

Crime and Punishment Theme

Period	Year Group	Content	Key vocabulary
Maya	4	<p>The Maya had strict laws. Crimes such as murder, arson, and acts against the gods were often punished with death. Punishment for crimes included death, slavery, and fines.</p> <p>Sometimes they would shave the person's head as this was considered a sign of shame.</p> <p>The punishment was much reduced, however, if it was determined that the crime was an accident.</p> <p>If you broke a law you appeared in court where the local leaders or nobles served as judge.</p> <p>In some cases the king would serve as judge.</p> <p>At the trial the judge would review evidence and listen to witnesses. If the person was found guilty, the punishment was carried out immediately. Punishment for crimes included death, slavery, and fines</p> <p>The Maya did not have prisons.</p> <p>If the victim of the crime wanted to pardon or forgive the accused, then the punishment may be reduced.</p> <p>The Maya nobles were also subject to the law. If a noble was found guilty of a crime, they were often punished even more severely than a commoner.</p> <p>The city-state government of the Maya was similar in many ways to the government of the Ancient Greeks</p>	<p>Slavery Shame Trial Witnesses Pardon Forgive Commoner</p>
Romans	4	<p>Roman laws were called the 'Twelve Tables'.</p> <p>Written around 450 BC – these were basic rights for all Roman people and decided what they should and should not do.</p> <p>Dealt with all manner of crimes, from serious crimes, such as murder, and less serious crimes, such as stealing. The laws also dealt with cleanliness – homeowners had to clean the street outside their home.</p> <p>Children learnt the laws off by heart at school.</p> <p>People accused of committing a crime were taken to court to be judged guilty or not guilty.</p> <p>There were no police to catch a criminal – people had to catch the criminals themselves.</p> <p>In Britain, the job of finding a criminal was down to the legionaries.</p> <p>Punishments were severe. Their main purpose was to deter people from committing crimes. The worst possible punishment was kept for anyone who tried to rebel against the Emperor.</p> <p>The punishment you received depended on what money and possessions you had.</p> <p>If you were a slave, you had no rights at all. The punishment for most slaves was death – by many different, awful means – or to be forced to become a gladiator.</p> <p>However, if you were a noble and had plenty of money, you were often saved from death and told to go into exile instead.</p> <p>Singing a song about someone that wasn't true was punishable by death</p> <p>If you set fire near a house you would be bound and set fire to yourself.</p> <p>Small-scale theft = Flogging Beating Repaying cost of stolen goods</p> <p>Burglary = amputation of limbs</p> <p>Murder, arson, libel = execution in lots of different ways / Exile if you were a noble</p> <p>Rebellion; not worshipping the Emperor = Crucifixion or thrown to the lions /Being forced to become a gladiator</p> <p>The Legacy</p> <p>In Roman times, the victim of the crime had to bring evidence to court to show what had happened.</p> <p>If they had enough money, they could pay for a lawyer to help them.</p> <p>If it was a serious crime, a jury would decide whether that person was guilty or not.</p> <p>If it was a minor crime, a judge would decide.</p> <p>In present-day Britain, the use of a court and trial still happens today. However, everyone has the right to a fair trial. This means, if a person cannot afford a lawyer, the government will pay for one or help to pay the cost.</p>	<p>Rights Accused Judged Deter Rebel / rebellion Exile Punishable Flogging Beating Amputation Arson Libel Execution Lawyer Crucifixion</p>
Egyptians	5	<p>Egypt's first laws emerged under King Menes around 2950 B.C. Different pharaohs had own approaches to law and order. Pharaohs held supreme authority in settling disputes, but they often delegated these powers to other officials such as governors, viziers, and magistrates, who could conduct investigations, hold trials, and issue punishments. Ancient Egyptian law was not set in stone.</p> <p>Crimes in ancient Egypt tended to be divided into two categories: against the state / against individuals. Desertion, treason, and slandering the pharaoh fell into the first, while acts such as homicide, injury, robbery, and theft fell into the second.</p> <p>Trial by Jury - The kenbet (secular court) was like a jury.</p> <p>Two major kenbets in Memphis and Thebes functioned like a high court. The major kenbet juries consisted of higher-ranking members of society, such as scribes of the vizier of Thebes or police chiefs.</p> <p>Dealt with civil issues such as nonpayment for goods or services, disputes and quarrels between neighbors, theft, injuries, and calumnies.</p>	<p>Crime Law Punishment Corporal punishment Desertion Treason Slander Homicide Robbery/theft Vizier</p>

