

VOCABULARY ABOUT CRIME

1. List of most common crimes.

CRIME	CRIMINAL	VERB
arson	arsonist	
blackmail		blackmail
burglary	burglar	burgle
drug-dealing	drug-dealer	drug-deal
forgery	forgery	forge
fraud	fraudster	
kidnapping	kidnapper	kidnap
killing	killer	kill
mugging	mugger	mug
murder	murderer	murder
pickpocketing	pickpocket	
robbery	robber	rob
shoplifting	shoplifter	shoplift
smuggling	smuggler	smuggle
speeding		
theft	thief	
vandalism	vandal	vandalise

- An **arson** is the crime that consists of setting fire to a building, for example.
- **Blackmail** consists of getting someone's money by threatening him or her to reveal his or her secrets.
- A **burglar** is the thief that steals a house when nobody is in.
- A **drug-dealer** is the person who sells drugs to the addicts.
- To **forge** is to make fake copies of something.
- A **fraudster** tricks people to get their money.
- A **kidnapper** is the criminal who takes someone illegally by force, his **hostage**, to ask his family or the government to free him.
- To **mug** is to attack someone in the street and rob him.
- A **murderer** is the person who has killed another one.
- A **pickpocket** is the criminal who steals someone's wallet in busy places.
- **Shoplifting** is the action of taking something at a shop and not paying for it.
- A **smuggler** illegally brings goods into a country and gets money by selling them in the **black market**.
- To **vandalise** is to break or destroy public things deliberately.

2.- Who defends the law?

- The police (a policeman / a policewoman)
- A traffic warden
- A safety guard
- A detective
- A private investigator

All these people work on a **case** and try to find **evidence** to **trap**, **catch** and **arrest** a **suspect**.

3.- At the courts.

- The **court** is the building where criminals are judged.
- A **trial** is the meeting in which a judge gets all the information needed to declare a suspect innocent or guilty.
- The **judge** is the person who decides if a criminal has to be punished.
- The **lawyer** is the person who helps the criminal to prove he is innocent.
- The **prosecutor** is the lawyer who tries to prove that someone is guilty of a crime.
- A **witness** is a person who has seen a crime.
- The **jury** is the group of about ten people, the **jurors**, who decide in their **verdict** if the criminal is innocent or guilty.
- The **sentence** is the final punishment the judge gives the criminal after a trial.
- A **fine** is the amount of money someone has to pay for committing a fault.

4.- Phrasal verbs.

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| - run away | to escape |
| - come up | to suddenly appear |
| - move off | to quickly go away |
| - break into | to enter a building by force |
| - come out | to appear or become clear after being a secret. |
| - carry out | to do something that needs to be organized and planned |
| - bring up | to educate |
| - give away | to reveal a story, a secret, |

5.- Crime Scene Investigation.

- analyse DNA samples
- collect evidence
- question a suspect
- take fingerprints
- give evidence
- carry out autopsy
- solve a case

6.- Other words.

- **clues** are objects or pieces of information that help solve a crime
- **safe** is the armoured metal box at a bank where money is kept
- **accomplices** are the people who help a criminal
- **to chase** is to follow someone to catch him
- **to prosecute** is to prove that a person charged with a crime is guilty
- a **suspended sentence** is a punishment in which a criminal is told that if he commits a crime in a specific period of time from the sentence, he will be sent to prison

7.- Synonyms.

weapon = arm