



CRIME AND PUNISHMENT



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Expemo code:

17GV-G7JD-S5AB



1

Classify the crimes

In pairs, discuss which crimes are serious and which are petty:

arson
drunk driving
murder

bribery
fraud
pickpocketing

burglary
hacking
robbery

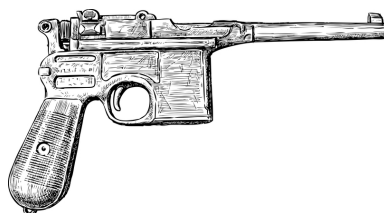
drug dealing
kidnapping
shoplifting

drug possession
manslaughter
terrorism

Serious crimes:

Petty crimes:

Can you think of any other crimes to add to the lists?





2

Criminals

Look at the following table. Complete the sentences below with appropriate words from the table in their correct form.

Crime	Criminal	What does she/he do?
burglary	a burglar	steals from houses
pickpocketing	a pickpocket	pickpockets people
arson	an arsonist	sets buildings on fire
robbery	a robber	robs people or places
mugging	a mugger	mugs people
blackmail	a blackmailer	blackmails people
kidnapping	a kidnapper	kidnaps people
perjury	a perjurer	lies in court
fraud	a fraudster	deceives people
smuggling	a smuggler	smuggles illegal goods

1. Dan was caught trying to _____ cocaine into the country. He is currently serving a 5-year prison sentence.
2. This town is getting really dangerous. Yesterday, I was _____ in broad daylight. The attacker had a knife and took all my money.
3. The police are looking for the person responsible for burning down the church. They are confident they will catch the _____.
4. Hold on to your wallet. There are a lot of _____ on the train.
5. Joe was _____ on his way to work. The _____ contacted his wife and demanded a ransom of \$1 million.
6. James was found guilty of _____. It was obvious that he was lying under oath.
7. A _____ broke into my house while I was at work and stole my entire music collection.
8. Do not try to hide your true income from the government. Tax _____ is a very serious crime.
9. Sandra is trying to _____ Tom. She says he has to pay her \$1000 or she will tell his wife about his affair.



3

Punishments

Look at the list of punishments below. In pairs, put them in order from 1 (most lenient) to 6 (most severe):

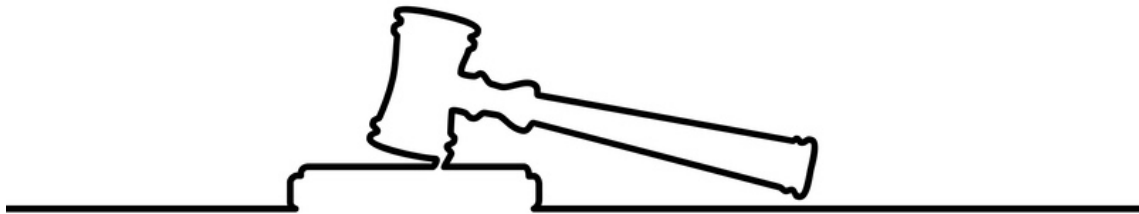
a 5-year prison sentence
community service

a \$500 fine
life imprisonment

a warning
the death penalty

In pairs, discuss what punishments are normally given in your countries for people who are found guilty of the crimes on Page 1. For example:

"If you are found guilty of murder, the punishment is usually life imprisonment." / "If you are caught smuggling illegal drugs, you can get a 10-year prison sentence."



4

In court

What do people do in a court of law? Study the following definitions:

plead guilty/not guilty - to officially state that you are guilty/not guilty of a crime

sentence somebody - to officially give a punishment to a person who is found guilty of a crime

give testimony - to tell the court what you saw/know

reach a verdict - to arrive at a decision about whether a person is guilty or not guilty of a crime

acquit somebody - to officially decide that someone is not guilty of a crime

convict somebody - to officially decide that someone is guilty of a crime



In pairs, match the following people with their typical functions and activities in a court of law:

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 1. a defense lawyer | a. argues that someone is guilty of committing a crime |
| 2. a defendant | b. gives testimony to the court |
| 3. a prosecutor | c. listens to arguments, hears evidence, deals with crimes that are not serious |
| 4. a judge | d. listens to arguments, hears evidence, sentences a guilty person |
| 5. a magistrate | e. listen to the facts/arguments, reach a verdict, convict/acquit someone who is charged with a serious crime |
| 6. a witness | f. pleads guilty/not guilty, gives testimony |
| 7. the jury | g. represents someone accused of a crime, argues that someone is not guilty of committing a crime |

Think about a well-known court case. Who was the defendant? What crime was he/she charged with? Did he/she plead guilty or not guilty? Who gave testimony? What was the verdict - did the jury acquit or convict the defendant? What sentence did the judge give?

5**Talking point**

Discuss any of the following questions:

1. Have you ever given testimony in a court of law?
2. Is crime a problem in your hometown or country? What are the reasons for this?
3. Do you think sentencing a criminal to prison is always an effective punishment?



Key

1. Classify the crimes

Go through the different terms. The classification of some of the crimes, e.g. bribery, hacking and drug possession, is open to debate depending on the seriousness of the crime or a particular country's legal system. Possible answers:

Serious crimes: murder, manslaughter, fraud, drug dealing, kidnapping, burglary, robbery, arson, drunk driving, terrorism

Petty crimes: pick pocketing, drug possession, shoplifting, bribery, hacking

2. Criminals

Go through the table and explain the meaning of all the terms. In the sentences on page 2, pre-teach the expressions 'in broad daylight' and 'under oath'.

1. smuggle
2. mugged
3. arsonist
4. pickpockets
5. kidnapped; kidnapper
6. perjury
7. burglar
8. fraud
9. blackmail

3. Punishments

Go through the punishments and explain any terms the students are unfamiliar with.

1 - a caution, 2 - a \$500 fine, 3 - community service, 4 - a 5-year prison sentence, 5 - life imprisonment, 6 - the death penalty

4. In court

- | | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1. g | 2. f | 3. a | 4. d | 5. c | 6. b | 7. e |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|