

TỰ LUYỆN PART 2 VSAT (NC)

PART 2 – Questions 8–15

Read the passage and answer questions 8–15.

The Digital Trap: How Online Scams Fool Millions

At first glance, Evelyn Park, a 35-year-old accountant from Singapore, thought she had struck gold. An online investment site promised double returns within a month and had hundreds of five-star reviews. Everything looked legitimate — until she realized the “customer support” had vanished, along with her entire savings. Evelyn had fallen victim to a cyber scam, a form of digital fraud that has become one of the fastest-growing crimes worldwide.

Online scams come in all shapes and sizes — from fake job offers and romance schemes to phishing emails that steal bank information. With the internet becoming an inseparable part of daily life, scammers are getting smarter, using psychological manipulation to trick even tech-savvy users. According to a 2024 report by the International Cybercrime Agency (ICA), global losses from online fraud exceeded \$10 billion, and experts say that number may only be the tip of the iceberg.

[A] Many scammers use *catfishing*, pretending to be someone else online to gain victims’ trust. They often butter people up, flattering **them** with compliments or pretending to share similar interests. Once the victim “**takes the bait**,” scammers ask for small favors like phone cards or transfers — which later snowball into huge losses. [B] Victims frequently feel too embarrassed to admit they’ve been deceived, fearing others will think they were gullible. [C] This makes it even harder for authorities to collect evidence or warn others before more people fall into the same trap. [D]

Technology companies are under increasing pressure to fight back. Some social media platforms now use AI-driven detection systems to remove suspicious accounts before they interact with users. Banks, too, have begun introducing two-factor authentication and digital fingerprinting to spot unusual transactions. Still, experts argue that prevention starts with awareness: understanding that if an offer sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

Your success defines our reputation.

Governments are also pushing for international cooperation. In many cases, scam operations are run across borders, with criminals hiding behind fake IP addresses and encrypted apps. To counter this, the ICA is developing a global database that allows police in different countries to track the same suspect simultaneously. “The internet doesn’t recognize borders,” says cybercrime specialist Dr. Lena Zhou, “so law enforcement shouldn’t either.”

For Evelyn, the experience was a painful wake-up call. She now volunteers with an anti-fraud organization, teaching others how to spot warning signs such as poor grammar, requests for urgent money transfers, and emotional manipulation. “If I can stop even one person from losing their life savings,” she says, “then my mistake won’t be in vain.”

Question 8 is based on the information in paragraph 1.

Decide if the statements are **TRUE (T)** or **FALSE (F)**.

Write X in the corresponding column.

Statements	T	F
1. Evelyn invested her money in a verified and safe website.		
2. Evelyn’s story is an example of an online investment scam.		
3. The scammers disappeared after taking Evelyn’s money.		
4. Evelyn managed to recover her lost savings.		

Question 9 is based on the information in paragraph 2.

Statements	T	F
1. Online scams can take many different forms.		
2. Scammers often use psychological tricks to deceive victims.		
3. Only people with little technology knowledge are likely to be scammed.		
4. Global financial losses from cyber fraud are still increasing.		

Your success defines our reputation.

Questions 10–15: Choose the correct answer A, B, C, or D.

Question 10. In paragraph 3, the phrase “*takes the bait*” is closest in meaning to _____.

A. becomes suspicious B. gets caught in the trap C. ignores the scam D. refuses to respond

Question 11. In paragraph 3, the word “*them*” in “flattering them with compliments” refers to _____.

A. victims B. scammers C. friends D. the police

Question 12. According to paragraph 3, why is it difficult for authorities to stop online scams?

A. Scammers use encrypted technology and disappear quickly.
B. Victims rarely report scams due to shame or fear.
C. Police do not have the technology to trace IP addresses.
D. Scammers usually operate from physical stores.

Question 13. In which space (marked A, B, C, or D) does the following sentence best fit?

“Some even use stolen photos of celebrities or professionals to make their stories more believable.”

A. [A] B. [B] C. [C] D. [D]

Question 14. Which of the following can be inferred from the fifth paragraph?

A. Governments find it easy to identify scammers working across borders.
B. The ICA aims to improve global cooperation against online fraud.
C. Scammers prefer targeting people who travel internationally.
D. Cybercrime specialists believe national efforts are sufficient.

Question 15. Which sentence best summarizes the main idea of the passage?

