

# 8A Cutting crime

A society gets the criminals it deserves.  
Val McDermid, Scottish crime writer

**G** the passive (all forms); have something done; it is said that..., he is thought to..., etc.

**V** crime and punishment

**P** the letter u

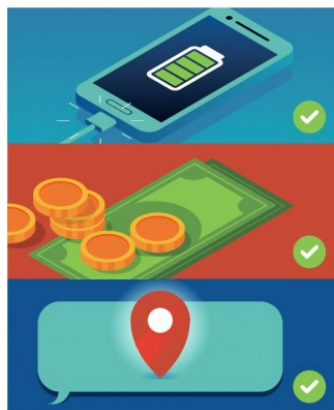
## 1 LISTENING

- Imagine you are alone on the street at night in an area that you don't know well. Would you feel nervous? What might you do to feel safer?
  - Read the introduction to a page from a police crime prevention website and look at the pictures. With a partner, decide what advice you think is shown in each picture, and what the missing word in the headings might be.
  - 8.1** Now listen to a Metropolitan Police podcast. Complete the headings. What advice did you predict correctly in **b**?
- Listen again and answer the questions.
    - What should you plan in advance?
    - Why is it important to look confident?
    - What three things shouldn't you do on the street on a cell phone?
    - What kinds of things should you keep out of sight?
    - Why should you walk facing oncoming traffic?
    - What three things make places safer to walk at night?
    - What should you do during an evening when you're out with friends?
    - Why shouldn't you get into a stranger's car at an airport?
  - Was any of the advice about street crime new to you? Which tip do you think is the most useful? How safe / unsafe is your town, or the area where you live?

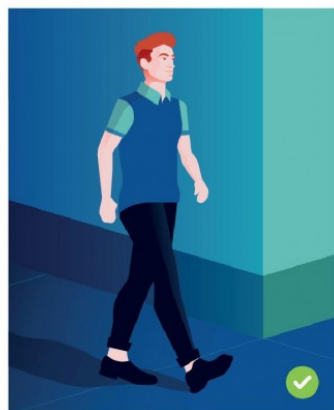
## Stay safe

Street crime is often unplanned, so making yourself less of a target, moving with purpose, and being aware of your surroundings will go a long way to keeping you safe when you're out and about. Here are eight important pieces of advice.

