



# Sharing Releases Control

## Review Questions

### Answer Key

1. Explain how the following types of services contribute to making the information you share online permanently available, even if you've deleted the original copy.

- a. Search engines

*Possible answers might include:*

*Search engine store (cache) older versions of web pages, which can turn up in search results.*

*If the information was reposted on another site before you deleted it, a search engine could find the reposted version.*

- b. Social media

*Possible answers might include:*

*Sites make backups, which could be hacked.*

*Someone else can repost your information, and then it's in their profile/feed.*

*People can take screenshots and share them.*

- c. Email and messaging

*Possible answers might include:*

*The person you originally shared it with can forward it or save it locally on their device.*

*You and your correspondent's email/messages may be stored on the service's backup server.*

*People can take screenshots of messages and share them.*

2. Is there any foolproof way to make sure no one ever sees or hears a particular piece of information? Why or why not?

*Answers should reflect an understanding that deletion is no guarantee; that once anyone besides you (or any computer) knows the information, there's always a chance they could share it (online or offline), either on purpose or accidentally/under duress/if they're hacked.*

3. What are two questions you should ask yourself before posting on social media?

*Example answers might include:*

*Who will see this post?*

*Could this post be misinterpreted (by my target audience, by others)?*

*Would I be comfortable with this post going viral?*

*Would someone coming from a different perspective, like my parent(s), understand what I mean by posting this?*

*Could I regret this in the future?*

*Will this post violate someone else's privacy?*

*Could someone use this information to impersonate me and get access to my accounts/my contacts' accounts?*

*Could someone use this information to bully or blackmail me?*

4. Name two potential consequences to consider when sharing personal information on social media.

*Example answers might include:*

*Someone might misinterpret it.*

*Someone could share it with the people it's about/with everyone. / It could go viral.*

*Someone might find it later and decide not to offer me a job/let me into college/give me a scholarship.*

*Someone might plagiarize it/stay my ideas.*

*Someone might use it to impersonate me and break into my accounts/fool my friends.*

*I might be embarrassed by it later.*



5. You probably don't want to stop using social media and other online services, but you may want to maintain a degree of privacy while using them. How can you help prevent the negative consequences of sharing with too many people?

**Possible answers might include:**

*Check/update your privacy settings, to make it so only the people you want see your posts/messages.*

*Periodically recheck your privacy settings in case there are new options, or in case the site/service changed the default settings.*

*Talk to your friends about asking you before they upload photos of you online.*

*Untag yourself from photos and posts/set services to prevent other people from tagging you without your permission.*

*Only include people in your Friends or Contacts list (whoever you usually share your posts with) that you actually know/have reason to trust.*

6. If someone shares a piece of information with you online, how would you decide who it's okay to re-share it with?

*Answers should show understanding of the fact that the original sharer may be making non-obvious assumptions about what the original recipient will or won't do with the information.*

