MODULE I IMPACTS AND THE LAW · I5

The Computer Misuse Act 1990

Original practice questions · 21 marks · ~25 minutes · OCR J277 spec 1.6.1

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions. Answer all questions in the spaces provided. The marks for each part are shown in brackets [ ]. The law is described as it stands in the UK as at November 2026. The total for this worksheet is **21 marks**.

1

Total: 1 mark

State the purpose of the Computer Misuse Act 1990. **[1]**

2

Total: 4 marks

Tick (✓) **one** box in each row to show whether each statement about the Computer Misuse Act 1990 is true or false. **[4]**

Statement	True	False
Looking at files on someone else's computer system without permission is an offence, even if nothing is changed		
A security tester breaks the Act when they try to get into a company's network after the company has given them written permission to do so		
Making a virus so that another person can use it in an attack can be an offence under the Act		
The Act sets out how organisations must store and use customers' personal data		

3 **Total: 6 marks**

A chain of garden centres uses an online system to manage its stock and customer orders. A man who worked for the chain left his job last month. He still remembers a manager's username and password, and he uses them to log in to the system from home on three different days.

For each action, identify the offence under the Computer Misuse Act 1990 that **best** matches it, and explain why.

(a) Day 1: he looks at the weekly sales figures. He does not change or copy anything. **[2]**

Offence

Why

(b) Day 2: he copies the payment card details of some customers. He plans to use them to buy goods online for himself. **[2]**

Offence

Why

(c) Day 3: he deletes all the stock records, so the garden centres cannot take orders. **[2]**

Offence

Why

4 **Total: 3 marks**

A concert venue sells tickets on its website. On the morning a big tour goes on sale, a woman carries out a denial of service attack on the website, so customers cannot reach it for two hours. The software she used was bought from a seller who advertised it online as a way to "knock any website offline".

(a) Identify the offence under the Computer Misuse Act 1990 that the woman has committed. **[1]**

(b) The seller did not attack the website. Explain why the seller can still be prosecuted under the Computer Misuse Act 1990. **[2]**

5 **Total: 3 marks**

A hotel guest guesses the password for the hotel's booking system and looks through other guests' bookings. She changes nothing. The next morning she tells the hotel manager that the password was easy to guess.

Explain whether the guest has broken the Computer Misuse Act 1990. **[3]**

6 **Total: 4 marks**

The owner of an online clothing shop wants to know how the Computer Misuse Act 1990 helps to protect the shop and its customers. **[4]**

Explain **two** ways the Act helps to protect the shop and its customers.

1

2

Total for this worksheet: 21 marks