

Week 7 Journal Entry

Review the following photos through a human-centered cybersecurity framework. Create a meme for your favorite three, explaining what is going on in the individual's or individuals' mind(s).

Photo #3: <https://unsplash.com/photos/person-using-macbook-pro-on-white-table-AvSFPw5Tp68>

Meme: “When you need to check your bank account transactions at the airport and your only option is to use their public wi-fi.”

This meme highlights the human tendency to prioritize convenience over security. Users often underestimate risk and overestimate their ability to stay safe, leading to impulsive decisions like using unsecured public Wi-Fi. It reflects how everyday human behavior, not just technical flaws, exposes vulnerabilities in cybersecurity systems.

Photo #4: <https://unsplash.com/photos/LPdCgbm0s-o>

Meme: “When facial recognition is used by our own governments to spy on us.”

This meme explores privacy and trust - two core factors in cybersecurity. Cyber breaches cause anxiety, fear, and loss of control. These emotional responses undermine public trust in institutions. The meme mirrors users' internal conflict between wanting security and fearing surveillance.

Photo #10: <https://unsplash.com/photos/serious-caucasian-female-engineer-crouching-by-server-equipment-and-using-laptop-while-troubleshooting-problem-in-server-room-lit-by-red-light-WILWgrT9Mpk>

Meme: “When you're half asleep at 2am on a Tuesday night and the boss calls about a security incident at your firm's biggest client.”

This reflects the human element in cybersecurity operations including stress, fatigue, and burnout. These can increase the likelihood of mistakes. Human error remains a leading cause of breaches and emphasizes the importance of training and awareness programs. This meme captures the mental and emotional toll of being the “human firewall.”