

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
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involves violence

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.....
.....

may involve violence

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.....

doesn't involve violence

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.....

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.

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

- 1 It's basically a very poor area of the city with houses in bad condition.
- 2 The parents have not given enough care and attention to these children.
- 3 Some of the children need better training to obey rules.
- 4 There's a very unpleasant group of youths waiting at the end of the street.
- 5 The children have suffered from wrong and harmful treatment.
- 6 Many people who commit crimes go on to commit further crimes.
- 7 It's all about knowing the difference between right and wrong.
- 8 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.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 It's the responsibility of the parents. | It's a |
| 2 They have abused the children. | The children have |
| 3 The teenagers do what they like. | The teenagers lack |
| 4 The issue is all about right and wrong. | It's a |
| 5 The law is too soft. | We need |
| 6 I committed crimes with no real plan or purpose. | I just |
| 7 There hasn't been enough care and attention. | There has been a lot of |
| 8 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?

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TEST YOURSELF