**Handout 1 – DDoS Scenario Sheet**

Consider the scenarios provided below. For each, identify motivation type for the DDoS attack and comment on the reason.

* **Financial Extortion**: Demanding payment to stop the attack.
* **Political or Ideological Reasons**: To make a statement
* **Business Competition**: Disrupting rival companies.
* **Personal Vendettas**: Targeting due to personal grudges.
* **Vandalism**: Simply for disruption or chaos.
* **Skill Testing**: Young or inexperienced hackers proving their abilities.
* **Cyber Warfare**: State-sponsored cyber conflicts.
* **Exposing Vulnerabilities**: Claiming to highlight system weaknesses.

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| **Scenario** | **Motivation** | **Reason** |
| A large tech company faces a DDoS attack, later claimed to highlight their security weaknesses. | Exposing Vulnerabilities | The attack is positioned as a demonstration of the company's need for better security. |
| Cybersecurity hobbyists attack gaming websites with DDoS, then compare scores privately. | Skill Testing | These attacks are designed to test abilities without intending serious damage. |
| Educational platforms are hit by DDoS attacks, with no apparent reason or demand made. | Vandalism | These seem to be purposeless attacks, likely just for causing disruption. |
| A sportswear company's website crashes during a sale, indirectly benefiting a competitor. | Business Competition | The timing of the crashes suggests a potential strategy to influence customer choices. |
| A car enthusiast community site crashes after traffic surges, following the ban of some members. | Personal Vendettas | The disruption is likely a response to the bans, suggesting a vengeful motive. |
| A government-operated news outlet faces frequent outages during key global events, suggesting deliberate interference. | Cyber Warfare | Repeated disruptions align with major political events, indicating potential state-sponsored activities. |
| A group of hackers targets a website streaming a live, all-weekend concert. The hackers demand a cryptocurrency ransom to stop the attack. | Financial Extortion | It involves a demand for payment in exchange for stopping the attack. |