

Crime and Law – Worksheet 1

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ Score: / 38



Do this worksheet
online and check your
answers instantly

Exercise 1: People and crime

Match each definition with a word from the box. There are two extra words.

Example: A person who steals things. → thief

WORD BOX

burglar shoplifter pickpocket vandal witness judge lawyer victim suspect jury

1. A person who breaks into homes to steal things. → _____
2. A person who takes goods from a shop without paying. → _____
3. A person who steals from people's pockets or bags in crowded places. → _____
4. A person who damages public property on purpose. → _____
5. A person who sees a crime happen. → _____
6. The person who controls a court and decides the punishment. → _____
7. A person whose job is to give legal advice and speak for people in court. → _____
8. A person who is hurt or loses something because of a crime. → _____

Exercise 2: Crime collocations

Complete the sentences with words from the box. There are two extra words.

Example: The police ____ the man's fingerprints. → took

WORD BOX

pay breaks arrested report commit sentenced guilty investigating innocent robbed

9. He had to _____ a large fine for parking in the wrong place.
10. Anyone who _____ the law must accept the consequences.
11. The police _____ two men outside the bank last night.
12. If you see something strange, you should _____ it to the police.
13. Most people who _____ a crime are caught in the end.
14. The judge _____ her to two years in prison.
15. The jury found him _____ of stealing the car.

16. Detectives are still _____ the robbery.

Exercise 3: Word forms

Use the word in capitals to form a word that fits the gap.

Example: Last year there were three ____ in our street. (BURGLE) → burglaries

17. The _____ was caught on camera as he ran out of the bank. (ROB)

18. He has a _____ record, so it is hard for him to find a job. (CRIME)

19. It is _____ to drive without a licence. (LEGAL)

20. The police found new _____ that proved she was at the scene. (EVIDENT)

21. She says she is _____ and did nothing wrong. (INNOCENCE)

22. The _____ lasted three weeks, and then the jury made its decision. (TRY)

23. The _____ of a famous painting from the museum shocked the town. (THIEF)

24. Do you think prison is the best _____ for young offenders? (PUNISH)

Exercise 4: Find the mistake

Each sentence has one mistake. Write the correct sentence.

Example: He was arrested for steal a car. → He was arrested for stealing a car.

25. He did a crime when he was young.

26. The thief robbed my phone on the bus.

27. Two men stole a bank in the city centre yesterday.

28. He was sent in prison for five years.

29. The jury found her guilty for fraud.

30. The young man was accused for shoplifting.

31. The police are looking for the woman who witness the accident.

Exercise 5: Crime reports

Rewrite each sentence in the passive. Start with the words in brackets.

Example: Someone robbed the shop. (The shop ...) → The shop was robbed.

32. Someone stole my bike last week. (My bike ...)

33. The police arrested the suspect at the airport. (The suspect ...)

34. Someone broke into our house while we were on holiday. (Our house ...)

35. The judge sentenced him to six months in prison. (He ...)

36. The police are questioning two witnesses. (Two witnesses ...)

37. They fined the driver for speeding. (The driver ...)

38. Vandals damaged the bus shelter. (The bus shelter ...)

Answer key – Crime and Law – Worksheet 1

Exercise 1: People and crime

1. **burglar**
A burglar enters a building illegally to steal.
2. **shoplifter**
Shoplifting means stealing from a shop.
3. **pickpocket**
A pickpocket steals secretly from pockets and bags.
4. **vandal**
A vandal breaks or damages things for no reason.
5. **witness**
A witness saw the crime and can say what happened.
6. **judge**
A judge is in charge of the court and gives the sentence.
7. **lawyer**
A lawyer is trained in law and helps people in court.
8. **victim**
The victim is the person the crime happens to.

Exercise 2: Crime collocations

9. **pay**
We say pay a fine.
10. **breaks**
We say break the law.
11. **arrested**
The police arrest people they think are criminals.
12. **report**
We say report something to the police.
13. **commit**
We say commit a crime, not do a crime.
14. **sentenced**
We say sentence someone to a punishment.
15. **guilty**
We say find someone guilty of a crime.
16. **investigating**
Detectives investigate a crime to find out who did it.

Exercise 3: Word forms

17. **robber**
A robber is a person who robs; the verb 'was' shows it is singular.
18. **criminal**
We need an adjective before 'record': criminal record.
19. **illegal**
Illegal means against the law.
20. **evidence**
Evidence is the noun for facts or objects that prove something.
21. **innocent**
We need the adjective after 'is': innocent.
22. **trial**
A trial is the process in court where a case is decided.
23. **theft**
Theft is the noun for the crime of stealing.
24. **punishment**
We need a noun after 'the best': punishment.

Exercise 4: Find the mistake

25. **He committed a crime when he was young.**
The correct collocation is commit a crime.
26. **The thief stole my phone on the bus.**
You steal a thing; you rob a person or place.
27. **Two men robbed a bank in the city centre yesterday.**
You rob a place such as a bank.
28. **He was sent to prison for five years.**
We say send someone to prison.
29. **The jury found her guilty of fraud.**
The preposition after guilty is of.
30. **The young man was accused of shoplifting.**
The preposition after accused is of.
31. **The police are looking for the woman who witnessed the accident.**
The verb must be in the past simple: witnessed.

Exercise 5: Crime reports

32. My bike was stolen last week.

Past simple passive: was + past participle (stolen).

33. The suspect was arrested at the airport.

The active past simple 'arrested' becomes the past simple passive 'was arrested' (was + past participle), and the agent 'by the police' is optional, so both 'The suspect was arrested at the airport.' and versions with 'by the police' before or after 'at the airport' are correct.

34. Our house was broken into while we were on holiday.

Keep the preposition: was broken into.

35. He was sentenced to six months in prison.

The active 'sentenced' becomes the past simple passive 'was sentenced to' (was + past participle), and the agent 'by the judge' can be left out because it is obvious, so the sentence is correct with or without it.

36. Two witnesses are being questioned.

The present continuous 'are questioning' becomes the present continuous passive 'are being questioned' (are + being + past participle), and 'by the police' is optional, so both 'Two witnesses are being questioned.' and 'Two witnesses are being questioned by the police.' are correct.

37. The driver was fined for speeding.

Past simple passive: was fined.

38. The bus shelter was damaged by vandals.

Use 'by' to say who did the action when it is important.

Notes for teachers: Start with the matching exercise to check meaning, then move to collocations and word forms before the error correction and passive rewriting. Learners often confuse rob and steal (you rob a person or place, you steal a thing), and use the wrong prepositions in guilty of, accused of and sent to prison. As a follow-up, ask pairs to write a short news report about an invented crime using at least eight words from the worksheet.