Crime, Law and Justice





• Vocabulary

Choose the correct verbs from A to fill the gaps. Put the verb in the correct form.

1 The governor on the province was ..... for wrongful use of state money.
2 The prisoner decided to ..... an appeal against the court's decision.
3 The appeal court ..... the verdict of the lower court and the prisoner was released.
4 In English law, a previous legal decision usually ..... a precedent for future decisions.
5 Judges often ..... custody to the mother rather than the father.
6 I'm not asking you to break the rules, just to ..... them a little.
7 You ..... my legal rights by not allowing me to vote.
8 Witnesses charged with perjury are accused of ..... the course of justice.
9 The marriage was ..... because the man had never properly divorced his first wife.
10 The Supreme Court ..... the murder conviction and the man was freed.

A
Lodge
Set
Pervert
Annul
Impeach
Bend
Award
Infringe
Quash
Overturn

Which of the crimes in B might each of these people be charged with?

1 A camper who spent a night on a farmer's land without asking permission.
2 A businessman who diverted funds from the account of the company he worked for into his own personal account.
3 An employer who gave a job to a man although he was less suitable for the post than a woman applicant.
4 A witness who gave false evidence in court.
5 A person who kept making inappropriate comments about a colleague's personal appearance.
6 A board member who took advantage of what they knew about the business's plans to make a profit on the stock market.
7 A person who follows someone or calls them every day and buys them gifts even though they are not in a relationship.

B
Harassment
Insider dealing
Discrimination
Embezzlement
Perjury
Stalking
Trespassing

Choose a noun from each of these verbs to complete each sentence.

impeach	allege	contravene	annul	harass	infringe	pervert	amend

1 Parliament is currently discussing a number of ..... to the current laws on citizenship.
2 Amy took her employer to court for ..... in the workplace.
3 Some people consider ..... of others' rights as being as serious a crime as theft.
4 By taking on work for a competitor Nathan was in ..... of the terms of his contract.
5 The trial was criticised by many as a ..... of justice.
6 To suggest that Leah took the money is a very serious ..... .
7 The circumstances are such that I think the judge may agree to a(n) ..... of their marriage.
8 The ..... of a president has only taken place a couple of times in US history.

Choose an expression from C to complete each sentence.

1 You should let the police deal with the situation – it's far too risky to ..... .
2 Sam started getting into trouble when he got in with a gang of habitual ..... .
3 You shouldn't start ..... on your first day in a new job.
4 Masha will never be able to get Vadim to conform – he's ..... .
5 Isabelle is far too ..... to agree to bring extra cigarettes into the country.

C
- laying down the law
- law-abiding
- law-breakers
- a law unto himself
- take the law into your own hands

• Collocations

Choose the correct collocation.

1 Someone might get out of prison early for *soaring / extenuating / good* behaviour.
2 If you get a custodial sentence, you *go to prison / only serve the sentence if you commit another crime / have to do some community service.*
3 If you are remanded in custody, you are *allowed to go home / obliged to pay some money / kept in prison.*
4 If you serve out a sentence, you are *released from prison early / kept in prison for the full amount of time / kept in prison for life.*
5 If charges are trumped-up, they are *accurate / invented / exaggerated.*

• Idioms

Circle the logical answer(s). Sometimes both answers may be logical.

1 The police were lying in wait for *the robbers* | *their colleagues.*
2 We want to nip *roller skating* | *under-age drinking* in the bud.
3 They made off with the *money* | *jewels.*
4 She was in possession of *her clothes* | *secret information.*
5 They're having a crackdown on *shopping* | *gambling.*

Write in the missing prepositions.

1 lie wait somebody
2 be the lookout somebody
3 broad daylight
4 gunpoint
5 the wake something
6 make off something
7 possession something
8 nip something the bud

Match each statement (1–9) with a suitable response (a–i).

1 I think teenagers who commit a crime should be sent to prison for a week and given a really hard time.
2 I see the police have been called in about the missing money at the tennis club.
3 People who throw litter in the street ought to be prosecuted.
4 Wow, the police charged Tony with every possible offence they could think of!
5 It didn't take long for the police to arrive, did it?
6 I heard that Donald was actually in prison years ago.
7 Apparently, Angela Smith was in prison when she was younger.
8 That famous computer hacker, Jin Soon, is apparently a reformed character.
9 It's amazing how that former burglar is helping the police investigate crime in the neigbourhood.

a Yes, they say she did time for attacking her husband's lover.
b Yes, it's a real case of poacher turned gamekeeper.
c Yes, I agree. They should be brought to book.
d Yes, someone told me he had done a stretch, but I don't know what for.
e Yes, the thieves won't be able to escape from the long arm of the law.
f Yes, a short sharp shock would do them good!
g No, the boys in blue were soon on the scene!
h Yes, they really threw the book at him, didn't they!
i Yes, he's back on the straight and narrow.