

Crime Vocabulary

1 Complete the news summaries with the words below.

arson arsonist burglars burgled looters looting
mugger muggings shoplifters shoplifting

- 1 Someone set fire to an empty building early this morning. Police said it was _____ and that they haven't caught the _____ yet.
- 2 Someone attacked a woman and stole her handbag. She did not see the face of the _____. There have been a lot of similar _____ in the area.
- 3 _____ broke into five shops last night. They took money and goods. Someone had _____ two of the shops before.
- 4 After a flood caused damage, _____ took food and tools from several buildings. All of the suspects had received fines for _____ before.
- 5 Often young people's friends encourage them to steal from shops. It seems like a game, but _____ is a crime, and _____ can receive large fines.

2 Complete the sentences with the words below.

arrest CCTV footage culprit investigation
patrol searched suspect witnesses

- 1 As soon as a neighbour reported the murder, the police launched an _____.
- 2 The police _____ the house for clues.
- 3 Two detectives have arrested a _____, a man who has committed many crimes before.
- 4 The police can't make an _____ until they have more evidence.
- 5 The police chief was on the news appealing for _____.
- 6 There are cameras in the area so the police have _____ to study.
- 7 A witness came forward and identified the _____ from a photograph.
- 8 Several guards _____ the area around the palace day and night to check that everything is secure.

3 Match the two parts of the compound nouns.

- 1 a murder _____
- 2 a _____ ticket
- 3 _____ gum
- 4 finger _____
- 5 _____ records
- 6 an open-top _____
- 7 a telephone _____
- 8 a _____ code

- a car
- b chewing
- c secret
- d dental
- e investigation
- f number
- g train
- h prints

Word Skills

4 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in brackets.

- 1 The criminal chose the most _____ way to travel – by bus. (economy)
- 2 The food was disappointing: overpriced and _____. (taste)
- 3 The witness said the suspect had _____ eyes: a mixture of brown and green. (brown)
- 4 It was _____ that James wasn't carrying anything valuable when he was mugged. He only lost a cheap watch. (luck)
- 5 The police are pleased when burglars are _____ and leave fingerprints behind. (care)
- 6 They noticed the contrast between the _____ setting and the terrible crime. (peace)
- 7 The mugging victim was _____ that the police hadn't arrested anyone. (fury)
- 8 The lawyer didn't want to use him as a witness because he wasn't very _____ – his version of what happened kept changing. (rely)
- 9 It's _____ to walk around on your own late at night. (danger)