

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.

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|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1 a murder _____ | a car |
| 2 a _____ ticket | b chewing |
| 3 _____ gum | c secret |
| 4 finger _____ | d dental |
| 5 _____ records | e investigation |
| 6 an open-top _____ | f number |
| 7 a telephone _____ | g train |
| 8 a _____ code | 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)
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