A. Online scams are increasing worldwide, but greater awareness and international cooperation can reduce their impact.
B. Evelyn Park successfully recovered her stolen money with the help of the ICA.
C. Cyber scams mostly affect people who lack access to technology.
D. Technology alone can completely eliminate online fraud.

PART 2 – Questions 8–15

Your success defines our reputation.

Read the passage and answer questions 8–15.

The Price of Showing Off: Social Media and Youth Vanity

When seventeen-year-old **Lucas Tran** uploaded a photo of his new sneakers beside a luxury car, his post received hundreds of likes within hours. Encouraged by the attention, he began sharing more — expensive meals, branded clothes, and trips he couldn't actually afford. What began as innocent fun soon spiraled into financial trouble and emotional exhaustion. Lucas had fallen into the trap of **showing off online**, a behavior that has become increasingly common among young people worldwide.

In today's digital age, **self-promotion has become second nature**. Social media platforms reward users with likes, followers, and validation, making it easy to believe that popularity equals self-worth. However, experts warn that such comparisons can lead to a **vicious cycle**: the more one posts to impress others, the emptier one may feel inside. Studies show that young users who constantly seek online approval are more likely to experience anxiety, loneliness, and even depression.

[A] Psychologists explain that excessive boasting often hides **deep insecurity**. Many teens are desperate to “fit in” or appear successful, even when their real lives are far from what they show online. To “keep up appearances,” they may **live beyond their means**, buying products they don’t need just for social status. [B] This phenomenon, known as “**compare and despair**,” pushes them to measure their happiness by others’ highlight reels. [C] As a result, their sense of identity becomes fragile, tied more to digital validation than to real-life confidence. [D]

Parents and schools are starting to recognize the danger. Some have introduced **digital literacy programs** that teach students how to use social media responsibly — to post mindfully, protect their privacy, and differentiate between real life and online illusions. Psychologist **Dr. Mei Lin** suggests that open family conversations and “offline days” can help teens **get their feet back on the ground**, reconnecting with genuine relationships instead of chasing online attention.

Still, experts emphasize that social media itself isn’t the villain. It’s a powerful tool that can inspire creativity, connection, and learning — if used wisely. The key, they say, is **balance**: posting with intention, not for validation; sharing joy, not jealousy. For Lucas, the lesson came at a cost, but also with growth. He has since deleted his old posts, started

Your success defines our reputation.

volunteering at a youth center, and uses his account to promote financial awareness. “Now,” he says, “I’d rather earn respect in real life than collect fake likes online.”

Question 8 is based on the information in paragraph 1.

Decide if the statements are **TRUE (T)** or **FALSE (F)**.

Write X in the corresponding column.

Statements	T	F
1. Lucas became popular on social media after showing off his possessions.		
2. Lucas could easily afford all the luxury items he posted about.		
3. Lucas’s online habits eventually caused him financial and emotional problems.		
4. Lucas used social media mainly for educational purposes.		

Question 9 is based on the information in paragraph 2.

Statements	T	F
1. Social media often links self-worth with the number of likes or followers.		
2. Constant comparison with others online can negatively affect mental health.		
3. Young users who post frequently are usually more confident in real life.		
4. The “vicious cycle” refers to seeking attention but feeling unsatisfied.		

Questions 10–15: Choose the correct answer A, B, C, or D.

Question 10. In paragraph 3, the idiom “*keep up appearances*” is closest in meaning to _____.

A. remain honest B. maintain a good public image C. stay out of trouble D. act independently

Your success defines our reputation.

Question 11. In paragraph 3, the word “*they*” in “they may live beyond their means” refers to _____.

A. psychologists B. parents C. teens D. experts

Question 12. According to paragraph 3, what is the result of the “compare and despair” phenomenon?

A. Young people spend more time studying.
B. People lose confidence because of social comparison.
C. Teens learn how to manage their finances better.
D. Teenagers stop using social media completely.

Question 13. In which space (marked A, B, C, or D) does the following sentence best fit?

“Some even edit or fake their photos to make their lives look perfect.”

A. [A] B. [B] C. [C] D. [D]

Question 14. Which of the following can be inferred from the fourth paragraph?

A. Schools and families play an important role in guiding teens’ online behavior.
B. Parents should ban teenagers from using social media entirely.
C. Most young people already know how to balance online and offline life.
D. Social media literacy programs have failed to produce any positive effects.

Question 15. Which sentence best summarizes the main idea of the passage?

