

Meet the man who accidentally started an assassin hiring website

Level: Advanced – Teacher's notes

Article summary: A website domain name bought with an innocent business idea in mind has turned into an unusual way to stop and catch would-be-killers.

Time: 90 minutes

Skills: Reading, speaking, writing about the do's and don'ts of online safety

Language focus: Vocabulary, speaking, & writing clear tips and advice

Materials needed: One copy of the worksheet per student

1. Warmer

- a. Preferably before they see the title of the article, elicit words and terms used to describe people who kill others for money.

e.g., hitman, contract killer, assassin, hired gun

- b. Students scan the article to see which words it uses.

Key: *assassin, hitman, field operative*

2. Key words

- a. Students write the correct word from the wordpool next to the definitions on the lines provided. Then they find and highlight them in the article to read them in context.

Key:

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. <i>solicit</i> | 9. <i>fluke</i> |
| 2. <i>stranded</i> | 10. <i>blurb</i> |
| 3. <i>corroborating</i> | 11. <i>nefarious</i> |
| 4. <i>compelled</i> | 12. <i>ploy</i> |
| 5. <i>feigning</i> | 13. <i>lure</i> |
| 6. <i>jeopardy</i> | 14. <i>dupe</i> |
| 7. <i>wacky</i> | 15. <i>ascertain</i> |
| 8. <i>intervene</i> | |

- b. Before reading the article carefully, students use some of the key words to fill the gaps in the sentences to ensure that they understand and know how the words are used in other contexts.

Key:

1. *compelled*
2. *ploy*
3. *intervene*
4. *solicit*
5. *jeopardy*
6. *stranded*
7. *lure*

3. Understanding the article

- a. Students read the statements and decide whether they are *True* or *False* according to the article and correct any that are false.

Key:

1. *False. He bought it with the idea of setting up website analysis services. The hit in the name he thought would be a play on words relating to the hits a website gets.*
2. *False. It costs him just under ten US dollars.*
3. *True*
4. *False. He didn't respond to her request, but she wrote again.*
5. *True*
6. *False. They found out she was a known person and wanted in the UK. She was arrested in 2010.*
7. *True*
8. *True*
9. *False. He makes no money from the site and it even costs him money, but he accepts financial donations to help cover its running costs.*
10. *True*
11. *False. He feels he has no choice other than to inform the police, and work alongside them to catch the would-be killers.*
12. *True*

Meet the man who accidentally started an assassin hiring website

Level: Advanced – Teacher's notes

4. Key language

- a. Without referring to the article, students write in the missing letters to complete the verb phrases from the article. The first letter of each word is given to help them.

Then they should go back over the article to check their answers.

Key:

1. *a nod to*
2. *little did he know*
3. *stepping into character*
4. *be in possession of*
5. *turn someone in*
6. *more than someone had bargained for*
7. *ripe with*
8. *run rampant*
9. *out of pocket*
10. *a free pass*

- b. Then they should use each one to write a new and unrelated sentence of their own about their life or work.

5. Discussion

- a. Students discuss the questions related to the article.

6. In your own words

- a. Students work with a partner or in small groups to create a comprehensive list of internet safety do's and don'ts which they should share with the rest of the class.