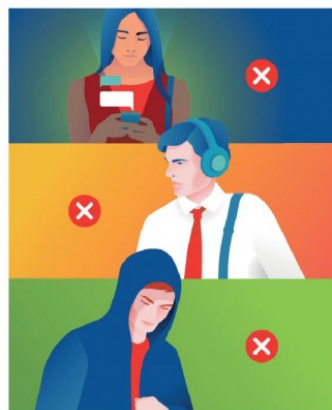
1 Be \_\_\_\_\_



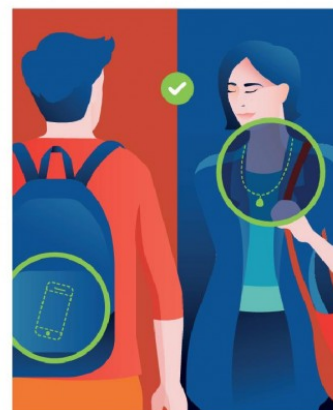
2 Be \_\_\_\_\_



3 Be \_\_\_\_\_



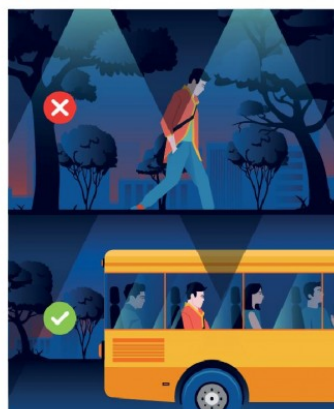
4 \_\_\_\_\_ it



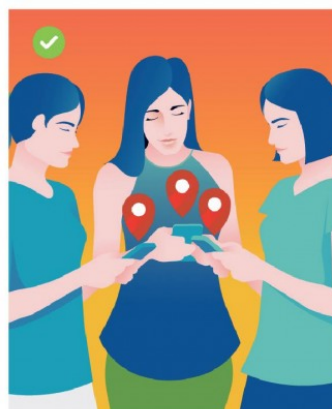
5 Go \_\_\_\_\_ the flow



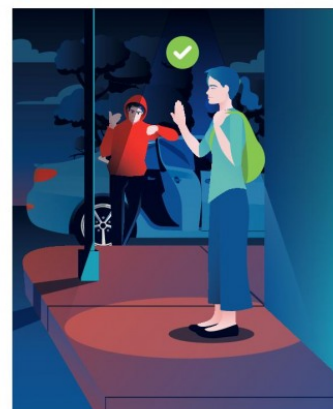
6 Trust your \_\_\_\_\_



7 Make a \_\_\_\_\_



8 Look out for \_\_\_\_\_



Adapted from the Metropolitan Police website

## 2 VOCABULARY crime and punishment

- a How much do you think you know about keeping your home safe? Can you "beat the burglar"? Take the quiz to find out.

### Beat the burglar

- What's the most common time of day to **be burglarized**?  
a between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.  
b between 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.  
c between 10:00 p.m. and 12:00 a.m.
- How long do you think a **burglar** usually takes to search someone's house?  
a 10 minutes b 20 minutes c 30 minutes
- What two things influence a burglar to choose a house to **break into**?  
a it's in an expensive area  
b there's no one at home  
c there are trees and bushes around the house
- Which are the most common things that burglars **steal**, apart from money?  
a laptops and tablets  
b paintings and antiques  
c jewelry
- What is the best place in the house to hide your valuables?  
a the living room d the kitchen  
b the master bedroom e the study  
c a child's bedroom
- What is most likely to prevent a **burglary**?  
a a dog b a burglar alarm

- b **C Communication** Beat the burglar **A p.109 B p.113** Find out the answers, according to an ex-burglar.

- c Now **A** tell **B** the answers to questions 1–3, and **B** tell **A** the answers to questions 4–6.

- d Match the **highlighted** words in the quiz to definitions 1–5.

- \_\_\_\_\_ (noun) a person who breaks in and steals from a private house
- \_\_\_\_\_ (verb, passive) to have somebody enter your house and take things that belong to you
- \_\_\_\_\_ (noun) the crime of entering a house illegally and stealing things from it
- \_\_\_\_\_ (phr. verb) to enter a place by force
- \_\_\_\_\_ (verb) to take something without intending to return it or pay for it

- e **8.2** Listen and check.

- f **V p.160 Vocabulary Bank** Crime and punishment

## 3 PRONUNCIATION & SPEAKING

the letter *u*

- a Look at the words in the box. Which sound does the letter *u* make? Put them in the correct row.

accuse drugs judge jury  
mugger punishment smuggling



/yu/

- b Now look at the pink letters in some more words that include the letter *u*. Put them in the correct row, according to how the vowel sound is pronounced.

burglar caught fraud guilty murderer stalk



- c **8.5** Listen and check your answers to **a** and **b**. Then answer the questions.

- Is the vowel sound before a double consonant short or long?
- How do we pronounce *gu* before the letters *a*, *e*, and *i*, as in *guard*, *guess*, *guilty*?

- d **8.6** Listen and write five sentences. Then practice saying them.

- e Talk in small groups. Ask for more details.

What do you think are the most common crimes in your town or city?

Have you ever witnessed a crime? What was it? Where? What happened?

Do you know anyone...?

- whose phone or bicycle has been stolen
- whose car has been vandalized
- who has been stopped by the police while driving
- who has been mugged
- who has been burglarized
- who has been offered a bribe



## 4 GRAMMAR the passive (all forms); *have something done*; *it is said that...*, *he is thought to...*, etc.

a Read three true crime stories. In which story was someone...?

