

VOCABULARY

1 Choose the correct word or collocation from the bank given.

housing benefit *income tax* *a (trade) union* *student grant / allowance* *unemployment*
recession *unemployment benefit* *family allowance/child benefit/ child allowance* *priority*

- 1 a temporarily bad time in a country's economy
 2 an organised association of workers in a particular job / profession
 3 the most important thing
 4 the situation in which many people are out of work
 5 the money you can get when you are out of work
 6 the money you can get when you study
 7 the money you can get if your rent is very high
 8 the money you can get to support your children
 9 the money you pay to the state from your earnings

3 Read the sentences and match the described crimes with the words in the box.

forgery *domestic violence* *burglary* *mugging* *hacking*
hooliganism *pickpocketing* *hijacking* *blackmail* *vandalism*

- 1 The burglar's presence was betrayed by a creaking floorboard.
- 2 The neighbours often saw Mrs Fowler with bruises on her face.
- 3 Three youths attacked the old lady in the dark side street and ran off with her handbag.
- 4 They are still holding eight people hostage on the plane.
- 5 The criminals were caught red-handed as they were exchanging fake notes at the bank.
- 6 She threatened to show the photos to his boss unless she got a thousand dollars.
- 7 Some drunken fans ran around smashing things and fighting other youths.
- 8 The students accessed the secret information from the bank computer system.
- 9 The teenagers were accused of deliberately damaging ten new phone boxes.
- 10 The wallet with a big sum of money was stolen from his back pocket.

While speaking try to use the following expressions:

In my opinion,

Well, I suppose

However,

Despite the fact that

I'm not sure I agree,

As far as I know,

I assume that

To my mind,

Regarding the fact that,

From my point of view,

Taking into account

In spite of the fact that

• Which is better: to own a flat / house or to rent it? Why?

• Would you rather live in a quiet residential neighbourhood or in the centre of a big town? Why?

• Which would you prefer: living in a block of flats or in a detached house? Why?

• What are the benefits and drawbacks of living in a large city?