		<p>Empowered to administer punishments for the minor offenses which usually entailed the guilty party suffering a beating. In a few cases, when a kenbet could not reach a decision, it would recommend that the question be submitted to the oracular statues for resolution.</p> <p>For serious crimes, the vizier served as judge and could dole out punishments or grant pardons.</p> <p>When people were convicted of crimes, the penalties depended both on the severity of the offense and their level of involvement.</p> <p>stealing = returning the stolen object and paying its rightful owner double or triple its value. If someone stole from a temple, however, the punishment was more severe: it could include paying a hundred times the value of the object, corporal punishment, or even death. Criminal punishment tended to be administered immediately rather than by means of a long sentence.</p> <p>Little evidence has been found for imprisonment in ancient Egypt. Forced labor was common, and criminals were also threatened with exile to Nubia, where scholars believe they were put to work in mines.</p> <p>Corporal punishment = public beatings, brandings, or mutilations.</p>	<p>Court Offenses Guilty Resolution Convicted Penalties Offences Imprisonment Sentence Criminals Exile Branding mutilation</p>
Anglo Saxons	5	<p>The Anglo-Saxons also used very harsh punishments to stop people from committing crimes. Punishments ranged from hanging, branding and whipping to trials by ordeal.</p> <p>Communities were divided into groups of 10 men, that were called tithings. These men were responsible for each other's behaviour. When a village needed to find a criminal, they would call upon all of the community to find them – this was called a hue and cry.</p> <p>If the person accused of the crime could not find enough oath-keepers (to say that they were innocent of the crime) then they may face a trial by ordeal.</p> <p>Anglo-Saxons believed that through these trials, God would decide whether the person was guilty or not.</p> <p>A common way to solve disputes between a victim's family and a criminal was through payment called wergild. Wergild would be paid to the family if someone was killed or injured.</p>	<p>Branding Hanging Hue and cry Oath-keeper</p>
Vikings	5	<p>If the Vikings believed someone committed a crime, they had to stand a trial.</p> <p>Women had to pick hot stones out of boiling water and men carried red, hot, burning iron for a short distance. If they dropped the stones or the iron they were accused to be guilty. If you achieved your task you had your wounds cleaned up and dressed. When a week passed, their wounds were examined, and if they were healing they were innocent and if they weren't then they were guilty.</p> <p>Their fate was decided by the ting. The ting was a meeting where their punishment would be decided. The criminal would have to pay a mulct, degraded to be a slave or could even be banished from the land. If you were an outlaw, anyone could kill you without risk of being prosecuted.</p> <p>Vikings believed they were worth money, some more than others. They were called Wergelg. The higher rank Vikings were worth more than peasants.</p> <p>Once King Harald hárfagri Hálfðanarson (Harald Fairhair) had gained full control of the provinces that had just come into his hands, Harald kept a sharp eye on the landed men and rich farmers, and anyone else he might expect trouble from. He gave them a choice of three things. They could swear loyalty, or they could leave the country, but if they chose the third, they could resign themselves to the most savage terms, perhaps even death. There were cases where Harald people's arms and legs hacked off.</p>	<p>Trial Wounds Innocent Fate Criminal Banished Outlaw Prosecuted Loyalty Savage</p>
Victorians	6	<p>The Police force was introduced in 1829.</p> <p>1361 – three or four men in each county were appointed to arrest & punish criminals</p> <p>1750 'The Runners' – small police force, plain-clothed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sir Robert Peel introduced a police force of 95 constables, 88 sergeants and 20 inspectors in 1829, and by 1856 there were over 200 police force in the UK. They became known as 'bobbies' or 'peelers'. • Photography changed the way criminals could be identified in the Victorian period and beyond. <p>Changes in an aspect of social history - crime and punishment</p> <p>Victorians firmly believed in punishing criminals. One attempt to stop the growth of crime had been through making punishments severe (hanging or transportation). However, since the end of the 1700's, many people had become more and more angry at the number of people hanged for petty crimes.