- A caught because of what they stole
- B caught because of what they wrote on
- C caught because of what they said

### 1 The partial pay stub

A man from Illinois thought he had a clever plan to avoid <sup>1</sup>*catching* / *being caught* during a bank robbery. He entered the bank and passed a teller a note that read, "Be Quick Be Quiet. Give your cash or I'll shoot." The teller gave the robber \$400. However, the man <sup>2</sup>*failed* / *was failed* to notice that he had written the note on part of his pay stub. The other part of the pay stub, including the robber's name and home address, <sup>3</sup>*found* / *was found* outside the bank by police officers!

### 2 The Apple iDiot

Last week in San Francisco, a woman had her iPhone stolen. A thief rode his bike up to her on the sidewalk, <sup>4</sup>*snatched* / *was snatched* the iPhone out of her hands, and rode away. However, unknown to him, the woman worked for Apple and <sup>5</sup>*was demonstrating* / *was being demonstrated* the iPhone's new GPS tracking device to some customers. The tracker worked, and the thief <sup>6</sup>*caught* / *was caught* a few minutes later.

### 3 Parlez-vous français?

The victim was hysterical when the Calgary police arrived at her house. A window <sup>7</sup>*had broken* / *had been broken* and her jewelry was gone. While the police were there, her French-speaking father <sup>8</sup>*called* / *was called*. She explained to him, in French, that it was all a plan to get the insurance money. She didn't know that Officer Meharu speaks six languages, including French. She <sup>9</sup>*has been charged* / *has charged* with fraud.

b Read the stories again. Circle the correct form of verbs 1–9, active or passive.

c Look at the extract from story 2.

A woman **had her iPhone stolen**.

Does it describe...?

- 1 something the person arranged for someone to do for her
- 2 something bad that happened to her

d 8.7 Now look at another headline and listen to the news story. In what way was the robber polite?

### The most-polite robber

e Listen again and complete extracts 1–4. How is the structure different between 1 and 4, and 2 and 3?

- 1 Police in Stockport are looking for a man who is said \_\_\_\_\_ the most-polite armed robber.
- 2 It is believed \_\_\_\_\_ a tall man in his early 40s...
- 3 It is thought \_\_\_\_\_ at least four stores in Stockport in recent weeks.
- 4 He is reported \_\_\_\_\_ to his victims...

f p.146 Grammar Bank 8A

## 5 READING

a Work in pairs. Discuss the questions.

- 1 Do you post photos on social media sites like Facebook or Instagram? How often? What kinds of photos do you post?
- 2 Who do you allow to see your posted photos? Why?
- 3 How do you feel when other people post photos of you without your permission?

b You're going to read an article about Steve Bustin, who had problems with some photos he posted on Facebook. First, look at the four photos. Then read the article once and answer the questions.

- 1 Who are the people in photo A? Who did "Martin" say they were?
- 2 Why did photos B and C make Constance suspicious?
- 3 What had happened in photo D? How did the scammer use it?

c Read the article again. Choose a, b, or c.

- 1 When Steve received Constance's email he felt \_\_\_\_\_.  
a surprised b happy c sorry
- 2 Constance was attracted to Martin because \_\_\_\_\_.  
a she liked his profile photo  
b he paid her a lot of attention  
c he reminded her of her husband
- 3 Thanks to a website about dating scams, Constance was able to find out who \_\_\_\_\_.  
a "Martin" really was  
b the photo was really of  
c had originally posted the photo
- 4 In a typical dating scam, men like Martin start by \_\_\_\_\_.  
a being very nice to women  
b asking women for money  
c trying to get women's sympathy
- 5 As a result of the scam, Steve has decided to be more careful about \_\_\_\_\_ on social media.  
a posting vacation photos  
b who can see what he posts  
c contacting friends and family

d Look at the **highlighted** words in the article related to scams and try to figure out what they mean. Then match them to a synonym in the box.

