

Who Are You To A Stranger?



- You are unique.
- We are all unique.
- We have similarities, but we all have little things that make us different too.

We asked these identical twins how people tell them apart:

“They didn’t until we got different hairstyles!

“No, that’s not true – our mum used to dress us the same when we were young and people could still tell us apart. I think we move differently – mainly it’s our body language.”

“No, I think there is something in how we look, too. People definitely struggle to tell us apart on the phone.”

“We may look similar but we’re really different when you get to know us. My taste in music is much better, for instance!”

We all have a unique identity, but what makes up yours?

Write a list of all the things you think define you.

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How many things on your list are character traits and how many are facts?

Character traits _____

Facts _____

Put a tick next to the things on your list that you think a friend would know about you.

Put a cross next to the things on your list that you think a stranger could find out about you – maybe by searching social networks, online databases or asking other people at your school.

Our identities are complex and aspects will change over time.

Banks, mobile phone operators and organisations use personal information to identify you. This is cross-referenced with passwords and a personal identification number (your PIN) to make sure that you are who you say you are.

Why do you think it's very important that you never tell anyone your PIN and keep all your passwords secure?

Fraudsters try to find out information about you so that they can pretend to be you and carry out illegal activities in your name. Methods they can use include:

1. Sending emails pretending to be from a bank or other organisation and asking you to send them information (or enter it into a form) that they then use to take money from your bank account, or to set up another account in your name.
2. Befriending you in internet chat rooms or online games and asking you innocent-sounding questions to gather information they can piece together to get a fuller picture about you.
3. Getting you to download programmes to your computer that then spy on you by capturing information when you make an online payment, use social media or register for online services.
4. Fitting equipment to cashpoint machines that steal your card details and spy on you as you enter your PIN.
5. Telephoning you and asking you to send your bankcard and PIN.
6. Offering you a job or money if they can pay money into your bank account and then get you to transfer the majority of this money to someone else's account. Note: This is money laundering and can carry a prison sentence of up to 10 years.

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7. Offering to write you a large cheque in exchange for a smaller amount of cash, but the cheque doesn't clear because it is fake or there isn't enough money in the account.
8. Distracting you at a cashpoint so you turn away as your money comes out of the machine or looking over your shoulder at a cashpoint machine to get your PIN and then stealing your card to access your money.

In groups of 2-4, choose one of the above examples of fraudsters at work and write a short sketch of around 5 minutes demonstrating:

- How the fraudster got hold of someone's security details (either by force or by trickery).
- How the fraudster accessed the victim's account.
- What happened to the victim after their details were taken.
- How the fraud could have been prevented/done differently.

Finish the sketch with a short warning to people about how to reduce their risk of being a victim of fraud.

Remember to create individual identities for each of the characters in your drama.

National Fraud Association 2012 - national survey amongst 4,213 UK adults found:

- Identity fraud cost UK adults an estimated £3.3 billion during 2012.
- 8.8% (4.3 million) of UK adults were a victim, with those who actually lost money (2.7 million) losing an average of £1,203 each.
- 19% of UK adults had been a victim before 2012.
- Overall, 27% have been a victim at some point in time.