Name _____ Date _____ Class _____

STUDENT WORKSHEET 1 · GRADES 9-12

Takeover scenarios

Read each situation. Circle the best response, then write one sentence explaining why the other choices are weaker.

1. A shopping site you used in middle school announces a data breach. You used the same password there as you use for your email and your social account.

What should you do first?

- ☐ Change the shopping site password only
- ☐ Change your email password first to a new unique passphrase, then every account that shared that password, and turn on MFA
- ☐ Wait to see whether anything strange happens

2. You get a text: 'Your account is locked. Sign in here to unlock.' The page looks exactly like the real login, and after your password it asks for the code just sent to your phone.

What is most likely happening?

- ☐ A phishing kit is passing your password and code to the real site so the attacker can log in as you
- ☐ The site is doing an extra security check
- ☐ The page is real because it asked for a code

3. A friend's account DMs you: 'I'm locked out. The site is sending a code to your phone because you're my backup contact. Can you send it to me?'

What do you do?

- ☐ Send it, because it is your friend's account
- ☐ Send only the first three digits
- ☐ Do not send it. Contact your friend another way, such as a call or in person, and warn them their account may be compromised

4. Your phone suddenly shows 'SOS only' in the middle of the day. Minutes later, a laptop at home shows an email alert that your password was changed.

What is the most likely cause, and the first move?

- ☐ A weak signal; restart the phone tomorrow
- ☐ A possible SIM swap; contact your carrier from another phone right away, then secure email from a trusted device
- ☐ A phone update; ignore the email

5. A site offers three MFA options: text message codes, an authenticator app with number matching, or a passkey.

Which should you choose, and what should you save?

- ☐ Text codes, because they are easiest
- ☐ No MFA, because you might lose your phone
- ☐ The passkey (or the app with number matching), and save the recovery codes somewhere safe and offline

6. Your account was hijacked. A stranger DMs you: 'I work with the platform's security team. Pay $40 and I'll restore your account in an hour.'

What do you do?

- ☐ Ignore and block them, and use only the platform's official recovery page or help center
- ☐ Pay, because an hour is fast
- ☐ Send your login details so they can start

Think about it

Sam used the same password for social media and email. Why did that turn one hacked account into many?

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