

Video Worksheet

Meet the Lawyer Who Defends Anonymous



About the Video

You know Anonymous, the hacktivist group that performs cyber ops to advance social and political change. Now, meet Jay Leiderman, the California-based lawyer who represents Anonymous pro bono. Leiderman specializes in cyber law, and his goal is to change outdated computer laws.



Instructions

How to Use This Worksheet

Follow the steps below to get the most benefit from this worksheet.

We recommend writing your answers and examples in a journal or a notebook, and reviewing the words you're learning regularly.

STEP 1

Complete the 'Vocabulary' section before watching the video.

You will understand more of the video if you familiarize yourself with the vocabulary first. This will also help you retain what you're learning. We've provided the answers for the exercises on page 10.

STEP 2

Watch the video the first time without subtitles or the transcript.

If you always watch English videos with the subtitles, you'll never give your listening skills a chance to improve. It's okay if you don't understand everything at first. **You'll notice a big improvement in a few weeks if you practice regularly.**

STEP 3

Watch it a second time with the transcript if needed.

We have provided a transcript for the video on page 8.

If you have any questions, please [contact us](#). You can also [visit our website](#) for more worksheets and lessons.



Vocabulary Practice

1. WORDS IN CONTEXT

Match the words or phrases in bold to their synonyms or meanings.

complaint for free affects go after punishment

1. The lawyer is handling the case **pro bono**.
2. My only **gripe** with the cafe is that it's pricey
3. How you deal with stress **determines** how it affects your body.
4. She resigned to **pursue** other opportunities.
5. There will be a **penalty** for businesses that don't comply with the rules.

2. FILL IN THE BLANKS

Complete the sentences with the correct words.

You might have to change verb forms (talk - talking or talked).

pro bono gripe determined pursue penalty

1. She plans to _____ a career in politics.
2. His main _____ is that he's not being trained properly.
3. What's the _____ for dangerous driving?
4. The age of a wine _____ how it tastes.
5. The lawyer defended us _____.



Vocabulary Practice

3. DEFINITIONS

Match the words or phrases to their definitions.

the suburbs

outrageous

hactivist

there's more to ... than meets the eye

1. _____: someone who hacks computer systems for political reasons
2. _____: a residential area away from the center of a city
3. _____: used to say that something is more interesting than it seems
4. _____: too bad to be accepted or allowed

4. WHAT'S ANOTHER WAY TO SAY...?

Rewrite the sentences with one of the words above.

You might have to make some changes to the sentences, or add/change a preposition.

1. Do you get bored of living in **residential areas**?

2. People think it's a boring city, but **it's more interesting than it seems**.

3. His behavior was **too bad to be accepted**.

4. **Hacker activists** attacked the bank's website this week.



Watch the Video

► [Click here to watch the video](#) (or search for 'Meet the Lawyer Who Defends Anonymous' on YouTube). Watch it at least once without subtitles or the transcript. Watch it a second time with the transcript if needed.

Speaking Practice

DISCUSSION

Discuss the following questions.

Try to give as much detail as you can. Elaborate with examples or stories whenever possible.

1. Anonymous is one of the most famous hacktivist groups in the world. What do you think of such groups? Do you think they are dangerous or helpful?
2. Have you ever met someone who seemed ordinary but you felt there was more than meets the eye about them? What was it about them? What did you discover about them?
3. Why do you think Jay Leiderman is determined to work pro bono for Anonymous? Do you agree with his opinion that internet regulations are outdated and outrageous? Do you feel more regulation is required? How would you enact it?
4. When you think of the suburbs, what type of people typically come to mind? Would you be surprised to find someone like Jay Leiderman in your neighborhood? What do you like about the suburbs? What's your biggest gripe?
5. Have you heard of the dark web? Why do you think it exists? What kind of people do you believe are drawn to it? Would you be afraid to go there?



6. What is activism? Do you think that activism and social movements can create positive results? Why/why not?



Writing Practice

PRODUCTION

Choose 3 - 5 words you learned today, and use them to create one of the following:

1. 6 - 10 separate sentences
2. A paragraph
3. A short story
4. A poem or a song

Tips for Better Writing

USE A VARIETY OF SENTENCE STYLES

Avoid using simple sentences. Instead, try to use a variety of sentence styles and lengths:

Type	Definition	Example
Simple	Consists of only one clause.	<i>She likes traveling.</i>
Compound	Combines two independent clauses with <i>and, but, yet, so</i> , etc.	<i>She likes traveling, and she loves exploring new places.</i>
Complex	Combines one main clause and one dependent clause with <i>if, even though, because, unless</i> , etc.	<i>Even though she likes traveling, she doesn't travel often.</i>



Transcript

Anonymous. You've probably heard of them.

They're the group of online activists that carry out cyber ops to advance social and political change.

And sometimes, they need a lawyer, a really good lawyer.

At first glance, Jay Leiderman seems like a regular guy. He lives in the suburbs, drives a fast car, and is a self-professed Deadhead. Oh, and he loves whisky.

But there's more to Jay's story than immediately meets the eye. When Jay sits down at the computer, he's anything but average.

"I represent accused cyber criminals, many of whom are either affiliated with Anonymous or closely related groups."

And it all started with a tweet.

"I sent out a couple tweets giving attention to the fact that I would take a pro bono case. The next morning, there was an email in my inbox from Commander X."

Commander X, a prominent member of the hacktivist group Anonymous.

"Commander X was the first hacktivist I represented. Once he felt that I was his lawyer, he determined unilaterally that I was the lawyer for Anonymous. There are a number of encrypted chat-type programs that I would prefer to use. I like to keep the NSA guessing with which method of communication I'm going to use with the idea that perhaps they can't monitor them all at once."

When someone contacts me, and I do not know who they are, it's the most beautiful, purest form of conversation, because there is absolutely no judgement on anything. Over the computer, everyone is equal."



One of the hardest things about representing Anonymous is working around digital laws that were written decades ago. His main gripe is with the CFAA, the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act.

“The penalties are outrageous. It's a bad law. It's a broken law. It's not something that fits with today's technology. Sharing your Netflix password with your friends, that could be a federal crime. I hope that by helping hacktivists, by pursuing these cases in the courts, by continuing to keep the issues alive in the media, that we can enact some degree of change. I hope it's not just a few of us crazies running through the wilderness.”



Answer Key

1. WORDS IN CONTEXT

1. for free 2. complaint 3. affects 4. go after 5. punishment

2. FILL IN THE BLANKS

1. She plans to **pursue** a career in politics.
2. His main **gripe** is that he's not being trained properly.
3. What's the **penalty** for dangerous driving?
4. The age of a wine **determines** how it tastes.
5. The lawyer defended us **pro bono**.

3. DEFINITIONS

1. **hactivist**: someone who hacks computer systems for political reasons.
2. **the suburbs**: a residential area away from the center of a city.
3. **there's more to ... than meets the eye**: used to say that something is more interesting than it seems.
4. **outrageous**: too bad to be accepted or allowed.

4. WHAT'S ANOTHER WAY TO SAY...?

1. Do you get bored of living in **the suburbs**?
2. People think it's a boring city, but **there's more to it than meets the eye**.
3. His behavior was **outrageous**.
4. **Hactivists** attacked the bank's website this week.