out a credit card or even apply for benefits illegally in your name. Cases of identity theft are on the rise: criminals are becoming more and more adept at acquiring personal details. So be on the lookout and don't let anyone steal your identity and scam you.

#### **Paragraph 2**

Personal details like your name, address and date of birth provide enough information to create another 'you'. A thief can use a number of methods to find out your personal information. These include stealing your phone, hacking into emails or looking at social media, so take care online and be careful what you post.

#### **Paragraph 3**

One of the signs you may be the victim of identity theft is the loss of your passport, driving licence or other crucial documents. Alternatively, thieves may intercept your mail, for example electricity or phone bills, to get hold of your information.

#### **Paragraph 4**

If you see items that you haven't bought on your bank statement, it may mean someone has used your bank card to buy goods. Another indication that someone might be using your payment card details is receiving bills for goods you haven't ordered.

#### **Paragraph 5**

Check your bank account regularly for suspicious activity. If you are concerned, phone the bank using the number on your bank card. Documents with personal details should be securely disposed of, for example shredded. If you move to a new home, inform all relevant companies and give them your new address. The bottom line is you need to wise up to scammers. The less you give away, the safer you are.

## Functional Skills English | Level 2 Reading | Group Reading Activity | Text One Questions

1. Using Text One, identify **two** ways that criminals can use your personal details illegally.

1.

2.

2. Which word best describes the style of Text One?

**A** serious

**B** apologetic

**C** encouraging

**D** sarcastic

3. Which **two** of these quotations from Text One are examples of informal language?

**A** 'be on the lookout'

**B** 'all relevant companies'

**C** 'wise up to scammers'

**D** 'intercept your mail'

**E** 'looking at social media'

4. You have been asked to add subheadings to each paragraph in Text One.

Number each subheading from 1 to 5 to show which best matches each paragraph.

Two have been done for you.

Subheading	Paragraph number
Important documents	
What is identity theft?	
How to avoid identity theft	
Personal details	2
Unexpected items	4

5. You may use a dictionary to answer this question.

‘more and more adept’

Give **one** word or phrase to replace the word ‘adept’ that keeps the meaning of this quotation from Text One the same.

## Functional Skills English | Level 2 Reading | Group Reading Activity | Text One Answers

1.

Award **1** mark for each way that criminals can use your personal details illegally, up to a maximum of **2** marks:

- open bank accounts
- take out credit cards
- apply for benefits
- use your bank card / buy items

**Accept** any other appropriate wording.

2.

A – serious

3.

A – 'be on the lookout'

C – 'wise up to scammers'

4.

- Award **1** mark if one is correct.
- Award **2** marks if two or three are correct.

Subheading	Paragraph number
Important documents	<b>3</b>
What is identity theft?	<b>1</b>
Preventive measures	<b>5</b>
Personal details	<b>2</b>
Unexpected items	<b>4</b>

5.

Award **1** mark for any reasonable word or phrase to replace 'adept' that does not change the meaning of the sentence, e.g.:

- skilled / skilful (1)
- expert (1)
- proficient (1)
- practised (1)

**Accept** any other appropriate word or phrase that fits into the target quotation.