MODULE G SECURITY · G2

Social engineering and phishing

Original practice questions · 20 marks · ~25 minutes · OCR J277 spec 1.4.1

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions. Answer all questions in the spaces provided. The marks for each part are shown in brackets [ ]. The total for this worksheet is **20 marks**.

1

Total: 3 marks

(a) State what is meant by **social engineering**. **[1]**

(b) Explain why people are often called the 'weak point' in the security of a computer system. **[2]**

2

Total: 4 marks

(a) Tick (✓) **one** box in each row to show whether each attack is an example of social engineering. **[4]**

Attack	Social engineering	Not social engineering
A caller pretends to work for an organisation's IT support team and asks an employee to read out their password		
Software automatically tries thousands of possible passwords on a log-in page		
A person on a train watches an office worker type their password on a laptop		
A web server is flooded with so many requests that genuine users cannot reach it		

3 **Total: 7 marks**

An employee at an architecture firm receives this email. It is a phishing email.

> **From:** Staff Payroll Team <payroll-team@staff-pay-update.example>
> **Subject:** URGENT: your salary payment is on hold
>
> Dear staff member,
> We could not process this month's salary payment. You must confirm your log-in details within 24 hours or your payment will be cancelled.
> [Confirm my details]

(a) Identify **two** ways the email tries to persuade the employee to respond. **[2]**

1

2

(b) Describe how the attacker could use this email to gain access to the employee's account. **[3]**

(c) Give **two** things the attacker could do once they have the employee's log-in details. **[2]**

1

2

4 **Total: 4 marks**

A hotel receptionist receives a phone call. The caller says they work for the company that supplies the hotel's booking system. They say there is an urgent fault and ask for the administrator username and password so they can fix it.

(a) The hotel's computers are fully updated and protected by security software. Explain why this attack could still succeed. **[2]**

(b) Describe **one** other method of social engineering, apart from an email or a phone call, that an attacker could use to get a member of staff's password. **[2]**

5 **Total: 2 marks**

Some phishing emails include an attachment instead of a link.

(a) Explain how opening the attachment could harm the employee's computer. **[2]**

Total for this worksheet: 20 marks