A. Showing off on social media can harm young people’s mental health, but awareness and education can help restore balance.
B. Social media is completely harmful and should be avoided by teenagers.
C. Lucas Tran became famous for his luxury lifestyle on social media.
D. Modern technology has eliminated insecurity among young users.

PART 2 – Questions 8–15

Read the passage and answer questions 8–15.

The Hidden Cost of Counterfeit Goods

Your success defines our reputation.

Twenty-eight-year-old French designer **Clara Dupont** was thrilled when she saw a handbag online that looked exactly like one of her own creations. However, her excitement quickly turned into anger when she realized that it was a **fake** — an illegal copy being sold for a fraction of the price. The rise of online shopping has made counterfeit products more widespread than ever, affecting not only luxury brands but also everyday consumers.

Every year, the global market for counterfeit goods is worth billions of dollars. These products range from fake handbags and shoes to counterfeit medicines and electronic devices. Many buyers are unaware of the serious consequences behind such purchases. According to the World Economic Forum, the trade in fake goods is often linked to organized crime, tax evasion, and even child labor.

[A] For designers like Clara, counterfeiting is not just a financial issue — it is deeply personal. Her designs take months of effort, from sketching to material selection, yet counterfeiters copy them overnight and sell them online illegally. [B] This not only damages her reputation but also discourages young artists from pursuing their dreams. [C] “When people buy fakes, they think they’re just saving money,” Clara says, “but in reality, they’re supporting exploitation and theft.” [D]

Governments and companies have been trying to combat this problem through stricter laws and advanced technologies. For instance, some fashion houses are now using **blockchain**, a digital system that tracks every step of a product’s creation, to prove authenticity. Meanwhile, several countries have introduced tougher penalties for sellers and importers of counterfeit goods. Yet, the demand remains high because many consumers still prioritize price over ethics.

Experts say that education plays a crucial role in reducing the problem. When people understand that buying counterfeit items can harm workers, brands, and the economy, they are more likely to make responsible choices. Clara believes that awareness campaigns and transparent production will eventually turn the tide against fake products.

Question 8 is based on the information in paragraph 1.

Decide if the statements are **TRUE (T)** or **FALSE (F)**.

Write X in the corresponding column.

Statements	T	F

Your success defines our reputation.

1. Clara was pleased to see that her product was being copied and sold online.		
2. Counterfeit products are now easier to find due to online shopping.		
3. Only luxury brands are affected by fake products.		
4. Clara's discovery made her feel disappointed and upset.		

Question 9 is based on the information in paragraph 2.

Statements	T	F
1. The counterfeit goods industry generates billions of dollars annually.		
2. Some counterfeit products may include fake medicine.		
3. Buying fake items has no connection with criminal activities.		
4. Many consumers do not realize the true impact of buying fake products.		

Questions 10–15: Choose the correct answer A, B, C, or D.

Question 10. In paragraph 3, the phrase “*combat this problem*” is closest in meaning to _____.

A. ignore B. fight against C. benefit from D. take advantage of

Question 11. In paragraph 3, the word “*them*” in “copy them overnight and sell them online illegally” refers to _____.

A. designers B. efforts C. designs D. handbags

Question 12. According to paragraph 3, what does Clara think buyers often misunderstand?

A. They believe that fake products are legal if cheap.
 B. They think buying fakes doesn't harm anyone.
 C. They assume designers support copies of their work.
 D. They know counterfeits improve creativity.

Question 13. In which space (marked A, B, C, or D) does the following sentence best fit?

Your success defines our reputation.

“Some of her original bags have been copied so precisely that even experts find it hard to tell the difference.”

A. [A] B. [B] C. [C] D. [D]

Question 14. What can be inferred from the fourth paragraph?

- A. Consumers are mainly responsible for the spread of fake goods.
- B. Governments have stopped making laws about counterfeit goods.
- C. People buy fake products mostly because they value design quality.
- D. Blockchain technology is used to create fake products more easily.

Question 15. Which sentence best summarizes the main idea of the passage?

- A. Clara Dupont’s personal story reveals how the global trade in fake goods harms both designers and consumers.
- B. Counterfeit goods help young designers gain attention worldwide.
- C. The sale of fake products benefits developing countries’ economies.
- D. Governments have completely solved the issue of counterfeit goods.

PART 2 – Questions 8–15

Read the passage and answer questions 8–15.

