# At Work

**Giving Clear Explanations**

Reading & Writing

*Level B2*

## Content

In this lesson you will read about Anne's unique job.

## Learning Outcomes

- Learn and review work related vocabulary.
- Practice reading comprehension.
- Practice argumenting your opinion.

# Not the bad one...

Somebody hacked my computer! Somebody hacked my account! Hi, my name is Anne and that is exactly what I do for a living: I hack things.

No! No! Don't get me wrong, I'm not the bad one here. I am a white hat or ethical computer hacker.

Although I tell my parents I am a computer security expert. That way the don't freak out and it sounds much nicer than „hacker". So can you guess what I'm paid a lot of money to do?



Exactly. I am hired to break into organizations' systems and networks and tell them how they can improve their safety before ill willed hackers do.

Everything I do is to make sure that an organization's information system is safe and sound.

My job is very interesting and challenging. I focus on attacking software and computer systems. I search all the nooks and crannies to find defects and issues.

I'm usually emailing staff to ask for passwords, rummaging through files, and well, breaking and entering.

Sometimes my job can be a little bit tricky because most of the time, only the CEOs, owners and boardmembers know what I am doing.

My bosses usually ask me to replicate some destructive techniques that a real attack would entail. I set up cloned test systems and organize a hack when it's pitch dark- late at night, and the systems are less critical.

My job is very secretive and often times requires immediate actions. It all depends on the condition of the security systems. We have to act fast when the systems aren't up to standards. So it's not a first come first serve basis, but depends on which system is most critical.

I love my job, the idea of exploiting a system's vulnerabilities and trying to gain entry into secured areas is like a puzzle and it's my definition of fun. Would you fancy doing what I do?

(To do something) for a living

Don't get me wrong!

