

Crime and Punishment



Subject Specific Vocabulary

bobbies/ peelers-	Police officers, named after Sir Robert Peel, who introduced the first police force in London in 1829. deterrent To discourage someone from doing something.
execution-	A sentence of death.
highwaymen-	Criminals who would rob people while they were travelling. This was very common during the Stuart and Georgian periods.
humiliation-	To make someone feel ashamed and foolish. judge Someone who is in charge of a trial in court.
jury-	A group of people who would listen to the facts in a trial and decide if the person is guilty or not guilty.
ordeal-	A long and painful experience.
treason-	A crime against the King, Queen or the government.
victim-	A person who has suffered.
trial-	A judge and jury listen to evidence in a court to decide whether a person is guilty of /a crime

Community

A group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common.

Romans' Rule

Roman laws, written around 450 BC, were called the 'Twelve Tables'. Not following these rules was a crime. Punishments were severe to deter people from not following them. People could pay to have their punishment lessened. Judges and juries were used to decide if someone was guilty or not guilty. There were lots of serious crimes such as murder, and less serious crimes, such as stealing. The worst crime, treason, was punishable by being thrown to the lions.

Tudor Torture

To deter people from committing crimes, the Tudors came up with even more terrifying punishments, including public executions. Public humiliations were common. The scold's bridle was worn for gossiping; the rack used to stretch out the victim's body for treason; and the dunking stool to find out if someone was a witch.

Victorians Villains

The Victorians looked for alternative ways to hanging people for committing crimes. Many prisons were built in order to prevent people committing further crimes. Life in prison was very tough. Prisoners had to do very physically demanding tasks. These included: • the treadwheel - using the steps on a huge wooden and iron wheel to move it • shot drill - lifting a heavy iron cannonball • the crank - machinery that victims turned 10,000 times a day

Anglo-Saxon Justice System

Anglo-Saxon people accused of a crime had a trial. If a decision as to whether the person was guilty or not guilty could not be made, a trial by ordeal would take place. It is thought that God would decide if they were guilty or not by the outcome of the ordeal. There were no prisons to send criminals to so punishments acted as huge deterrents and were often very brutal including stoning, whipping and hanging.

Highwaymen

Highwaymen would rob people while they were travelling on the road. This had already been happening for hundreds of years but highwaymen became a greater threat during the Stuart and Georgian periods. This was because trade was increasing and there were more wealthy people who were travelling on the roads. There were also many areas of forest and countryside where highwaymen could lie in wait. The pistol had been invented in the 17th century which made it easier for highwaymen to threaten travellers and force them to give up their money and possessions.

mutilation (body parts cut off)



scold's bridle



branding



the rack

exile (being sent away)



the crank



treadwheel



shot drill

The Romans	The Vikings	The Plantagenets	The Stuarts	The Victorians				
43	450	793	1066	1154	1485	1603	1704	1837
The Anglo-Saxons	The Normans	The Tudors	The Georgians					

