

Matthew's story:

I am so sad today. It seems my computer has a virus and now, I can't use it. Every time I try to visit a website, it slows down and takes me to a different website that wants me to buy anti-virus software. Even when I log off of my browser, these pop-up windows keep appearing over and over again.

I'm not sure why this happens to me so often. Maybe it has to do with my computer habits. I use the same password for every e-mail program and website I use. The password is really easy to remember, it's "1234." I like to read e-mails I get too! It seems like I get a lot of e-mails from my e-mail provider that prompt me to change my password from a link in the e-mail. I always do, but my old passwords still work. Weird! I find it funny that the e-mails always have poor spelling and grammar! Sometimes, I get attachments in e-mails from people I don't recognize. Maybe they're from old pen-pals! I always like to download these and open them just to check. I also like to visit new video game sites I find using search engines. I especially like to visit the sites that come with warnings such as "this site may harm your computer," because my favorite games are always on these sites! These sites also offer free game downloads. Even after visiting these site, my computer still turns on and works. Finally, I've started visiting social media sites. I like to be upfront with everyone, so I always post my picture, address, age, school, and phone number on my pages. This way, anyone who wants to reach me can do so easily!

What are five things that Matthew is does that are unsafe?

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

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What are five things that Matthew is does that are unsafe?

1. His password is the same for every website and it is too simple.
2. He clicks on links in poorly written e-mails and then enters personal information on the pages that follow.
3. He downloads attachments from people he doesn't know
4. He visits web sites and downloads programs from sites that are flagged as unsafe on search engines.
5. He posts all of his personal information on social media, enabling anyone to find him.

