

24 Crime and punishment

Complete the sentences using words from the box.

arrest bail charge committed court ~~defence~~ evidence fine
juvenile lawyer prosecution prove sentence verdict witness

- 1 The defence lawyer said that his client didn't intend to cause injury.
- 2 Drop the gun. That's better. Now – you are under _____.
- 3 I know my rights. I want to phone my _____.
- 4 The prosecution says that my client stole millions of pounds via the internet. But where is the _____?
- 5 The _____ of this court is 'guilty'. Have you anything to say?
- 6 Everyone knew the woman was 100% guilty, but they just couldn't _____ it.
- 7 I now call my next _____, Mrs McPherson, the defendant's mother-in-law.
- 8 You are a rich man, and just paying a _____ will not punish you enough. I am going to send you to prison. Let this be a lesson to you.

- 9 Officer, you have arrested my client. Now you must either _____ her or let her go.
- 10 For those under 16 there is a special _____ court.
- 11 The Appeal Court might reduce your _____ from four years to, say, three. But they can also increase it.
- 12 You can deposit £50,000 with the court, and be released on _____. But if you disappear, you will lose the money. Do you understand that?
- 13 If your defence lawyer is better than the _____ lawyer, you may get off.
- 14 This wicked man has _____ the most appalling crimes, and all decent people will agree that he should receive a very long prison sentence indeed.
- 15 Be in _____ at 9.30. The hearing begins at 10 o'clock, and the magistrates don't like to be kept waiting.



The legal system in Britain seems very old-fashioned. The judges and lawyers still wear black gowns and white wigs. Lawyers have to address the judge as *My Lord* (= My Lord). So you will not be surprised that the language of the law is also rather antique, with very long sentences and bits of French and Latin thrown in.