Ill will

(to be) safe &sound

First come, first serve

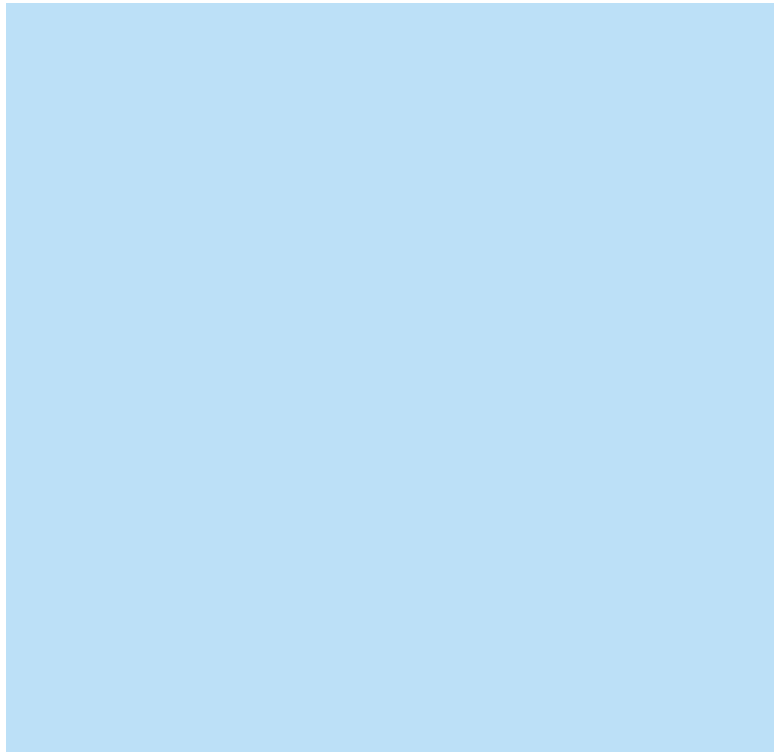Up to standards

Secretive

(To be) pitch dark

Nooks and crannies

Breaking & entering
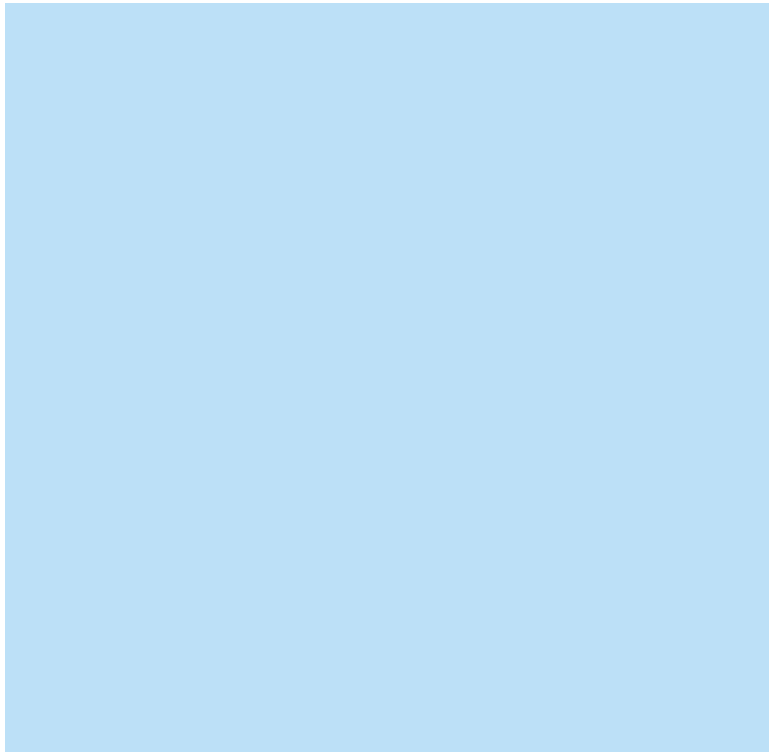
1) To rummage through (something)
2) To be tricky
3) To entail
4) To set up
5) To exploit

6) To gain entry
7) To fancy
8) To freak out

Do you have any other words you don't fully understand? Write them here!

# How does Anne prioritize the tasks in her job? Write down 3 hints for your answer.

Hints:

1.

2.

3.

**Text**

1. **First come, first serve**    Who ever arrives first, is the first one to be serviced.

2. **Nooks and crannies**    A place or part of place, especially small or remote

3. **Safe and sound**    Free from danger and threats

4. **Breaking and entering**    To gain entry without authorization

# Write the three main ideas of the text

**1st main idea**

**2nd main idea**

**3rd main idea**

# Complete the sentences

Example:

A white hat hacker can... also be called a computer security expert

An ethical computer hacker... _____

Anne thinks her job is... _____

She works against... _____

# Compare and contrast a „white hat hacker" and an „ill willed hacker".

| White hat hacker | Ill willed hacker |
|---|---|
|  |  |

**Speaking**

Would you rather be a white hat hacker or an ill willed hacker? Why?

# Express your opinion by completing the following sentence.

If I were offered a job as an ethical hacker I would…

# True or False

When Anne is gaining entry to a system, everyone in the company knows about it.

   a)   True

   b)   False

Anne has to make sure no nook or cranny is left unsafe.

   a)   True

   b)   False

Anne's job priorities are set on a first come, first serve basis.

   a)   True

   b)   False

# True or False: Rewrite the sentences that were false, to make them a true statement.

When Anne is gaining entry to a system, everyone in the company knows about it.

True statement:

Anne has to make sure no nook or cranny is left unsafe.

True statement:

Anne's job priorities are set on a first come, first serve basis.
True statement:

# Match the sentences to make a complete one.

Anne's parents would freak out ☐

Her job can be tricky because ☐

She loves her job because ☐

She needs to determine how critical a system is ☐

Anne sets up hack simulations ☐

☐ she needs to be very secretive.

☐ when things are „pitch dark".

☐ it is like a security puzzle.

☐ if she said she was a hacker.

☐ to determine the priority it has.

# What do you think? Answer the questions.

1) Do you think Anne's job is ethical?

2) What do you think about only certain people in the company knowing they are being investigated?

3) Why do you think companies and organizations need to hire people like Anne?

# Match the vocabulary to ist meaning

To freak out ☐

Pitch dark ☐

Up to standards ☐

To rummage through ☐

To fancy ☐

☐ To like something/someone

☐ To go through something while seaching thoroughly

☐ To lose calm

☐ Adequate and satisfactory

☐ A place or thing that is very dark