

# Crimes and criminals

**Watch the video and  
write down  
the information that you  
have already known:**

**[https://youtu.be/bjyDQd  
v6gSk](https://youtu.be/bjyDQdv6gSk)**

Crimes against the person

Crimes against property

Public order offences

Road traffic offences

Sexual offences

Political offences

Offences against justice

arson	an arsonist
shoplifting	a shop-lifter
mugging	a mugger
offence	an offender
vandalism	a vandal
burglary	a burglar
pickpocketing	a pickpocket
complicity	an accomplice
drug dealing	a drug dealer
espionage	a spy
assassination	an assassin
hooliganism	a hooligan

stowaways	a stowaway
theft	a thief
hijacking	a hijacker
forgery	a forger
smuggling	a smuggler
treason	a traitor
gangsterism	a gangster
desertion	a deserter
bigamy	a bigamist
drug smuggling	a drug smuggler

Crime has been around us for many centuries. Every day when we open a newspaper or turn on TV almost all we read or hear is about criminals and their illegal actions. According to the law, people who commit a crime must be punished, imprisoned or even sentenced to a death penalty. Without punishment our life in the society would be less secure, although sometimes punishment isn't strict enough, to my mind.

Some kinds of crimes are as old as the human society (such as stealing, pick-pocketing, vandalism, assault or domestic violence, murder and manslaughter), others are a more recent phenomenon. Armed robbery of stores and banks, hacking into computers (so called "cyber frauds"), corruption or forgery of money and documents, for instance, are some of them. The 20th century has also seen the appearance of organized crimes such as drug-trafficking, drug-smuggling and hijacking. Statistics show an alarming rise of violent crimes and crimes to do with the illegal sale of arms across the world. Unfortunately women and children often become the victims of crime. Sometimes criminals kidnap rich people or their kids and ask for a ransom to be paid for them.

Besides violent crimes, there are so called "white-collar crimes" in our modern society. These are frauds when a person isn't physically threatened or hurt. Among them are tax evasion (when people are accused of not paying taxes on purpose), bribery, identity theft (when a criminal steals personal information of another person in order to use his credit cards or bank accounts, for example).

To crown it all, we must regret that today a great deal of crimes is committed by teenagers who want to become independent as soon as possible and to find a royal road to getting much money. Teenagers use drugs and drink alcohol, so they can't control themselves.

Crime prevention in our society is an extremely difficult and complicated task because we should change our social and moral principles at large.

**Ex.7: Find out in sentences 1-10 what the crime is. Choose a term from the list of words:**

mugging; shoplifting; vandalism; illegal parking; football violence; murder; terrorism; rape; theft; manslaughter

1. A wealthy woman takes a bottle of olive oil from a supermarket.
2. A husband stabs his wife after finding out she was having an affair.
3. A group of men kill six clients in a cafe by leaving a bomb there.
4. A group of students break all the windows in a telephone box and damage the telephone.
5. A drunken motorist knocks down and kills a pedestrian.
6. An office worker helps himself to pens and paper from his office for his own personal use.
7. A group of young men take a woman's handbag after threatening to attack her in a dark street.
8. A motorist parks in a no-parking area and obstructs the traffic so that an ambulance cannot get past.
9. Two groups of rival football supporters start a battle and are arrested.
10. A man attacks a girl in a park and has sex with her against her will.

# Let's repeat new words

- A person who steals things from people's pockets in crowded places?
- A person who deliberately causes damage to property?
- A person who sets fire to property illegally?
- A member of a criminal group?
- A soldier who runs away from the army?
- A person who marries illegally, being married already?
- A person who attacks and robs people, often in the street?
- A person who takes away people by force and demands money for their return?
- A person who gets secret information from another country?
- A person who causes damage or disturbance in public places?
- A person who helps a criminal in a criminal act?



- A person who breaks into houses or other buildings to steal things?
- Someone who steals?
- A person who makes false money or signatures?
- A person who murders for political reasons or a reward?
- A person who betrays his or her country to another state?
- A person who uses violence for political reasons?
- A person who takes control of a plane by force and makes the pilot change course?
- A person who hides on a ship or plane to get a free journey?
- A person who steals from shops while acting as an ordinary customer?
- A person who brings goods into a country illegally without paying tax?

**Listen to the play and  
answer the questions. Send  
the answers to my e-mail:**

[https://www.liveworksheets.com/worksheets/en/English\\_as\\_a\\_Second\\_Language\\_\(ESL\)/Crime\\_vocabulary/The\\_perfect\\_crime\\_yg462455gp](https://www.liveworksheets.com/worksheets/en/English_as_a_Second_Language_(ESL)/Crime_vocabulary/The_perfect_crime_yg462455gp)