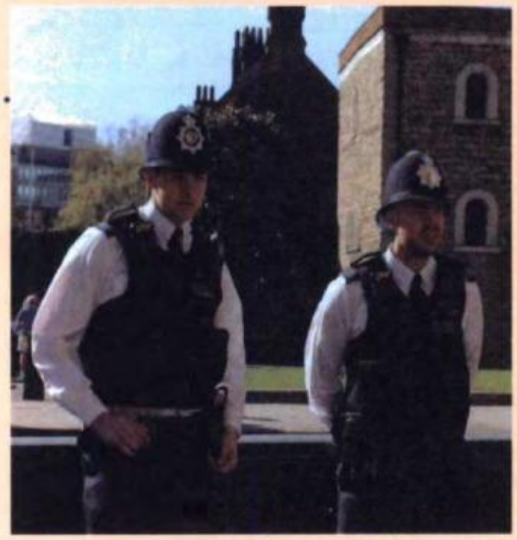
53 The police

Police **procedures**

An arrest is when a police **constable detains** someone **suspected** of an **offence**. In the UK, the police can arrest you if they have a **valid** arrest **warrant (issued** by a **magistrate)**, or if they have reasonable **grounds** for suspecting you have committed or **are about to** commit an offence. You are **cautioned** and then taken to a police station as soon as possible. Once you are **in custody**, you have the right to legal advice from a **solicitor**. If there is sufficient evidence, the police will **charge** you, and you will then appear in court where a magistrate will decide whether you should be **remanded in custody** or **released on bail.**

If your case goes to trial, you will either be **convicted of** the crime, or found innocent and **acquitted.** If you are found guilty, you will be **sentenced** by a judge.



SPOTLIGHT *the police*

A **police officer** is any member of the **police force**. In the UK, a (**police**) **constable** (abbreviated as **PC**) is an officer of the lowest **rank** (= position in an organization). Above the rank of constable is the **sergeant**, the **inspector**, and so on. The **chief constable** is the head of each regional police force.

GLOSSARY

procedure	the usual or correct way for doing sth	**custody**	the state of being in prison while waiting for trial: ***in custody***
detain	keep sb in an official place, e.g. a police station, and prevent them from leaving: ***be detained in custody***	**solicitor**	a lawyer who gives legal advice and prepares legal documents
suspect sb of (doing) sth	believe that sb is guilty of sth, though you do not have proof. A person is a **suspect**.	**charge sb (with sth)**	say officially you believe sb has committed a crime
offence *formal*	a crime: ***commit an offence***	**remand sb**	send sb away from court until their trial: ***be remanded in custody***
valid	legally or officially acceptable OPP **invalid**	**bail**	money left with a court of law to ensure that a prisoner will return for their trial. A judge can either **grant bail** or **refuse bail**.
warrant	a legal document signed by a judge that allows the police to do sth. A **search warrant** is a warrant to search sb's property.	**convict sb (of sth)**	say officially in court that sb is guilty of a crime
issue	give or say sth to sb officially: ***issue a warrant/visa***	**acquit sb (of sth)**	state formally that a person is not guilty of a crime
magistrate	an official who acts as a judge in the lowest courts of law	**sentence sb (to sth)**	(of a judge) tell sb who has been found guilty of a crime what their punishment will be: *He **sentenced** him **to** two years in prison.*
grounds (for sth/ doing sth) *(usually pl)*	a reason for sth		
be about to (do sth)	be going to do sth very soon		
caution sb *formal*	warn sb officially that anything they say may be used against them as evidence in court		

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1 Underline the stress on these words. Use the AP9 to help you.

detain	suspect *v*	suspect *n*	offence	invalid	magistrate
custody	solicitor	remand	convict	acquit	constable

2 Write the missing preposition.

1 be detained _____ police custody
2 have grounds _____ doing something
3 charge someone _____ an offence
4 convict someone _____ an offence
5 acquit someone _____ a crime
6 sentence someone _____ five years

3 Complete the phrases with suitable words.

1 a police _____
2 commit an _____
3 _____ a search warrant
4 remand someone in _____
5 _____ bail OR refuse bail
6 convict OR _____ someone

4 Write your answers.

1 Who issues an arrest warrant? _____
2 Who detains someone? _____
3 Who offers legal advice? _____
4 Who is able to grant bail? _____
5 Who is remanded in custody? _____
6 Who cautions someone? _____
7 Who has a lower rank than a sergeant? _____
8 Who is above a sergeant? _____
9 Who is the head of a regional force? _____
10 Who sentences someone? _____

5 Complete the sentences.

1 A PC is the lowest _____ in the police force.
2 A search _____ allows the police to search someone's property.
3 After someone has appeared before a magistrate and is awaiting trial, they will often be _____ in custody.
4 Police have to follow very strict _____ when they arrest someone, otherwise solicitors may argue that an arrest is not _____.
5 The police can detain someone if they _____ that this person has committed an _____.
6 When police arrest someone, the first thing they do is _____ them.

6 Complete the text with words from the opposite page.

ARRESTED IN ROAD RAGE INCIDENT

An 82-year old man is facing prison after an angry incident at a road junction in which he pointed a gun at another driver and was, possibly, (1) _____ to use it. A young police (2) _____ arrested the man, before taking him to the police station, where he was (3) _____. Once he was in (4) _____, the (5) _____ refused to say anything, and also refused his right to speak to a (6) _____. The police later (7) _____ him with several (8) _____, including the illegal possession of a weapon. The man will now appear before a (9) _____ tomorrow morning, where he hopes to be (10) _____ bail. However, his case will almost certainly go to trial, and if he is (11) _____, he could be (12) _____ to a lengthy period in prison.

TEST YOURSELF

LIVEWORKSHEETS