

4 Descriptions: Personal items 1



Get ready!

1 Before you read the passage, talk about these questions.

- 1 Where do most thefts of personal items take place?
- 2 What are the most commonly stolen personal items?

Reading

2 Read the newspaper article. Then, choose the correct answers.

- 1 What is the article mainly about?
 - A recent thefts at the train station
 - B the arrest of a thief at the train station
 - C a decrease in patrols at the train station
 - D the discovery of items stolen from passengers
- 2 According to the article, which item was NOT stolen recently?

A a briefcase	C a credit card
B a watch	D a wallet
- 3 How will the police respond to the problem?
 - A board all weekend trains
 - B add security cameras to the station
 - C increase their presence in the station
 - D begin checking passenger's luggage

Train Station Crime Spree

Davis Times reporter: Joe Stevens



Travelers at the Davis train station reported missing items over the weekend. The thieves targeted people waiting for the northbound train on Saturday. Stolen items include **backpacks**, **briefcases**, **cameras**, a gold **bracelet**, and a **cell phone**. One traveler reported, "I was sitting on this bench. I looked down and my briefcase was gone. My **wallet** was in there, my **check book**, **credit cards**, everything." Davis police suggest keeping belongings close at hand. "I even recommend tightening your wrist **watch**, and removing loose fitting **jewelry**," the police commissioner said. "And we will be adding patrols to the station."



Vocabulary

3 Read the sentence and choose the correct word.

- 1 Most tourists carry a **watch** / **camera** to take pictures.
- 2 The man keeps his **credit card** in his **wallet** / **bracelet**.
- 3 A **backpack** / **bracelet** has two straps.
- 4 What time is it? I don't have a **checkbook** / **watch**.
- 5 Karen took out her **checkbook** / **jewelry** to buy the bracelet.

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4 Check (✓) the sentence that uses the underlined part correctly.

- 1 ☐ A Shopping with a credit card is safer than using cash.
☐ B He has a backpack on his wrist.
- 2 ☐ A People wear jewelry for decoration.
☐ B The briefcase is in the wallet.
- 3 ☐ A Steve carries files in his briefcase.
☐ B Sarah buys things with her jewelry.
- 4 ☐ A The thief grabbed John's wallet off his back.
☐ B He called the police on his cell phone.
- 5 ☐ A The man stole a bracelet from Amy's wrist.
☐ B This watch holds cash, cards, and IDs.

5 🎧 Listen and read the article again. Who told the reporter about what they had had stolen?

Listening

6 🎧 Listen to a conversation between a police officer and a victim of theft. Mark the statements as true (T) or false (F).

- 1 ☐ The thief has the man's wallet.
- 2 ☐ The briefcase contained a cell phone.
- 3 ☐ The man saw the thief as he ran away.

7 🎧 Listen again and complete the conversation.

Officer: Okay, sir. What was the item that you lost?

Victim: My 1 _____. I set it down here. I closed my eyes for a minute. Then it was gone.

Officer: 2 _____ the briefcase, sir?

Victim: My 3 _____ was in there with all my credit cards and my checkbook.

Officer: 4 _____ cash in it?

Victim: Just 5 _____ dollars.

Officer: Did you notice anything 6 _____ while you were sitting here?

Victim: I saw nothing. Whoever took it was totally silent.

Speaking

8 With a partner, act out the roles below based on Task 7. Then, switch roles.

USE LANGUAGE SUCH AS:

What was the item ...

What was in ...

Did you notice ...

Student A: You are a police officer. Talk to Student B about:

- a stolen backpack or briefcase
- the contents
- suspicious behavior

Student B: Your personal items were stolen. Talk to Student A about the theft.

Writing

9 Use the article and the conversation from Task 8 to fill out the stolen items report. Use today's date. Make up a name for the reporting officer and victim.

Davis Police Department

Stolen Items Report

Reporting Officer: _____

Date: _____

Victim Name: _____

Theft Location: _____

Description of stolen items: _____