- |  |                                  |  |  |  |              |  |              |
|--|----------------------------------|--|--|--|--------------|--|--------------|
|  | careful                          |  | chosen                                 |  | fraud        |  | give         |
|  | make use of (in a dishonest way) |  | said that (even though it wasn't true) |  | thought that |  | trick (verb) |



# A case of identity theft



I sighed when I glanced at the email on my phone. It was from a woman named Constance, a complete stranger to me, who <sup>1</sup>was under the impression that we'd been in a relationship for several months. It has become an all-too-familiar story. Over the past two years, my photos have been used to <sup>2</sup>con 11 women on dating websites. These are just the ones I know about; the real number could be much higher.

I called Constance and listened as she explained she'd met a man named Martin Peterson on Elite Singles. He said he was Danish and a widower. Constance had joined the website hoping to find love after losing her husband three years earlier, and Martin had seemed kind and understanding. He was interested in everything about her, texting her every morning and calling her for cozy chats in the evening. But on his dating profile were several photos which were, in fact, of me! She forwarded me the pictures, and I shuddered when I saw one of me and my sister, who Martin had said was his dead wife.

Constance had begun to be suspicious of Martin when she noticed his hair color and style change within the space of a few hours. He <sup>3</sup>claimed he was on a business trip, and sent her a photo of me sitting in a hotel garden having breakfast, with my curly gray hair in need of a trim. Later in the day, he sent a second photo of me by a swimming pool, in which my hair was shorter and darker. In fact, these photos had been taken several years apart and had been "harvested" from my Facebook account. Constance began to look carefully at all the pictures he had sent. She researched dating <sup>4</sup>scams online, and found

a way to find out where a picture had originated. By dragging a picture of Martin into a "reverse image search" on Google, she discovered that the pictures of the man she'd believed to be a Danish widower were actually of me, a public speaker from Brighton, UK.

People like "Martin" are known to <sup>5</sup>prey on older women. First, they gain their trust and bombard them with attention, and then they say they are traveling abroad for work, where they are involved in an accident. Finally, they ask the woman to transfer money for medical treatment or flights home. A few years ago, I scratched my face, and posted a photo online of me with blood on my face. This picture has now been used by the scammer several times – he sends it alongside a picture of a smashed-up car, and says he's been involved in a serious accident. Fortunately, Constance didn't <sup>6</sup>hand over any money. But other women have, including one woman who lost thousands of dollars.

These days, I'm a lot more conscious of what I post online. I always used to share pictures of everything: vacations by the pool, work speeches, me and my dog, fancy parties... Now I've changed my privacy settings on social media. I suppose my account was <sup>7</sup>targeted because I had a range of photos and the scammer could build a whole life from them. An expert told me that my pictures had probably been sold as a bundle on the black market. I now encourage all my friends and family to be <sup>8</sup>wary about what they post – once they're out there, there's nothing you can do about it. Unfortunately for me, my identity is no longer my own.

Adapted from the Mirror website

## 6 SPEAKING

- How common do you think identity theft is these days? What can people do to avoid it from happening?
- Look at the questions on the right. For each one...
  - decide what you think.
  - think of reasons for your opinions.
  - decide how you think the "crime" should be punished.
- Now discuss the questions in groups.

### Do you think it should be illegal to...?

- post a photo or video of someone online without their permission
- post aggressive or threatening tweets or messages
- download music, books, and movies without paying for them
- own an aggressive breed of dog
- squat in an unoccupied house (live there without paying rent)
- paint graffiti on a wall or fence
- smoke outdoors, e.g., in parks or on the street
- kill another person in self-defense

If yes, how do you think they should be punished? If no, say why not.

## 7 WRITING

**W p.120 Writing** Expressing your opinion Write an article for an online forum, saying what you think about some aspects of crime.



## 6 EXPRESSING YOUR OPINION

- a Read the title of the magazine article. Do you agree or disagree? Then quickly read the article and see if the writer's opinion is the same as yours.
- b Complete the article with a word or phrase from the box below.


finally first for instance in addition in conclusion  
in most cases nowadays second so whereas

- c You are going to write an article for a magazine. With a partner, choose one of the titles below.

