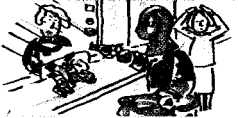









57 Crime

A Crimes, people who do them, and verbs

			
<i>crime</i>	robbery	murder	burglary
<i>person</i>	a robber	a murderer	a burglar
<i>verb</i>	to rob somebody or a place (e.g. a bank)	to murder somebody	to break into a house/flat (break/broke/broken)
			
<i>crime</i>	car theft	drug pushing/dealing	terrorism
<i>person</i>	a car thief	a drug pusher/dealer	a terrorist
<i>verb</i>	to steal a car (steal/stole/stolen)	to sell drugs (sell/sold/sold)	to attack somebody or a place
			to steal things from a shop

There was a **burglary** at the school last night.
John West **murdered** his wife.
There are a lot of **muggings** in the city centre.

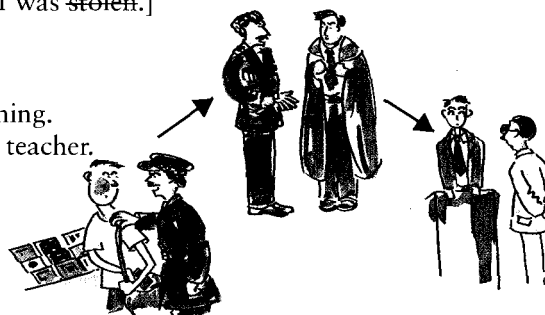
A robber **robs** a person or a place. That bank **was robbed** yesterday. My sister **was robbed** in the city centre.

A thief **steals** something (steal/stole/stolen). Somebody stole my bicycle. [NOT Somebody ~~robbed~~ my bicycle.]

I was **robbed** in the city centre yesterday. [NOT I was ~~stolen~~.]

B The law

A student was **arrested** for shoplifting this morning.
The police came to the school and spoke to his teacher.
The student has to **go to court** next week.
If he is **guilty** he will have to **pay a fine**.
If he is **innocent** he can go home.
I don't think he will **go to prison**.



C Other crime problems

Some **vandals** broke the windows in the telephone box.

(A vandal breaks and smashes things.)

We have a lot of **vandalism** in my town.

A lot of young people **take drugs** nowadays.

Is football **hooliganism** a problem in your country?

(A football hooligan is a person who goes to a football match and makes trouble.)



Exercises

57.1 What do we call ...?

- 1 a person who steals cars? *a car thief*
- 2 a person who kills someone?
- 3 a person who steals things from shops?
- 4 a person who robs people's houses and flats?
- 5 a person who attacks someone in the street and steals their money?
- 6 a person who sells dangerous drugs?

57.2 Fill the gaps in these sentences.

- 1 There were a lot of football *hooligans* near the stadium.
- 2 The police officer a..... her for shoplifting.
- 3 Some v..... destroyed all the flowers in the park.
- 4 He had to pay a f..... of £50 for parking his car in the wrong place.
- 5 There are a lot of b..... in this part of the city, so always close the windows.
- 6 The police made a mistake; she was i..... She did not steal the money.
- 7 People who t..... drugs often do other crimes too.
- 8 A group of t..... have attacked the airport.
- 9 He murdered his wife. He was in p..... for 20 years.

57.3 What do you think should happen to these people? Choose from the list a – i on the right. If you do not like the list, what do you think should happen to them?

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 1 A man murdered his wife and three children. | a fine of £100 |
| 2 A student with no money stole a book from a bookshop. | b 30 years in prison |
| 3 A woman sold some drugs to a teenager. | c six months in prison |
| 4 Some terrorists attacked a bus and killed 5 people. | d death |
| 5 A woman parked her car and blocked the traffic. | e five years in prison |
| 6 A teenager broke some trees in the park. | f in prison for life |
| 7 A man who drank too much alcohol drove his car and crashed. | g a fine of £50 |
| | h must work in a hospital for six months |
| | i must not drive a car for a year |

57.4 What do you think? Put all the crimes on the opposite page in a list, from *least serious* to *most serious*.

57.5 Choose five or six words opposite and use them to make your own sentences.