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Assignatura: ANGLÈS Asignatura: INGLÈS		 SUV sistema universitari valencià

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When a movie or song is produced and marketed, everyone involved in the process has monetary gains from the sale of that product. Therefore that product is protected by copyright law so that it cannot be copied or reproduced or resold without their permission. If you did not pay for a song, movie or other media file that has a copyright, then downloading that file is a crime. Likewise, distributing a copyrighted media file, whether via electronic or non-electronic methods, without the express permission of the copyright holder is also illegal.

"Avatar", the 20th Century Fox blockbuster directed by James Cameron, is the most pirated film in Hollywood history. It has been downloaded some 21 million times since it was released in 2009, according to a study published by Torrent Freak.

After two years of investigations, one of the best known websites, megaupload.com, which runs a number of online services related to file storage and viewing, has been finally shut down on 19 January 2012 by the US Justice Department for allegedly operating as an organization dedicated to copyright infringement.

Meanwhile controversy is served among those who think that something must be done to address online counterfeiting and piracy, which already costs the global economy \$650 bn annually, and those who are on the side of publishing freedom. The founders of Google, Twitter, and eBay were among a large group of signatories to a strongly worded letter to the US Congress criticising the legislation as censorship.

QUESTIONS

1. State in your own words what the text means by (paragraph 1):

"Likewise, distributing a copyrighted media file, whether via electronic or non-electronic methods, without the express permission of the copyright holder is also illegal." (2 marks)

1. Decide whether the following statements are true or false, according to the text. Write T or F. If the answer is not mentioned in the text, mark it false. (2 marks)

- a) Publication without permission constitutes infringement of copyright.
- a) It has been proved that megaupload.com distributes products illegally.
- b) The global economy is hardly affected by illegal downloads.
- c) There exists a general agreement among Internet users to fight against piracy.

2. These words are found in the text: MONETARY, LIKEWISE, METHODS, HOLDER, ONLINE, ALLEGEDLY, INFRINGEMENT, AS.

Choose the ones that mean the same as the following. (2 marks)

- A. supposedly
- B. violation
- C. similarly
- D. possessor

3. Choose the best option (a, b or c), according to the text. Only one answer is correct. (2 marks)

1. James Cameron's film, "Avatar"...

- a) is one of the most pirated films.
- b) has scarcely been seen on cinema screens.
- c) remains as the favourite film to be pirated by Internet users since 2009.

2. Megaupload, one of the Internet's largest file-sharing sites,...

- a) might continue operating with its online services in the future..
- b) is accused of being a criminal organization by the US Justice Department.
- c) has been closed down after several years of research.

3. According to the text,...

- a) only distributing copyrighted contents is considered a crime.
- b) using piracy without the permission of the copyright holder is illegal.
- c) piracy simply involves the use of electronic methods.

4. According to the text,...

- a) the audiovisual industry is suffering great financial losses.

- b) nowadays legislation protects people who pay for illegal copies.
- c) the existing laws concerning online piracy have never been criticized.

5) Answer the 2 questions using your own words. Use from 35–40 to 50 words in each one. The total amount of words, including the 2 questions, must be from 75 to 100 words (Total: 2 marks; 1 mark per question; -0.3 per question if too many or not enough words).

1. Do you think that internet users should be "punished" for downloading copyright materials?
2. What should be done to stop online piracy?