**Downloading music or movies without paying is as much of a crime as stealing from a store.**

**Squatters who live in an unoccupied property should not be forced to leave it.**

- d **Plan** the content. The article should have four or five paragraphs.
- 1 **The introduction:** Think about what the current situation is and what your opinion is.
  - 2 **The main paragraphs:** Try to think of at least two or three clear reasons to support your opinion. You could also include examples to back up your reasons.
  - 3 **The conclusion:** Think of how to express your conclusion (a summary of your opinion).
- e **Write** 140–190 words, organized in four or five paragraphs (introduction, reasons, and conclusion). Use a formal style (no contractions or colloquial expressions). Use the phrases in **b** and in **Useful language**.

 **Useful language: ways of giving your opinion**  
(Personally) I think... / I believe...

In my opinion,...

In addition,... / Also,...

In conclusion,... / To sum up,...

**Ways of giving examples**

There are several things we can do,  
for example / for instance / such as...

Another thing we can do is...

We can also...

**Sequencing words**

Firstly, / Secondly, / Thirdly, / Finally,...

- f **Check** your article for mistakes (grammar, punctuation, and spelling).

## Community service is a bad punishment for sports stars who commit crimes

<sup>1</sup>*Nowadays* in the US when a star athlete commits a crime, he or she is usually sentenced to community service instead of serving time in a jail or prison.

<sup>2</sup>\_\_\_\_\_, for these high-profile people, I believe that community service is a very bad option.

<sup>3</sup>\_\_\_\_\_, the community service that star athletes are asked to complete is often very different from the community service that non-celebrities must complete.

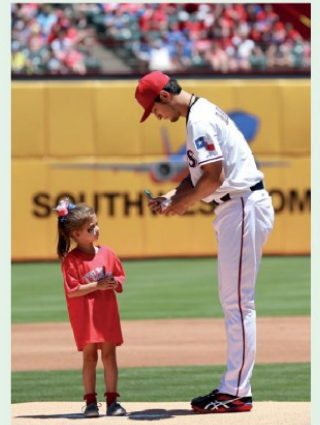
<sup>4</sup>\_\_\_\_\_, star athletes might fulfill their community service by coaching kids at sports camps <sup>5</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ non-celebrities often perform court-ordered community service by picking up garbage on roadsides or digging ditches.

<sup>6</sup>\_\_\_\_\_, kids often view sports stars as role models. So when a sports star never goes on trial for committing a crime, kids assume that if you're famous you can get away with breaking the law.

<sup>7</sup>\_\_\_\_\_, in some cases, once celebrities complete their community service, the crime doesn't go on their records. This sends kids the wrong message: if you're famous the laws don't apply to you in the same way as they do for non-famous people.

<sup>8</sup>\_\_\_\_\_, I think that when sports stars are sentenced to community service for their crimes, they should also be fined. They usually have a lot of money <sup>9</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ they can afford to pay larger fines than non-celebrity criminals.

<sup>10</sup>\_\_\_\_\_, I believe that star athletes who commit crimes should be sentenced to more than community service. They should also be fined or serve time in prison for more serious crimes.



the passive (all forms); *have something done*; *it is said that...*, *he is thought to...*, etc.

### the passive (all forms)

- 1 The trial **is being held** this week. 8.8  
 Jim **was arrested** last month.  
 We saw that one of the windows **had been broken**.  
 People used **to be imprisoned** for stealing bread.  
 He paid a fine to avoid **being sent** to jail.
- 2 People think he **was blackmailed by** his ex-wife.  
 The purse **was discovered by** a dog-walker.

- 1 We use the passive when we talk about an action but are not so interested in who or what does / did the action.
- To make the tense or form, we use the verb *be* + past participle, e.g., *Murderers are usually sentenced to life in prison. The prisoner will be released next month.* The tense changes are shown by the verb *be*, e.g., *are, will be*, etc.
- 2 To mention the person or thing that did the action (the agent), we use *by*. However, in the majority of passive sentences, the agent is not mentioned.

