BreakingNewsEnglish - The Mini Lesson

Tech support scams on the rise

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Fraudsters are using a new method to trick people into parting with their money. They are pretending be technical to support teams of people's ISP (Internet Service Provider). The new scam is very realistic and can trick

even experienced Internet users. The fraudsters are targeting the IP (Internet Protocol) of computers – this is a particular computer's online ID number. Once they have the IP, the victim gets a pop-up window with a message that says the ISP has "detected malware" on the computer. The victim is then advised to call a phone number for help. The Internet security company Malwarebytes said: "The scammers are trying to get people to call them. People are literally paying to be scammed."

Malwarebytes said most of the scams so far have been detected in the USA and UK, but they will spread worldwide. Jerome Segura, a malware expert at Malwarebytes, told the BBC: "It caught me by surprise and I almost thought that it was real. It was a page from my ISP telling me my computer was infected. It was only when I looked in closer detail that I saw it was a scam." The fraudsters are infecting online adverts. Once an infected ad appears on your screen, the virus works out your IP number. You do not even need to click on the ad for the virus to do this. Malwarebytes' advice is to call the tech support number you received when you signed up for the Internet, and to not trust numbers in pop-up windows.

Sources: TechRadar.com / BBC.co.uk

Writing

The Internet is more dangerous than the real world. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

fraudsters / a new method / technical / experienced / message / malware / scam / detected / worldwide / computer / infected / detail / virus / tech support / pop-up

True / False

- a) Fraudsters are using an old method to trick people out of their money. T / F
- b) The scam cannot trick experienced Internet users. T / F
- c) Victims are asked to call a phone number in a pop-up window. T / F
- d) The article says people are trying to get the scammers to call them. T / F
- e) Most of the scams found have been in the USA and UK. T / F
- f) A malware expert said the new scam did not surprise him. T / F
- g) The fraudsters use online ads to try and get your IP number. T / F
- h) The expert advised people not to trust phone numbers in pop-ups. T / F

Synonym Match

1. method

4.

- a. target
- 2. realistic b. got
- 3. detected c. specialist
 - victim d. exactly
- 5. literally e. globally
- 6. worldwide f. way
- 7. expert g. be sure of
- 8. call h. authentic
- 9. received i. found
- 10. trust j. phone
 - iust j. pilone

Discussion – Student A

- a) What other Internet scams do you know about?
- b) How good are your online passwords?
- c) What do you think about this scam?
- d) Could fraudsters one day make the Internet too dangerous?
- e) What do you think of online ads?
- f) How safe is your computer?
- g) What do you think of the advice given in the article?
- h) What questions would you like to ask the fraudsters?

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Phrase Match

- 1. Fraudsters are using a new method to
- 2. They are
- 3. the victim gets a pop-
- 4. this is a particular computer's online
- 5. The scammers are trying to get people
- 6. most of the scams so
- 7. a malware
- 8. It caught me by
- 9. the virus works
- 10. the tech support number you received

Discussion – Student B

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) How worried are you about Internet security?
- c) Have you ever had computer problems?
- d) What do you do to keep your computer safe?
- e) What risks are there of being online?
- f) What do you think about pop-up windows?
- g) What should you do if your computer is infected with malware?
- h) Who is most at risk from scams like this?

Spelling

- 1. a new <u>dohtme</u> to trick people
- 2. The new scam is very ercistlia
- 3. a <u>iurclraapt</u> computer's online ID number
- 4. the ISP has <u>eteddtec</u> malware
- 5. Internet <u>yrutiecs</u> company
- 6. People are <u>tlyeallri</u> paying to be scammed
- 7. they will <u>epsadr</u> worldwide
- 8. a malware <u>erxpte</u>
- 9. my computer was <u>tidecnfe</u>
- 10. I looked in closer letadi
- 11. Malwarebytes' <u>caiedv</u> is to call
- 12. when you <u>eidgsn</u> up for the Internet

Answers – Synonym Match

	-,,			
1. f	2. h	3. i	4. a	5. d
6. e	7. c	8. j	9. b	10. g

- a. far
- b. ID number
- c. to call them
- d. surprise
- e. when you signed up
- f. trick people
- g. out your IP number
- h. pretending
- i. expert
- j. up window with a message

Role Play

Role A – Pop-up windows							
You think pop-up windows is the worst thing about I							
computers. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell the there when their things exactly a had also tall the							
them why their things aren't so bad. Also, tell the others which is the least annoying of these (and							
why): ads on websites, slow downloads or sites							
asking you to log in.							
Role B – Ads on websites							
You think ads on websites is the worst thing about							
computers. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell							
them why their things aren't so bad. Also, tell the							
others which is the least annoying of these (and							
why): pop-up windows, slow downloads or sites							
asking you to log in.							
Role C – Slow downloads You think slow downloads is the worst thing about							
computers. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell							
them why their things aren't so bad. Also, tell the							
others which is the least annoying of these (and							
why): ads on websites, pop-up windows or sites							
asking you to log in.							
Role D – Sites asking you to log in							
You think sites asking you to log in is the worst thing							
about computers. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so bad. Also, tell							
the others which is the least annoying of these (and							
why): ads on websites, slow downloads or pop-up							
windows.							
Speaking – Computer hates							
Rank these with your partner. But the things you most							

Rank these with your partner. Put the things you most hate at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Pop-up windows Having no wi-fi
 - Spam mail
- Lost data
- Slow downloads

Sites asking you to login

Ads on websites

Frozen screen

Answers – True False

а	F	b	F	С	Т	d	F	е	Т	f	F	g	Т	h	Т
Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.															