</p> <p>By the time Queen Victoria came to the throne, fewer crimes carried a compulsory death sentence. There were fewer hangings, and sentences for petty crime were getting lighter. In their place, other ideas were being tried out. These included building new gaols and looking at how these could be used to stop criminals from re-offending in the future. Transportation was often used instead of hanging for more serious crimes.</p> <p><u>Types of punishment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation or penal servitude – sent to the colonies. Any criminal with a sentence of 7 years or longer. Later in the Victorian Period this was replaced with Penal Servitude. After the 1853 Penal Servitude act, only long-term transportation was retained and transportation was finally abolished after the Penal Servitude act of 1857. Means 'Serving a sentence that is meant to punish the prisoner'. A term of imprisonment that usually included hard labour and was served in this country. This gradually replaced transportation. The sentence for penal servitude could range from 3 years to life. • Hanging - most severe but common punishment for serious offences. Over 200 crimes carried the death sentence including pick pocketing or stealing food. End of the 1700's, the number of people hanged for petty crimes was causing public unrest. 1823, Sir Robert Peel reduced the number of offences for which convicts could be executed, by over 100. Death by Hanging could only be ordered by the Assize judges (the equivalent of today's Crown Court) - where more 	<p>Hanging Transportation Petty crimes Compulsory Death sentence Gaols Re-offending Penal servitude Sentence Abolished Imprisonment Hard labour Convicts Executed Gallows Strangulation Consciousness Pickpockets Condemned Offenders Segregation</p>

	<p>serious offences would be tried. At the start of the Victorian period, executions were still carried out in public - quite festive, although riots occasionally broke out. At this time, the type of gallows used and the short drop resulted in death by strangulation, which could take several minutes before the victim lost consciousness. As the century progressed, it was realised that such a public spectacle did not deter criminals but encouraged troublemakers and allowed thieves easy pickings from the pockets of onlookers. Prisons Act of 1868 executions take place within the prison walls. From around 1874 onwards, the authorities also looked for more humane ways of treating the condemned and different methods for hanging that ensured a quicker, less painful death.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imprisonment until the late eighteenth century in England, it was unusual to imprison guilty people for long terms. By the Victorian era, prison had become an acceptable punishment for serious offenders and it was also seen as a means to prevent crime. It had become the main form of punishment for a wide range of offences. However, there was also public unease at the number of people being hung. By the 1830s, many areas in Australia were refusing to be the 'dumping-ground' for Britain's criminals. There were more criminals than could be transported. The answer was to reform the police and to build more prisons: 90 prisons were built or added to between 1842 and 1877. This was a massive building programme, costing millions of pounds. • Prison including Hard labour - As an element of segregation became part of a prison sentence, for both petty and serious crimes, hard labour was often carried out in a prisoner's cell or under guard in silence. Most prisons had a treadmill or tread wheel installed, where the prisoner simply walked the wheel. the treadmill provided flour to make money for the gaol, from which the prisoners earned enough to pay for their keep. However, in later times, there was no end product and the treadmill was walked just for punishment. It became loathed by the prisoners. Another equally pointless device was the Crank. This was a large handle, in their cell, that a prisoner would have to turn, thousands of times a day. This could be tightened by the warders, making it harder to turn, which resulted in their nickname of 'screws'. These punishments were not abolished until 1898. • Prisons - The Prison hulks - old sailing ships at south coast harbours or on the Thames at Woolwich. They were originally used as holding prisons for people waiting to be transported. Rise in crime at the end of the French Wars caused a shortage of prisons, and so the hulks used to house ordinary prisoners. At one point, over two thirds of all prisoners were on the hulks. Conditions in them were terrible. During outbreaks of disease such as cholera, large numbers of prisoners died because of the insanitary conditions on board and because water taken from the polluted Thames was used for all purposes. Prisoners were chained to their bunks at night to prevent them from slipping ashore. During the day most of them worked ashore, usually on hard labour. • Hard labour. Prisoners were often used as the main work force in quarrying, building roads or labouring on the docks. Criminals could be sentenced for just a few days, weeks or even years. Prisoners were also set to hard labour within the prisons themselves. Reasons – 1) it was felt that it would teach prisoners the value of hard work; 2) it would remove the temptation for idle men get up to mischief and 3),it would deter others from committing crime. 