

Fraud: How Safe is the Internet?

I like to shop online, but how safe is it? A lot of my students would never pay for *anything* over the Internet, because they're worried that someone might be able to intercept their credit card or bank information and take all their money.

I don't have much money to take, so I never really worried about it. To me, being able to buy books in English on Amazon—when there isn't a single book store in Dresden that has them—is definitely worth the risk. After all, what good is money if you can't find the things you want to buy?

Even my mother—who I think is the most old-fashioned person in the world—is starting to shop more and more online. She says that the stores near her house just don't have the things she wants to get, and so she has to shop online.

But, what happens if someone does get your credit card number? Is it possible for someone to take all your money? What about privacy? Are you worried that the government or your neighbors will know where and how you spend your money?

How safe do you think it is to shop online?