

CRIME

Task 1. Look at this student's essay, and complete it with a word or expression from the box. In some cases, more than one answer may be possible.

attacked • protect • property • defend • locks • lights • self-defence • burgled • security • possessions • violence • problem • drugs • break in • be aware • police • prevent • victims • criminals

There is a lot of crime in our towns and cities. What do you think we could all do to reduce the risk to ourselves and our homes?

Crime is a big 1. _____ in some cities. There is a lot of 2. _____ on the streets at night, people buy and sell 3. _____ illegally, and a lot of houses are 4. _____ on a regular basis. The 5. _____ do their best to 6. _____ these things happening, but they are not always successful.

However, there are some things that people can do to make their lives safer, to 7. _____ themselves and their 8. _____ from crime. For example, they can improve 9. _____ by fixing good, strong 10. _____ so that thieves cannot 11. _____ and steal their 12. _____. When they go out at night, they should leave 13. _____ on so that thieves think there are people at home. When they are on the streets, they should 14. _____ of what is happening around them. They could even consider doing a 15. _____ course such as judo or jujitsu so that they can 16. _____ themselves if they are 17. _____ by muggers.

There will always be 18. _____ on our streets, but that doesn't mean we all need to be 19. _____ of crime, especially if we take the right preventative measures.

Task 2. Complete the sentences below with a word or expression from the box.

*guilty • falsified • smuggled • sentenced • tried • innocent • arrested
mugged • break • vandalized • stole • robbed • trafficking • charged*

Richard Mann has been committing crimes since he was a boy.

1. When he was only 15 he _____ telephone boxes and public toilets.
2. As he grew older, he _____ old ladies in the street and stole their money.
3. He also _____ banks, post offices and jewellery shops.

4. On one occasion, he _____ almost £20,000 from a post office.
5. In his late twenties, he _____ cigarettes and alcohol from one country to another.
6. During his only proper job in an office, he _____ the accounts and pocketed thousands of pounds.
7. He then started _____ drugs.
8. The police finally _____ him last year.
9. They _____ him with almost thirty crimes.
10. He was _____ at a Crown Court.
11. He said he was _____, but the jury decided he was _____.
12. The judge _____ him to 15 years in prison.
13. He won't _____ the law again for a long time.

Task 3. IDIOMS, COLLOQUIALISMS AND OTHER EXPRESSIONS.

Complete the following story using one of the idiomatic words or expression from the box.

***behind bars • nick • boys in blue • doing time • got away with • nicking
spill the beans • hardened • cops • as thick as thieves • leg it • red handed***

Brian and Bert had always been 1._____, sharing each other's secrets and doing everything together. They turned to a life of crime in their teens, and by the time they were in their early twenties, they were already 2._____ criminals. They burgled houses and stole cars and always 3._____ it, discovering that they actually enjoyed the excitement of avoiding the 4._____. However, their luck didn't last and one day the 5._____ caught them 6._____ while they were 7._____ a car. They tried to 8._____, but didn't get too far. The police interviewed them and told them to 9._____. I'm glad to say that Brian and Bert are now 10._____ in Wandsworth 11._____, and expect to be 12._____ for at least two years.