Smart Clothing: The Future of Fashion

Thirty-year-old Japanese designer **Aiko Tanaka** is one of the pioneers of *smart clothing* — garments that combine fashion and technology. From her small studio in Tokyo, Aiko has created jackets that can monitor heart rate, jeans that can charge smartphones, and even dresses that change color depending on the wearer’s mood. While these ideas might sound futuristic, her inventions are already being worn by people around the world.

Aiko’s journey into smart fashion began five years ago, when her father was hospitalized due to a heart problem. She wanted to create clothes that could track vital signs and send alerts to doctors in case of danger. Her first prototype was a cotton T-shirt lined with flexible sensors that could measure heartbeat and breathing rate. The data was transmitted to a mobile app, allowing medical professionals to monitor patients remotely. The design was soon adopted by several hospitals across Japan.

Your success defines our reputation.

[A] Encouraged by this success, Aiko expanded her work into lifestyle fashion. She collaborated with engineers to design fabric that reacts to temperature and sunlight, allowing clothes to “breathe” in the heat and retain warmth in the cold. [B] These fabrics contain microscopic materials known as *nanofibers*, which can open or close their structure automatically. [C] As a result, the wearer feels more comfortable without having to manually adjust their clothing. [D]

More recently, Aiko has been developing clothing that interacts with emotions. Using tiny sensors that detect changes in skin temperature and moisture, the clothes can analyze the wearer’s mood and adjust their colors accordingly — for example, turning soft blue when calm or vibrant red when excited. She believes that in the near future, such garments will not only express personal style but also help people understand their own emotional well-being better.

Despite these achievements, Aiko admits there are challenges. The production of smart textiles remains expensive, and there are ongoing concerns about privacy — since smart clothing collects personal data. However, she is optimistic that as technology becomes more affordable and secure, “intelligent fashion” will soon become as common as smartphones.

Question 8 is based on the information in paragraph 1.

Decide if the statements are **TRUE (T)** or **FALSE (F)**.

Write X in the corresponding column.

Statements	T	F
1. Aiko’s smart clothing ideas are still in the early concept stage.		
2. Some of Aiko’s inventions can respond to the wearer’s emotions.		
3. Aiko is among the first to combine technology and fashion.		
4. Smart clothing is only available to people in Japan.		

Question 9 is based on the information in paragraph 2.

Statements	T	F

Your success defines our reputation.

1. Aiko's inspiration came from a personal family experience.		
2. The first smart T-shirt could send medical data to doctors through an app.		
3. Her invention was mainly created for entertainment purposes.		
4. Japanese hospitals showed interest in her early designs.		

Questions 10–15: Choose the correct answer A, B, C, or D.

Question 10. In paragraph 3, the phrase “*reacts to*” is closest in meaning to _____.

A. adapts to B. prevents C. resists D. protects from

Question 11. In paragraph 3, the word “*their*” in “allowing clothes to ‘breathe’ in the heat and retain warmth in the cold” refers to _____.

A. engineers B. fabrics C. people D. jackets

Question 12. According to paragraph 3, what makes Aiko’s temperature-responsive fabric unique?

A. It can completely block sunlight.
 B. It can automatically adjust its structure using nanofibers.
 C. It changes shape manually through buttons.
 D. It requires electricity to maintain body temperature.

Question 13. In which space (marked A, B, C, or D) does the following sentence best fit?

“Her innovative materials have attracted attention from international fashion brands eager to collaborate.”

A. [A] B. [B] C. [C] D. [D]

Question 14. Which of the following can be inferred from the last paragraph?

A. Aiko is discouraged by the high cost of her inventions.
 B. People are losing interest in wearable technology.
 C. The use of personal data in fashion technology raises ethical questions.
 D. Smart clothing will soon replace traditional garments entirely.

Question 15. Which sentence best summarizes the main idea of the passage?

A. Aiko Tanaka, a Japanese designer, is transforming the fashion world through smart

Your success defines our reputation.

clothing that merges innovation and emotion.

- B. Smart clothing remains too expensive and impractical for public use.
- C. Aiko Tanaka invented the first hospital uniform for doctors.
- D. The fashion industry is rejecting the use of technology in clothing design.

