Unit 2 Reading Comprehension 2

I. **Read the following report from the US in 2013 about crimes in Chile. Vote in Menti.**

    a. **Scan the text** to identify key words related to crime.
    b. **Identify** which crimes have increased according to this 2013 article.

Chile 2013: Crime and Safety Report

Overall Crime and Safety Situation

The security environment is generally safe; there is comparatively less serious violent crime in Chile than in other Latin American countries. Pick-pocketing, telephonic scams, and residential break-ins are common, but violent crime is rare. Express kidnappings, kidnappings, and random shootings are non-existent, and the most commonly seen crimes involve pick-pocketing, vehicular theft, and residential burglaries.

Outside metropolitan Santiago, the chances of being victimized by crime are reduced with the exception of the Valparaiso, Antofagasta and Iquique areas, where crime is higher. However, robberies and assaults have occurred in Vina del Mar/Valparaiso and Pucon/Villarica, which becomes increasingly crowded during the height of the summer (December through March).

Crime Threats

Petty crime and residential burglaries, to include home invasions, have increased in metropolitan Santiago. Residents and tourists in Santiago are frequently victims of non-violent pick-pocketing. Purse snatching and pick-pocketing are most prevalent in crowded, tourist locations and pedestrian shopping areas in downtown Santiago as well as in subway stations, bus terminals, and on crowded buses and metros. Criminals often work in pairs with one distracting the victim with a motion or sound and the other stealing the victim's property. Areas around ATMs, kiosks, markets, or where any cash transactions are conducted should be regarded as prime crime locations. Restaurants, pubs, and food courts are also popular locations for theft of purses, backpacks, briefcases, and laptops.

Residential burglaries are a serious concern. Residential break-ins increase during summer vacation (December 18 through early March) when homes are left unoccupied for weeks. Apartments with 24-hour concierges are unlikely to be burglarized, but apartment break-ins do occur, although infrequently. Although most break-ins are conducted when residents are away, there has been an increase of residential break-ins when burglars purposely enter the house knowing residents are present. The use of violence in residential break-ins has increased, although the use of firearms is not common. Burglars commonly use bats and homemade knives to intimidate residents, and a common tactic involves the residents having their hands and feet tied and being placed in a closet while the burglars take valuables. It is common for Chilean employees to return home late and to leave Santiago on weekends to reside in their weekend beach homes. Many burglars expect that residences are often empty until 8pm on weekdays and empty on weekends; most break-ins occur during these times.

There has been a significant increase in the reported incidents involving credit card cloning and credit card fraud. Police entities have uncovered and arrested various networks engaged in cloning credit cards and producing fraudulent blank credit cards. Several employees in hospitality establishments have been caught scanning clients' credit cards through small, personal credit card scanners. It is common for wait staff, gasoline station attendants, and most facilities to bring a credit card scanning device to you so you can scan and maintain possession of your credit card.

a. _____
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b. _____
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c. _____
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II. **Crime wise, compare:**

a. Chile to other countries from the area:

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b. Santiago to other cities in the country:

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III. **What is the typical Modus Operandi of criminals in relation to:**

a. Pickpocketing:

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b. Burglary:

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IV. **Work in groups. Reflect on the 2022 crime and safety situation. Do you think the highest crime rates are the same as in 2013? Which criminal offenses have increased lately? What is the *modus operandi* of criminals in those cases?**

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