



Conversation **Electronic Privacy**

Emiko : Look at this book. It's a very rare one I've wanted for a long time. I got it in an Internet **auction**.

Rie : Wow, great! Shopping on the Net is becoming more and more convenient. I also often **access retrieval** services where you can get information on a product by just putting in some date like the type of products or your **budget**. We don't have to visit stores one by one.

Emiko : Yeah, I'm crazy about Net shopping. By the way, how do you pay when you shop online?

Rie : Well, I usually transfer money to the store's bank account, because I'm a little afraid that my personal data will be leaked if I pay with my credit card. I've been concerned about identity theft since I joined a **chat room** related to Net privacy.

Emiko : Really? You mean someone might impersonate me and commit crimes?

Rie : Well, I'm not sure, but there are no real regulations on the Net. I hope international laws will be introduced as soon as possible.

| Vocabulary | Meaning |
|------------|--|
| auction | the public sale of something to the highest bidder |
| access | the act of approaching or entering |
| retrieval | the act of regaining or saving something lost |
| budget | a sum of money allocated for a particular purpose |
| chat room | a venue for communities of users with a common interest to communicate in real time. |