

READING

- 7 Read the article. Choose from the sentences (A–E) the one which fits each gap. There is one extra sentence.

THE CONMAN WHO FIGHTS FRAUD

Frank Abagnale, the former identity thief who inspired the Leonardo DiCaprio film *Catch Me If You Can*, is now working for the FBI.

There was a time when Frank Abagnale would have come to London having deceived his way onto a plane, engineered a free room for himself at a five-star hotel, and then spent the rest of his time coming up with scams to cheat people out of their money. But those days are well and truly over. ¹ ____ He has now been associated with the US crime-fighting agency for more than three decades.

No longer the slick young man portrayed on screen in the film *Catch Me If You Can* by Leonardo DiCaprio, Abagnale is now in his mid-sixties, with receding white hair and heavy bags under his eyes. ² ____ Despite a lifestyle of crime and running from the law, time it would appear has been rather kind to him.

Recently, Abagnale was in London once again involved in fraud – only this time he was there as a good guy. As the chief executive of Abagnale & Associates, he was helping to launch a verification system that promises to authenticate financial transactions with greater security than ever before. ³ ____ 'The crooks are now targeting where the real big money is,' he says. His job is to combat the latest craze in cyber crime: the theft of corporate identities in order to steal millions of pounds from well-stocked bank accounts.

So far, the attacks have mostly been in the States, particularly in government-backed enterprises. But large companies, especially banks, have also recently been targeted. Last year, nearly 90 million dollars was drained from a corporate account held in one of America's best-known Wall Street banks. ⁴ ____ 'Identity theft has become a big problem in the US and elsewhere and so it will happen in Great Britain. It's just a matter of time.' Only now the challenges are bigger than ever.

- A Fifteen years ago he set up a company to facilitate electronic payments over the Internet – an 'early version of PayPal', as he describes it.
- B After being locked up in a US prison on multiple accounts of forgery, America's legendary imposter was eventually freed by the FBI on the basis that he taught them everything he knew.
- C For years, he explains, identity theft has been the problem of individuals and small businesses. But now modern-day criminals are developing the taste and the technology for far bigger sums.
- D Abagnale believes that Britain is likely to start being hit too and that UK bosses are being far too complacent about the risks.
- E There is, however, still very much an air of mischievousness in the warm smile and light-hearted laugh of this smartly-dressed and charismatic elderly man.

SPEAKING

- 8 In pairs, complete the speaking task.

Student A, your photos show people doing different things to protest against something. Compare the photos and say how useful these ways of protesting are.



Student B, have you ever taken part in a protest march?

- 9 Now go to WORD STORE page 24 and complete another speaking task.

- 10 In pairs, discuss the questions.

- 1 Should young people get involved in campaigns that concern their local areas? Why?/Why not?
- 2 Is it better to express one's opinion on a controversial issue or to keep quiet? Why?
- 3 What's the most effective way to persuade somebody to change their opinion? Why?
- 4 What are the advantages of using social media to organise an event?

WRITING

- 11 Complete the writing task.

In your English class you have been talking about journalists and the press. Now your English teacher has asked you to write an essay. Write an essay using **all** the notes and give reasons for your point of view.

Should journalists use information they got illegally when writing about politicians?

Notes

Write about:

- informing the public
- politicians' privacy
- ____ (your own idea)

Write your essay in 140–190 words.