

33 Crime

A Types of crime

Some of these crimes involve **threatening** people (= saying you will cause trouble for them, and possibly hurt them if they do not do what you want). Most of these crimes are also **deliberate** (= you intend to do them; **SYN intentional**), but not always.

GLOSSARY

| | | | |
|---------------------|---|--------------------|---|
| manslaughter | (<i>slaughter</i> pronounced like <i>daughter</i>) killing sb illegally but not deliberately | blackmail | demanding money from a person by threatening to tell sb else a secret about them blackmail v. The person is a blackmailer . |
| arson | deliberately setting fire to sth, especially a building. The person is an arsonist . | kidnapping | taking sb away illegally and keeping them prisoner, especially in order to get money kidnap v. The person is a kidnapper . |
| rape | forcing sb to have sex, especially using violence rape v. The person is a rapist . | shoplifting | stealing goods from a shop by leaving without paying for them. The person is a shoplifter . |
| fraud | cheating sb in order to get money or goods illegally | mugging | attacking sb, or threatening to attack sb in order to steal their money, especially in a public place mug v. The person is a mugger . |
| bribery | giving money to sb to persuade them to help you, especially by doing sth dishonest bribe v | | |

1 Put the crimes in the three columns below.

| shoplifting arson | mugging kidnapping | manslaughter rape | bribery fraud |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| involves violence | | may involve violence | doesn't involve violence |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

2 Circle the crimes which usually involve money.

arson fraud mugging
manslaughter bribery blackmail
shoplifting rape kidnapping

3 Write down the person who commits these crimes.

1 shoplifting/ 4 kidnapping/
2 blackmail/ 5 rape/
3 arson/ 6 mugging/

4 Complete the sentences.

1 I was outside my office by a man with a knife who demanded money from me.
2 He wasn't guilty of murder, but was found guilty of
3 The boy was outside his home and held prisoner for weeks.
4 There is often a notice in stores saying that ' will be prosecuted'.
5 He stopped the woman in the street, her with a knife, and took her money.
6 The man accused of the girl insists that she agreed to have sex with him.
7 He the policeman with both money and expensive holidays.
8 He said he did it, but claims it was not
9 She him by threatening to tell the police about the money he stole.
10 He went to prison for credit card



TEST YOURSELF

B Causes of crime

What do you think?

- Some people think that it is the people closest to us when we are growing up who have the greatest responsibility for shaping our **moral** standards.
- Crime rates tend to be higher in **slum** areas, and for children from these areas, crime can become an **attraction** because it offers a way of becoming richer. They join **gangs** and **drift into crime**.
- Another cause is the **abuse** of alcohol and drugs which can force people into crime.
- Some argue it is personal weakness or **parental neglect**, made worse by a lack of **discipline** at home or in school, that leads people into crime.
- Some believe that if **penalties for offenders** were **harsher**, crime would go down.

GLOSSARY

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| moral | concerned with principles of right and wrong behaviour morals <i>n pl</i> |
| slum | an area of a city that is very poor and where the houses are in bad condition |
| attraction | a feature or quality that makes sth seem interesting and enjoyable |
| gang | a group of young people who often cause trouble |
| drift into sth | start doing sth without a particular plan or purpose |
| abuse | the use of sth in a way that is wrong or harmful: suffer abuse abuse <i>v</i> |
| parental | connected with parents |
| neglect | the fact of not giving enough care or attention to sb/sth neglect <i>v</i> |
| discipline | the practice of training people to obey rules and punishing them if they do not |
| penalty | a punishment for breaking a law, a rule or a contract |
| offender | a person who commits a crime |
| harsh | severe, strict or cruel |

5 Circle the words which have a negative meaning.

slum attraction gang abuse discipline
neglect penalty parental moral harsh

6 Replace the underlined words with a single word that keeps the same meaning.

- It's basically a very poor area of the city with houses in bad condition.
- The parents have not given enough care and attention to these children.
- Some of the children need better training to obey rules.
- There's a very unpleasant group of youths waiting at the end of the street.
- The children have suffered from wrong and harmful treatment.
- Many people who commit crimes go on to commit further crimes.
- It's all about knowing the difference between right and wrong.
- If you see no future for yourself, crime is an exciting idea with possibilities of money.

7 Complete the sentences on the right. Keep the same meaning as the sentences on the left.

- It's the responsibility of the parents. It's a
- They have abused the children. The children have
- The teenagers do what they like. The teenagers lack
- The issue is all about right and wrong. It's a
- The law is too soft. We need
- I committed crimes with no real plan or purpose. I just
- There hasn't been enough care and attention. There has been a lot of
- Young people like money. For young people, money is a big

8 ABOUT YOU Look at the opinions about the causes of crime at the top of page. Do you agree? What about crimes committed by people who aren't poor?

