



Password advice

Lesson code: LTMS-DEJB-CGN3-X

PRE-INTERMEDIATE+

1 Warm-up

How often do you forget your passwords?

2 Key words

Study the sentences below and match the underlined words to their definitions.

1. I'm not making progress. It's very frustrating. I want to improve much quicker.
 2. The company gives a range of guidelines to keep its workers safe.
 3. You cannot solve the problem like that. You need a different approach.
 4. The boss was very angry with you. I tried to warn you to arrive on time!
 5. The default font size is 12, but you can change it if you want.
 6. The criminal tried to hack the bank's computer.
- a. a way of doing something
 - b. advise someone to do something that could avoid danger or trouble
 - c. annoying because things are not happening in the way that you want
 - d. existing or selected when you don't change anything
 - e. general rules or advice
 - f. illegally enter someone else's computer system

3 Reading

You are going to read an article about how to choose a good password, according to Britain's spying agency GCHQ. Decide if each statement below is True (T) or False (F). Then read the text to check.

1. Complex passwords are better than simple passwords.
2. It is important to change your default password.
3. If you can't remember your password, you should store it on your computer as a plain text file.
4. It is better to create lots of passwords.
5. Companies should have more relaxed rules about how customers should create passwords.
6. Password management software is very safe.

THE
INDEPENDENT

Stop using difficult-to-guess passwords, UK's spying agency GCHQ recommends

'Complex passwords are not usually frustrating for attackers, but they make daily life much more difficult for users,' the agency warns

- 1 In a new document, the company gives guidelines to keep people safe. And they have stopped saying that "complex passwords are 'stronger'". Now they recommend that people simplify their approach.
- 2 The agency gives a number of tips for people who work in IT as well as normal users. They warn people to change their default passwords, and to make sure that accounts cannot be accessed if they're under attack. They also say that people should avoid storing passwords as plain text files because other people can read these files.
- 3 The agency also warns against the problems of "password overload". That is what happens when people create too many complex passwords that they can't remember. They have to write them down, and so the passwords become unsafe.
- 4 People often use complicated passwords because organisations have rules about the complexity of passwords. For example, they must be a certain length or include special characters. Instead, companies should allow people to use their own, more simple passwords.
- 5 Those simple passwords might consist of just three simple words, for instance. Or people could use password managers — software that generates and then stores the passwords. The passwords can be complex and people will never need to remember them.
- 6 "Software password managers can help — they generate, store and even enter passwords when required," the report says. "However, like all security software, they can be hacked and they are an attractive target for attackers."
- 7 That second sentence might be of interest to people who want to use the passwords — according to new documents, GCHQ has been attacking security services used by British citizens in order to spy on people more easily.

Adapted from The Independent, by Andrew Griffin, Friday 11 September 2015

4 Checking understanding

Read the whole text and answer the questions below:

1. Why is it bad to use complex passwords?
2. Why should people should avoid storing passwords as plain text files?
3. Why is it bad to use too many passwords?
4. Why do people often use complicated passwords?
5. Why did GCHQ hack security services, according to new documents?

5 Talking point

Discuss any of the questions below.

1. Do you agree with the advice in the article?
2. What do you think is the best way to remember passwords?
3. Is cyber crime a problem in your country?

6 Verb patterns

When one verb comes after another verb, we use the form **to + infinitive** (to do / not to do) or **-ing** (doing / not doing). Study the examples from the text in the table and read the rules below.

verb + infinitive	verb + -ing
<p>... people who want to use the passwords</p> <p>They warn people to change their default passwords.</p> <p>Companies should allow people to use their own, more simple passwords.</p>	<p>Stop using difficult-to-guess passwords.</p> <p>People should avoid storing passwords as plain text files.</p>

Some verbs are usually followed by **to + infinitive**. Examples:

want **decide** **agree** **plan** **intend**
offer **need** **promise** **prefer** **refuse** **hope**

- We **intend to spend** the summer in the countryside.
- She **promised to help** me with my homework.
- I **didn't agree to sell** you my car!

We also use **to + infinitive** after the structure: **ask/warn/help/allow/tell/want + someone**

- She **asked me to help** her.
- He **told me to come** earlier.

Some verbs are usually followed by an **-ing form**. Examples:

avoid **admit** **can't stand** **dislike** **enjoy**
hate **like** **love** **practise** **stop**

- Lenny is very sporty. He **loves playing** football.
- She **admitted breaking** the window.
- I'm going to England to **practise speaking** English.

7 Grammar practice I

Complete the sentences with the verbs below in the correct form.

become	book	book	close	drink	eat
learn	live (x2)	lose	not/smoke	text	wear

- Diniesh loves _____ new languages.
- Joe hopes _____ a doctor after his studies.
- The doctor warned the patient _____ cigarettes.
- It was very cold, so I decided _____ the window.
- If you want _____ weight, you should stop _____ so much cake.
- I told Mike _____ a warm jacket, but he didn't listen.
- This website allows you _____ a hotel room.
- Pablo hates _____ in the countryside. He prefers _____ in a big city.
- Tony is very sensitive to caffeine. He avoids _____ coffee.
- She promised _____ me but I'm still waiting for her message.

8 Grammar practice II

Now complete the following questions with the correct form of the verb 'do':

- What do you enjoy doing ?
- What do you dislike _____ ?
- Give an example of something you warned somebody _____ or not to do.
- What bad habits have you stopped _____ ?
- What do you avoid _____ when you travel?
- What are you planning _____ in the near future?
- Is there any job you hope _____ in the future?
- Have you ever asked someone _____ something very important for you?

In pairs, ask and answer the questions.