4) needed cheap labour. • Physical punishment (stocks / pillory use dying out) • Sending to the armed forces (hard to recruit people) • Fines (not common) <p>Elizabeth Fry, often referred to as Betsy Fry, was an English prison reformer, social reformer and, as a Quaker, a Christian philanthropist. She has often been referred to as the "angel of prisons" Fry was a major driving force behind new legislation to make the treatment of prisoners more humane, and she was supported in her efforts by Queen Victoria. She was depicted on the Bank of England £5 note from 2001–2016. Fry kept extensive and revealing diaries.</p> <p>Children who break the law in Victorian times</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What changes over time is how society deals with its young offenders. • Before Victorian times no distinction was made between criminals of any age. Accordingly, young children could be sent to an adult prison. There are records of children aged 12 being hanged. <p>Reformatory Schools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Victorians were very worried about crime and its causes. • Reformers were asking questions about how young people who had broken the law ought to be treated. They could see that locking children up with adult criminals was hardly likely to make them lead honest lives in the future. On the other hand, they believed firmly in stiff punishments. • In 1854 Reformatory Schools were set up for offenders under 16 years old. These were very tough places, with stiff discipline enforced by frequent beatings. Young people were sent there for long sentences – usually several years. However, a young offender normally still began their sentence with a brief spell in an adult prison • Child crime shocked the Victorians.(Charles Dickens' Oliver Twist) In 1816, Parliament even set up a 'Committee for Investigating the Alarming Increase in Juvenile Crime in the Metropolis' (London). • Juvenile Offences Act of 1847, young people under 14 (soon raised to 16) should be tried in a special court, not an adult court. Young people were sent to a Reformatory School for long periods – several years. The long sentences were designed to break the child away from the "bad influences" of home and environment. • From 1899 children were no longer sent to adult prisons. • In 1902 an experimental school was set up at Borstal, in Kent – led to other 'borstals' being set up. <p>Transportation as a Punishment. Where were criminals sent?</p>	<p>Social reform Insanitary conditions</p> <p>Reform / reformation Philanthropist Juvenile Stocks Pillory</p>
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Greeks	6	<p>Ancient Greeks had no official laws or punishment. The crimes committed in ancient times were very similar to crimes committed today, though the punishments handed out by the courts varied depending on the crime. Murder like now was the most serious crime to commit.</p> <p>There were no set of laws or rules in Ancient Greece. They would generally follow the tit-for-tat policy.</p> <p>For example, Ancient Greeks would settle a murder by the family members of the victim killing the culprit. This generally resulted in a lot of bloodshed and long family clashes.</p> <p>In 632 BC, a Greek statesman named Draco devised the first written laws of Greek. The laws were so harsh that it is believed that they were written in blood. These laws later gave birth to the English term 'Draconian', which basically meant a harsh and unreasonable law.</p> <p>Before that, in Athens, a jury of around 200 people, all men, decided the fate of criminals. Imprisonment back then was not considered punishment, hence, punishments like fines, right to vote taken away, exile or death were imposed upon criminals.</p> <p>Ancient Greece Punishments</p> <p>Most of Draco's punishments were ruthless. As a result, his laws were refined by another Athenian statesman and lawmaker, Solon, appointed in 594 BC. He completely changed the laws except for the punishment of exile for the crime of homicide.</p> <p>Other than this Solon made tort laws which included punishment for physical harm like murder.</p> <p>Punishment for such crimes was exile or fine.</p> <p>Punishment for theft was returning the stolen property and paying a fine of double the value.</p> <p>Such were the laws and punishments as decided by Draco first and Solon later.</p> <p>Greeks later also set up courts to carry out trials.</p>	<p>Commit</p> <p>Culprit</p> <p>Bloodshed</p> <p>Family clashes</p> <p>Draconian</p> <p>Fate</p> <p>Ruthless</p> <p>Homicide</p>