

## A What is crime?



A crime is an activity which is **against the law**. For example, if you **steal** someone's **property**, you are **committing a crime** and **breaking the law**. Some **criminal acts** are **minor**, e.g. you get a **fine** for **illegal** parking. For **serious** crimes, especially violent crimes, e.g. the act of **killing** someone, a person can **go to prison** for a long time.

## GLOSSARY

|                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>against the law</b>                 | against the rules of a country SYN <b>illegal</b><br>OPP <b>legal</b>                                                                                                                          |
| <b>steal</b> <i>pt stole pp stolen</i> | take sth belonging to sb else without permission                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>property</b> [U]                    | sth that you have or own, e.g. a computer, jewellery                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>commit a crime</b>                  | do sth wrong or illegal                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>break the law</b>                   | do sth illegal/against the law                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>criminal</b>                        | [only before a noun] connected with crime                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>act</b>                             | a thing that you do <b>a criminal act</b>                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>minor</b>                           | A <b>minor</b> crime is not bad or important.<br>OPP <b>serious</b>                                                                                                                            |
| <b>fine</b>                            | money that you must pay because you have done sth wrong                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>killing</b>                         | an act of killing sb in a way that was planned                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>go to prison</b>                    | go to a place where criminals have to stay after they have committed a crime<br>ALSO <b>send sb to prison</b> A person <b>in prison</b> is a <b>prisoner</b> . SYN <b>jail</b> = <b>prison</b> |

## 1 Find and circle the verbs below.

fine break property violent law steal crimes send somebody to prison criminal commit illegal serious

## 2 Cover the glossary. Is the meaning the same or different? Write S or D.

- ▶ steal / take something belonging to someone without permission S
- 1 illegal / against the law .....
- 2 property / something you own .....
- 3 the killing of someone / an attack on someone .....
- 4 a criminal act / a legal act .....
- 5 commit a crime / break the law .....
- 6 a minor crime / a serious crime .....
- 7 prison / jail .....

## 3 Complete the sentences.

- ▶ She did something terrible, and I heard that she was sent to prison.
- 1 Have you ever ..... a crime?
- 2 There is a lot of ..... behaviour at night: attacks on people and cars, for example.
- 3 In nearly every country, it is not ..... to drive on a public road without a licence.
- 4 Somebody ..... my bike and sold it in the market.
- 5 I heard that ..... has been stolen from several other houses in our street.
- 6 Some ..... escaped from the jail during the fire.
- 7 The attack on the old man was a very serious ..... of violence.
- 8 He committed a ..... crime, and he'll probably go to ..... for a long time.
- 9 He parked in the wrong place. It's only a ..... crime, but it's still ..... the law.
- 10 I've never ..... the law.
- 11 Some young men have started carrying knives, and there have been some terrible ..... in recent years.
- 12 I drove through a NO ENTRY sign and had to pay a ..... of £80.



## TEST YOURSELF

## B Types of crime

| Crime          | Meaning                                                   | Verb                                                                          | Criminal (= a person who commits a crime) |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| theft          | taking sth which belongs to sb else without permission    | <i>He steals cars then sells them.</i>                                        | thief (pl/ thieves)                       |
| robbery        | stealing from a person or place, often using violence     | <i>Two men were planning to rob the bank.</i>                                 | robber                                    |
| burglary       | entering a building illegally and stealing things from it | <i>They broke into the house and stole some jewellery.</i>                    | burglar                                   |
| assault attack | hurting sb physically                                     | <i>He assaulted/attacked a man.<br/>She stabbed the man with a knife.</i>     | attacker                                  |
| murder         | killing sb when it is planned                             | <i>He murdered his neighbour.<br/>He shot her dead with his father's gun.</i> | murderer                                  |

### SPOTLIGHT *steal and rob*

You **steal** money or things, but you **rob** a person or place.

- Someone has **stolen** my bike.
- I was **robbed** at the football match.
- Thieves **stole** €2,000 from the shop.
- They **robbed** the museum last night.

#### 4 Cross out any wrong answers. Be careful: more than one answer may be wrong.

- *Rob, thief, attack* and *steal* are all verbs.
- Theft, murder, robbery* and *burglary* are all ways of getting property.
  - Theft, parking, burglary* and *assault* are all crimes.
  - Shoot, assault, stab* and *break in* are all ways of attacking people physically.
  - Assault, burglary, theft* and *murder* are acts of violence.
  - Murderer, thief, attacker* and *robbery* are all criminals.

#### 5 True or false? Write T or F. Correct the false sentences.

- You can steal property. T
- If you murder somebody, they're dead. \_\_\_\_\_
- You stab somebody with a gun. \_\_\_\_\_
- A burglar breaks into a home. \_\_\_\_\_
- A criminal is a person. \_\_\_\_\_
- You steal a bank. \_\_\_\_\_
- Theft is stealing. \_\_\_\_\_
- You shoot somebody with a knife. \_\_\_\_\_

#### 6 Complete the sentences.

- The thief stole \$1,000.
- Two robbers \_\_\_\_\_ into the museum and \_\_\_\_\_ three paintings. A guard tried to stop them, but one robber had a knife and \_\_\_\_\_ him in the chest.
  - The man is a \_\_\_\_\_, and has spent much of his life in prison. It's mostly for \_\_\_\_\_: he steals computers and things like that.
  - Someone \_\_\_\_\_ me on the way home last night. He had a gun and said he would \_\_\_\_\_ me if I didn't give him money and my mobile phone. It was horrible.
  - He will be in prison for the rest of his life for \_\_\_\_\_ his wife. He bought a gun and \_\_\_\_\_ her three times while she was asleep.
  - A \_\_\_\_\_ broke into our house and took jewellery and cameras.
  - The three men \_\_\_\_\_ that bank because it was in a very quiet area.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ from cars has gone down in recent years because of better security. However, \_\_\_\_\_ have increased because more young people have knives.
  - The two men took money from the post office. The \_\_\_\_\_ happened at 4 p.m.



#### TEST YOURSELF