### have something done (causative have)

- 1 I just **had** my bank account **hacked**. 8.9  
 We **had** our passports **stolen** from our hotel room.  
**Have** you ever **had** your car **vandalized**?
- 2 We just **had** a burglar alarm **installed**.  
 You ought to **have** your locks **changed**.  
 We need to **have** the broken window **repaired**.

- 1 We can use *have something done* to refer to something (usually bad) that is done to us.
- Remember, *have* is the main verb, so it changes according to the tense. We use auxiliary verbs (*do, did*, etc.) to make questions and negatives.
- 2 This structure is also used to talk about something that we arrange (and usually pay) for someone to do for us, because we can't or don't want to do it ourselves.

### is said that..., he is thought to..., etc.

#### active

- 1 They say that the fire was started deliberately.  
 People think that the mayor will resign.
- 2 People say the man is in his 40s.  
 The police believe he has left the country.

#### passive

- It is said that** the fire was started deliberately.  
**It is thought that** the mayor will resign.  
**The man is said to be** in his 40s.  
**He is believed to have left** the country. 8.10

- This formal structure is used especially in news reports with the verbs *know, tell, understand, report, expect, say, believe*, and *think*. It makes the information sound more impersonal.
- 1 We use *It is said, believed*, etc. + *that* + clause.
- 2 We use *He, The man*, etc. (i.e., the subject of the clause) + *is said, believed*, etc. + infinitive (e.g., *to be*) or perfect infinitive (e.g., *to have been*) when talking about the past.

### a Rewrite the sentence in the passive.

The police caught the burglar immediately.  
*The burglar was caught immediately.*

- Somebody has stolen my phone.  
My phone...
- They are painting my house.  
My house...
- They'll hold a meeting to discuss the problem.  
A meeting...
- If they hadn't found the burglar in time, he would have left the country.  
If the burglar...
- Miranda thinks someone was following her last night.  
Miranda thinks she...
- I hate somebody waking me up when I'm fast asleep.  
I hate...
- They're going to close the local police station.  
The local police station...

### b Complete the second sentence using *have something done*.

I was mugged and my iPhone was stolen.  
*I was mugged and I had my iPhone stolen.*

- Tim's social media account was hacked.  
Tim...

- Has someone ever snatched your bag?  
Have you ever...
- They need to get someone to check the security camera to make sure that it's working.  
They...
- Someone took our photo in front of the Colosseum.  
We...
- As a result of the burglary, they're going to pay someone to put in a safe.  
As a result of the burglary, they...

### c Rephrase the sentence to make it more formal.

People think the murderer is a woman.  
*It is thought that the murderer is a woman.*  
 The murderer *is thought to be* a woman.

- Police believe the burglar is a local man.  
The burglar...
- People say the muggers are very dangerous.  
It...
- Police think the robbers entered through an open window.  
The robbers...
- Police say the murderer has disappeared.  
It...
- Lawyers expect that the trial will last three weeks.  
The trial...



# Crime and punishment

## VOCABULARY BANK

### 1 CRIMES AND CRIMINALS

a Match the examples to the crimes in the chart.

- A They took a rich man's son and asked for money for his safe return.  
 B He deliberately drove above the speed limit and caused a fatal accident.  
 C Two passengers took control of the plane and made the pilot land in the desert.  
 D Someone copied my handwriting and signed my name to a check.  
 E We came home from vacation and found that our TV was gone.  
 F A teenager got into the Pentagon's computer system and downloaded some secret data.  
 G When the police searched his car, it was full of contraband cigarettes.  
 H Someone threw paint on the statue in the park.  
 I He said he'd send the photos to a newspaper if the actress didn't pay him a lot of money.  
 J An armed man in a mask walked into a store and shouted, "Give me all the money in the cash register!"  
 K The accountant was transferring money into his own bank account.  
 L The builder offered the mayor a free apartment in return for giving his company permission to build a new apartment building on some wetlands.  
 M They committed a violent crime to cause fear among the civilians.  
 N Somebody stole my car last night from outside my house.  
 O A man held out a knife and made me give him my wallet.  
 P A woman followed a pop singer everywhere he went, watching him and sending him constant messages on the internet.

