56 Crime

A Different crimes

A **crime** is an activity that is wrong and not allowed by law. A person who **commits a crime** is a **criminal.**

crime	person	verb
theft [stealing something, e.g. a car]	**thief**	**steal/take** (something)
robbery [stealing from a person or place, e.g. a bank]	**robber**	**rob** (someone, a place)
burglary [getting into a building, usually someone's home, and stealing something]	**burglar**	**steal** something **burgle** (a place)
murder [killing someone]	**murderer**	**murder**

Someone's **stolen/taken** my handbag.
I don't know who **robbed** me.
Our flat was **burgled**, but they only took money.

There's been another **burglary** in the area.
Did you hear about the **bank robbery** yesterday?
Do they know who **murdered** the boy?

B Reporting crimes in the media

Two women robbed a jeweller's shop in West London early this morning. They broke in[1] around 7 o'clock and stole jewellery worth[2] over £10,000.

[1] entered the building using force, e.g. broke a window
[2] with a value of

The two men **attacked**[3] Mr Crawford while he was walking home yesterday afternoon. Police say the two men hit him in the face several times, then took his money and **escaped**[4] through Bushy Park.

[3] used physical violence to hurt him
[4] left the place to avoid danger; *syn* **got away**

BREAKING NEWS

Detectives[5] **arrested**[6] a man this morning in connection with the murder of shop assistant, Tracey Miles.

Read full story

[5] police officers who try to find information to solve crimes
[6] If you *arrest* someone, you take them to the police station because you believe they committed a crime. That person is then **under arrest.**

C Punishment*

If you commit a crime and the police **catch** you [find you and arrest you], you will be **punished**. For **minor offences** [crimes that are not very important; *opp* **serious**], the punishment may only be a **fine** [money you have to pay], but for serious crimes, you will have to go to **court**. If you are found **guilty** [the **judge**, or a **jury** of 12 people, decides you committed the crime; *opp* **innocent**], you may be sent to **prison** (*syn* **jail**).



court



prison

* what a person must suffer if they do something wrong

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Exercises

56.1 **Test your knowledge. Can you complete this table without looking at the opposite page?**

noun	person	verb
crime	*criminal*	
murder		
theft		
robbery		
burglary		

56.2 **Find five more pairs of words that have a similar meaning.**

~~catch~~ theft crime jail prison ~~arrest~~ get away
steal offence hit escape attack

catch – arrest ....

....

56.3 **Complete the dialogues.**

1 A: Is it being decided by a judge?
B: No, there will be a *jury*.
2 A: Have the police caught the man?
B: Yes, he's under .....
3 A: Is she guilty?
B: No, the jury found her .....
4 A: He killed his wife?
B: Yes, he's under arrest for .....
5 A: Was it a serious crime?
B: No, just a minor .....
6 A: Will she go to prison?
B: No, she just has to pay a .....
7 A: Have you ever broken the law?
B: Yes, but I've never committed a serious .....
8 A: How do you think he will be .....?
B: Well, it wasn't a very serious crime, so it'll probably be a fine.

56.4 **Complete the news report.**



* A warehouse is a large building for storing goods that are going to be sold.

LIVEWORKSHEETS