YEAR 8 HOMEWORK PROJECT THREE:

Below are two topical articles around the misuse of ICT. For each article answer the questions that follow the articles. You should aim to be writing a minimum of one full side of A4 for the questions on each article.

MORALISSUES FILESHARING



American student Joel Tenenbaum was taken to court for downloading and sharing songs using the peer-to-peer file sharing program Kazaa.

Under US law, recording companies are entitled to \$750 to \$30,000 per infringement, or more if the jury believes the infringements were wilful.

In the first case of this kind, a Minnesota jury awarded \$80,000 per song, amounting to \$1.92 million for sharing 24 songs.

Joel was found guilty and ordered to pay \$675,000 (£404,000).

He now must either pay the fine or declare bankruptcy.

Tenenbaum said an entire generation has grown up downloading music and his case is not unusual, but in a press release, Recording Industry Association of America President Mitch Bainwol said music fans know right from wrong when it comes to illegal downloading.

KEYQUESTIONS

Do you think the ruling was fair? Do you think the law upon which the ruling was based is fair? If so, explain why. If not, what alternatives could you suggest? Do you think this is the best way to deter piracy?

MORALISSUES



PLAGIARISM

Lauren Nassef is a freelance illustrator living in Chicago. She showcases her work on her website, laurennassef.com.

On the 3rd of August 2009 she was alerted by a visitor to her website that a graduate student at Falmouth University named Samantha Beeson had stolen her drawings and used them in her own work.

As well as using the pieces for her degree work, Samantha won a £750 award and the opportunity to showcase her designs at exhibitions in Hong Kong and Paris. She even included Lauren's drawings on her own web portfolio, which she has since taken down, and made a fake sketchbook with Lauren's drawings traced or pasted in.

Illustrator Julia Rothman said:

"I'm not sure what the lesson here is. Should we be more careful about putting our work online? How can we protect ourselves from incidents like this?"

KEYQUESTIONS

Why do you think the student copied Lauren's work? What do you think the repercussions will be, now that she has been found out? How do you think Lauren might feel about continuing to share her work online?