	Crime	Criminal	Verb
1	<u>blackmail</u> /'blækmeɪl/	<u>blackmailer</u>	<u>blackmail</u>
2	<u>bribery</u> /'braɪbəri/	—	bribe
3	<u>burglary</u> /'bɜːgləri/	<u>burglar</u>	break in / <u>burglarize</u>
4	<u>forgery</u> /'fɔːdʒəri/	<u>forgery</u>	forge
5	<u>fraud</u> /frɒd/	<u>fraudster</u>	<u>commit</u> fraud
6	<u>hacking</u> /'hækɪŋ/	<u>hacker</u>	hack (into)
7	<u>hijacking</u> /'haɪdʒækɪŋ/	<u>hijacker</u>	<u>hijack</u>
8	<u>kidnapping</u> /'kɪdnæpɪŋ/	<u>kidnapper</u>	<u>kidnap</u>
9	<u>mugging</u> /'mʌɡɪŋ/	<u>mugger</u>	mug
10	<u>murder</u> /'mɜːdə/	<u>murderer</u>	<u>murder</u>
11	<u>robbery</u> /'rɒbəri/	<u>robber</u>	rob
12	<u>smuggling</u> /'smʌɡlɪŋ/	<u>smuggler</u>	<u>smuggle</u>
13	<u>stalking</u> /'stɔːkɪŋ/	<u>stalker</u>	stalk
14	<u>terrorism</u> /'terərɪzəm/	<u>terrorist</u>	use <u>violent actions</u> , etc.
15	<u>theft</u> /θeft/	thief	steal
16	<u>vandalism</u> /'vændlɪzəm/	<u>vandal</u>	<u>vandalize</u>

b 8.3 Listen and check.

**ACTIVATION** Cover the chart and look at situations A–P. Say the crimes.

### 2 WHAT HAPPENS TO A CRIMINAL



a Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

#### The crime

arrested /ə'restɪd/   caught /kɒt/  
charged /tʃɑːdʒd/   committed /kə'mɪtɪd/  
investigated /ɪn'vestəɡeɪtɪd/  
questioned /'kwɛstʃənd/

- Carl and Adam committed a crime. They robbed a large supermarket.
- The police \_\_\_\_\_ the crime.
- Carl and Adam were \_\_\_\_\_ driving to the airport in a stolen car.
- They were \_\_\_\_\_ and taken to a police station.
- The police \_\_\_\_\_ them for ten hours.
- Finally, they were \_\_\_\_\_ with (= officially accused of) armed robbery.

#### The trial

accused /ə'kyuzd/   acquitted /ə'kwɪtɪd/  
court /kɒt/   evidence /'eɪvɪdəns/  
guilty (opposite innocent) /'ɡɪlti/  
judge /dʒʌdʒ/   jury /'dʒʊri/  
proof /pruːf/   punishment /'pʌnɪʃmənt/  
sentenced /'sentənst/   verdict /'vɜːdɪkt/  
witnesses /'wɪtnəsɪz/

- Two months later, Carl and Adam appeared in \_\_\_\_\_.
- They were \_\_\_\_\_ of **armed robbery** and car theft.
- \_\_\_\_\_ told the court what they had seen or knew.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ (of 12 people) looked at and heard all the \_\_\_\_\_.
- After two days, the jury reached their \_\_\_\_\_.
- There was no \_\_\_\_\_ that Adam had committed the crime.
- He was \_\_\_\_\_ and allowed to go free.
- Carl was found \_\_\_\_\_. His **fingerprints** were on the gun used in the robbery.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ decided what Carl's \_\_\_\_\_ should be.
- He \_\_\_\_\_ him to ten years in **prison** (jail).

b 8.4 Listen and check.

p.77