Shirley Homes and the Cyber Thief

Before Reading

1 1 Y  
   2 N  
   3 N  
   4 N  
   5 Y  
   6 N  

2 There is a lot of cyber crime these days. When there is important information on an office computer, you need to know the passwords to open the files. But a clever hacker can break most passwords. Then they can download the files from the computer and put them on a memory stick. It’s easy. A memory stick is very small and you can hide it in a pocket.

While Reading

Chapters 1 and 2
1 business  
2 detective  
3 journalist  
4 designers  
5 friend / hacker

Before chapter 3
Possible answers:  
1 Harry Bowman because he needs money because he wants to buy a house in Spain for his wife.  
2 Anna Lund because she is clever, wants to be rich, and does not like waiting.  
3 Ken Okobi because he is wearing very expensive Gucci shoes, and where does he get the money from?

Chapters 3 and 4
1 Jeff Clayton to Shirley. He is talking about the Trojan Horse program.  
2 The boy with the skateboard to Shirley. He is talking about Ken Okobi’s father.  
3 Shirley to Jeff. She is telling Jeff how to tell his staff about the Blandings House quotation costings file.  
4 Saheed to Shirley. He is talking about Shirley asking him to check some names for police records.  
5 Shirley to Saheed. She is talking about the funny name of the Spark’nFlash Design company.  
6 The Weasel to Shirley. He is talking about the Trojan program.

Before chapter 5
Encourage students to speculate and make guesses, but do not tell them the answers. They will find out as they read that numbers 2 and 3 are problems for Shirley.

Before chapters 6 and 7
Encourage students to speculate and make guesses, but do not tell them the answers. They will find out as they read that the answers are 1 Very well, 2 Clayton Electrics, 3 Jeff Clayton.

After Reading

1 1+13 Jeff Clayton wants Shirley to find the cyber thief before he does the quotation for Blandings House.  
2+11 Shirley wants to ask the designers lots of questions so she tells them she is a journalist.  
3+18 Shirley wants to know about Ken’s home life because he wears very expensive Gucci shoes.  
4+12 The Weasel likes his dark apartment full of computers and is not interested in daylight or trees.  
5+16 Shirley needs to watch everything on the designers’ laptops on her laptop so she puts a Trojan on the office computer.  
6+10 Shirley learns something interesting when she goes to look at Ken’s home.  
7+15 Saheed puts some names through the police computer because he wants to help Shirley.  
8+17 Shirley knows that Anna is the cyber thief but can’t prove it.  
9+14 Anna makes a bad mistake when she says that she doesn’t know anybody from Spark’nFlash Design.

2

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  t r u s t  
  t h a c k e r  
  t h e n e w p r o g r a m  
  t h e w e b s i t e  
  t h e c o n t r a c t  
  t h e m e m o r y s t i c k
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The hidden word is: security.
Encourage discussion of the importance of computer security, to prevent attack by viruses and other malicious programs.

3 The good rules are 1, 3, 6, 8, 9  
The bad rules are 2, 4, 5, 7, 10

4 1 Bad – a very obvious name
2 Bad – an obvious name spelt backwards, and numbers in sequence
3 Good
4 Bad – an obvious name, and a single number
5 Bad – Jeff’s own name spelt backwards
6 Good
7 Bad – too obvious, too short
8 Bad – too obvious, with numbers in sequence
5 Shirley: ‘That was so good! You make the best chicken dinner in London, Saheed!’
8 Saheed: ‘Thanks! And how was your dinner last night, with the client?’
7 Shirley: ‘Oh, it was good. My client’s a happy man. He’s got a big new contract, and I caught the cyber thief.’
4 Saheed: ‘Well done! How did you catch him, Shirley?’
1 Shirley: ‘Not him. It was a woman, not a man. She hacked into the office computer and downloaded files at night on her laptop.’
6 Saheed: ‘And how did you know that? You put a Trojan onto her laptop, didn’t you? You broke the law!’
9 Shirley: ‘No, I didn’t! Yes, I used a Trojan, but the client knew all about it. And it was the company’s laptop.’
2 Saheed: ‘Oh. The client knew about it. OK. Are you going to see this client again – another dinner perhaps?’
5 Shirley: [laughs] ‘No, Saheed, I’m not. He’s a client, and it was a thank-you dinner. End of story.’
6 Open answer.