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Quiz topic: Crime and criminals

1. Oh no - I've been \_\_\_\_\_! My phone was in my pocket and now it's gone!  
a) stolen  
b) robbed  
c) thieved  
d) nicked
2. There are lots of \_\_\_\_\_ in this part of the city - put your money and phone somewhere safe.  
a) burglars  
b) pickpockets  
c) shoplifters  
d) muggers
3. Very serious crimes, such as murder, are punishable by death; this is called \_\_\_\_\_ punishment.  
a) corporal  
b) death  
c) capital  
d) execution
4. When I go out at night, I usually leave a light on in the house; I think it will stop \_\_\_\_\_ breaking into my house.  
a) burglars  
b) pickpockets  
c) shoplifters  
d) all of the above answers
5. A: He killed his wife? B: Yes, he's been charged with \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) manslaughter  
b) homicide  
c) murder  
d) all of the above answers
6. Have you ever \_\_\_\_\_ the law? Before you say 'no' think of something small, perhaps like parking your car illegally?  
a) break  
b) broke  
c) breaked  
d) broken

## ANSWERS

### Quiz topic: Crime and criminals

1. Oh no - I've been \_\_\_\_\_! My phone was in my pocket and now it's gone!

- a) stolen
- b) robbed**
- c) thieved
- d) nicked

a) In this example, the phone was stolen, but the person was robbed, i.e. you can steal *something*, but you can't steal *someone*; you rob someone.

**b) In this example, the phone was stolen, but the person was robbed, i.e. you can steal *something*, but you rob *someone*.**

c) 'Thief' is a noun describing someone who steals, but the verb 'to thief' is not used very often - it is better to say 'to steal something' or 'to rob someone'.

d) This verb is very informal and means 'to steal something', e.g. 'Someone nicked my wallet!'

2. There are lots of \_\_\_\_\_ in this part of the city - put your money and phone somewhere safe.

- a) burglars
- b) pickpockets**
- c) shoplifters
- d) muggers

a) A 'burglar' steals things from your house when you are not at home. What do we call someone who takes things from your pocket or bag without you seeing the crime happen?

**b) A 'pickpocket' is someone who takes something from your pocket or bag without you seeing the crime happen.**

c) A 'shoplifter' steals things from shops when the shop is open. What do we call someone who takes things from your pocket or bag without you seeing the crime happen?

d) A 'mugger' is a thief who threatens or uses violence against his or her victim to steal their money and other belongings. What do we call someone who takes things from your pocket or bag without you seeing the crime happen?

3. Very serious crimes, such as murder, are punishable by death; this is called \_\_\_\_\_ punishment.

- a) corporal
- b) death
- c) capital**
- d) execution

a) 'Corporal punishment' is, for example, when a teacher hits a pupil or student.

b) We say 'death penalty' or 'capital punishment'.

**c) Capital punishment is also called 'the death penalty'.**

d) A criminal might be 'executed' (put to death) in some countries during an 'execution', but what is the punishment called?

4. When I go out at night, I usually leave a light on in the house; I think it will stop \_\_\_\_\_ breaking into my house.

- a) burglars
- b) pickpockets
- c) shoplifters
- d) all of the above answers

a) A 'burglar' breaks into your house and steals your possessions. Did you know most burglaries happen in the afternoon?

b) A 'pickpocket' steals things from your pocket or bag when you are not looking. What do we call someone who breaks into your house and steals your possessions?

c) A 'shoplifter' steals things from shops while the shop is open. What do we call someone who breaks into your house and steals your possessions?

d) Only one of the answers is correct. What do we call someone who breaks into your house and steals your possessions?

5. A: He killed his wife? B: Yes, he's been charged with \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) manslaughter
- b) homicide
- c) murder
- d) all of the above answers

a) '*Manslaughter*' is the crime of killing someone without planning the crime in advance.

b) '*Homicide*' is another word for 'murder' and is used more often in American English; 'homicide' is the act of killing someone deliberately.

c) '*Murder*' is another word for homicide - the act of killing someone deliberately.

d) All the answers are crimes where one person kills another person - sometimes with advance planning or sometimes without.

6. Have you ever \_\_\_\_\_ the law? Before you say 'no' think of something small, perhaps like parking your car illegally?

- a) break
- b) broke
- c) breaked
- d) broken

a) If you do something against the law - you 'break the law'. What's the correct verb form of 'break' in this type of 'have you ever...?' question?

b) If you do something against the law - you 'break the law'. What's the correct verb form of 'break' in this type of 'have you ever...?' question?

c) If you do something against the law - you 'break the law'. What's the correct verb form of 'break' in this type of 'have you ever...?' question?

d) If you do something against the law - you 'break the law'. In this type of 'have you ever...?' question, we say 'Have you ever broken...?'

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