
Identity Theft Stories

Read each short story and describe what the thief did, what type of information the thief stole, and what the thief did with the information.

The Story	What the Thief Did
<p>Silvia moved to a new house. She called the electric company to open an account, but the electric company would not open one. They said that Silvia already had an account and that she had not been paying the bills.</p>	
<p>Albert got his credit card statement in the mail. When he looked at it, he saw a charge for \$342 at a toy store and another charge for \$236 at a department store. Albert had never gone to those stores.</p>	
<p>Carl was driving a little too fast. He was stopped by the police. The police officer told Carl that he would have to go to the station because of his arrest record. Carl knew that he had never been arrested.</p>	
<p>Jane got a statement from her medical insurance company. The statement said that Jane had used up her insurance allowance because she received care from Dr. Smith. Jane had never heard of Dr. Smith.</p>	
<p>Sally wanted to buy new furniture. She applied for a credit card at the furniture store, but the store would not give her one. They said she had three credit cards with overdue payments. Sally did not have any credit cards.</p>	
<p>Tony thought he would be getting a tax refund. Tony was happy. Then he got a letter from the IRS. It said someone else had already filed taxes with his Social Security number. That person received Tony's refund.</p>	

Identity Theft Stories - Answer Key

Read each short story and describe what the thief did, what type of information the thief stole, and what the thief did with the information.

The Story	What the Thief Did
<p>Silvia moved to a new house. She called the electric company to open an account, but the electric company would not open one. They said that Silvia already had an account and that she had not been paying the bills.</p>	<p><i>Open an electricity account</i></p>
<p>Albert got his credit card statement in the mail. When he looked at it, he saw a charge for \$342 at a toy store and another charge for \$236 at a department store. Albert had never gone to those stores.</p>	<p><i>Buy things with your credit cards</i></p>
<p>Carl was driving a little too fast. He was stopped by the police. The police officer told Carl that he would have to go to the station because of his arrest record. Carl knew that he had never been arrested.</p>	<p><i>Pretend to be someone else if they are arrested</i></p>
<p>Jane got a statement from her medical insurance company. The statement said that Jane had used up her insurance allowance because she received care from Dr. Smith. Jane had never heard of Dr. Smith.</p>	<p><i>Get medical care</i></p>
<p>Sally wanted to buy new furniture. She applied for a credit card at the furniture store, but the store would not give her one. They said she had three credit cards with overdue payments. Sally did not have any credit cards.</p>	<p><i>Get new credit cards in your name</i></p>
<p>Tony thought he would be getting a tax refund. Tony was happy. Then he got a letter from the IRS. It said someone else had already filed taxes with his Social Security number. That person received Tony's refund.</p>	<p><i>File someone's tax return and get their refund</i></p>