TỔNG HỢP TỪ VỰNG LIÊN QUAN

CHỦ ĐỀ 1: Digital Trap

Từ / Cụm từ	Từ loại	Nghĩa tiếng Việt	Từ trái nghĩa
scam / fraud / cyber scam	n	vụ lừa đảo (trực tuyến)	honesty, legitimacy
legitimate	adj	hợp pháp, chính đáng	fake, illegal
psychological manipulation	n.phr	thao túng tâm lý	emotional stability, self-control
tech-savvy	adj	am hiểu công nghệ	inexperienced, ignorant
the tip of the iceberg	idiom	phần nổi của vấn đề lớn	entirety, whole picture
catfishing	n	giả danh trực tuyến để lừa	authenticity
butter someone up	phr.v	nịnh bợ, tâng bốc	criticize, insult
take the bait	idiom	mắc bẫy	resist, stay alert
snowball into	phr.v	leo thang, tràm trọng dần	decrease, lessen
gullible	adj	cả tin, dễ bị lừa	skeptical, cautious
AI-driven detection	adj.phr	phát hiện nhờ AI	manual detection

Your success defines our reputation.

two-factor authentication	n	xác thực hai bước	single-password login
encrypted apps	adj.phr	ứng dụng mã hóa	open, unprotected apps
in vain	adv	vô ích, uổng công	successfully, effectively

CHỦ ĐỀ 2: Social Media Vanity

Từ / Cụm từ	Từ loại	Nghĩa tiếng Việt	Từ trái nghĩa
vanity	n	sự phù phiếm, tự cao	humility, modesty
spiral into	phr.v	trượt vào, sa vào	recover from, get out of
self-promotion	n	tự quảng bá bản thân	self-restraint
validation	n	sự công nhận, thừa nhận	rejection, denial
vicious cycle	n	vòng luẩn quẩn	solution, breakthrough
boasting	n/v-ing	khoe khoang	modesty, humility
fit in	phr.v	hòa nhập, phù hợp	stand out, isolate
live beyond one's means	idiom	chi tiêu vượt khả năng	live within one's means
compare and despair	idiom	so sánh rồi chán nản	self-acceptance
keep up appearances	idiom	giữ thể diện, hình ảnh	be authentic, be true to oneself
digital literacy	n	hiểu biết về công nghệ số	digital ignorance

Your success defines our reputation.

get one's feet back on the ground	idiom	trở lại thực tế	lose control, get lost in illusion
balance (life)	n/v	cân bằng	imbalance, instability

CHỦ ĐỀ 3: Counterfeit Goods

Từ / Cụm từ	Từ loại	Nghĩa tiếng Việt	Từ trái nghĩa
counterfeit	adj/n	giả mạo	genuine, authentic
for a fraction of the price	phrase	với giá rẻ hơn nhiều	at full price
organized crime	n	tội phạm có tổ chức	lawful activity
tax evasion	n	trốn thuế	tax compliance
discourage	v	làm nản lòng	encourage, motivate
combat this problem	phrase	chống lại vấn đề này	ignore, tolerate
blockchain	n	chuỗi khối (công nghệ xác thực dữ liệu)	unverified system
authenticity	n	tính xác thực	falseness, imitation
transparency	n	tính minh bạch	secrecy, opacity
turn the tide	idiom	đảo ngược tình thế	worsen, deteriorate
exploitation	n	sự bóc lột	fairness, protection
awareness campaign	n	chiến dịch nâng cao nhận thức	ignorance
responsible choices	n	lựa chọn có trách nhiệm	careless actions

Your success defines our reputation.

CHỦ ĐỀ 4: Smart Clothing

Từ / Cụm từ	Từ loại	Nghĩa tiếng Việt	Từ trái nghĩa
garment	n	trang phục	accessory
prototype	n	bản mẫu thử nghiệm	final product
vital signs	n	dấu hiệu sinh tồn	non-vital data
flexible sensors	n.phr	cảm biến linh hoạt	rigid devices
remotely	adv	từ xa	directly, in person
nanofibers	n	sợi nano	traditional fibers
retain warmth	v.phr	giữ ấm	lose heat
emotional well-being	n	sức khỏe tinh thần	distress, instability
privacy concerns	n	lo ngại về quyền riêng tư	data freedom, openness
affordable and secure	adj.phr	rẻ và an toàn	expensive and risky
merge innovation and emotion	phrase	kết hợp đổi mới và cảm xúc	separate, divide
pioneer	n/v	người tiên phong	follower
adopted by	phr.v	được chấp nhận / áp dụng bởi	rejected by
ethical questions	n	vấn đề đạo đức	moral clarity