

Crime & Punishment

Flash Cards with answers

1. What is the difference between 'continuity' and 'change'?

- Continuity = things more or less stay the same
- Change = things change or evolve over time

2. What were the Anglo Saxon 'Blood Feuds'?

Family values and loyalty were most important

- Families defended each other – no police force
- If attacked or injured, a family had the right to take revenge or even kill member of another family
- Often this resulted in long-running 'blood-feuds' between families which was passed on to younger generations
- Later seen as a real problem for law and order to sort or control

3. What were:

- **Shires** = Counties like 'Cornwallshire', 'Devonshire', 'Derbyshire', 'Yorkshire', etc (Shire courts met twice a year for serious crimes)
- **Hundreds** = Contained 100 peasant farms (locally Penwith, Pyder, Kerrier are based on the Saxon Hundreds. Hundred courts met every month for less serious crimes)
- **Manors** – introduced for Norman Lords, areas locally such as Trewirgie, Tolgus, Treruffe, Trevingey, Illogan, St Day, Treskerby, Redruth, etc
- **Parishes** – created by Bishops – because they contained an important church or Monastery – locally Parish of Redruth around St Euny Church

4. What were 'Tithings' and 'Hue & Cry'?

- **Tithings** = a group of 12 men selected from a Hundred to track down and return a criminal
- **Hugh & Cry** = the name of the hunt when chasing a criminal when lots of trumpets, dog barking, shouting and screaming were heard

5. What was the Synod of Whitby, when was it and what was it?

When Saxon Bishops met at Whitby in North Yorkshire in AD664, to announce that Christianity would be the main religion of Saxon England and ancient religions such as Paganism must stop. Also, Easter (date of the actual death of Christ was calculated and must now be observed)

6. List 4 Trials by Ordeal

1. Trial by Community – jury of local people
2. Trial by ordeal – local Priest and Church called upon to ask God to Judge a persons crime. Usually trial by hot water (plunging hands in hot water – if scars healed within 3 days then innocent) Trial by Hot Iron – carry a red-hot iron rod 3 paces – 3 days to heal, etc. Ordeal by Water (if accused sank they were innocent)
3. Trial by Sacrament – only for Priests, who had to eat Holy Bread – if they choked the God was saying they are guilty
4. Trial by Combat – the guilty could elect a Knight to fight a Knight elected by accuser – winner of combat reveals who is innocent / guilty

7. What was the difference between a 'Community Court' and a 'Church Court' in Anglo Saxon times?

- Community Courts were held on village green space for small crimes – local Jury elected to consider crime
- Church Courts decided more serious crimes usually a Priest would decided trial by ordeal and Judge
- Hundred and Shires Courts deal with more serious crimes again

8. Why were trials judged by a Priest?

Because the local Priest was the most important person in a community, in touch with God and Church Laws. He was usually one of the few people who was educated and could read.

9. Who was the first Saxon King and what was his role?

10. What was the difference between a Shire Court and a Hundred Court?

- Shire Courts met twice a year to judge cases of serious crime
- Hundred Courts met every month to judge less serious cases of crime

11. What was the difference between 'Botgeld' & 'Wergeld'

- Botgeld – was compensation payable for injuries and the rates varied depending on person injured
- Wergeld – was compensation payable to a persons family if they were killed or murdered

These payments were made because people needed money to survive and if a man was killed then there was no-one to feed his family – therefore compensation

12. Who defeated who at the Battle of Hastings?

- Harold Godwinson of Wessex – the last Saxon King of England.

He was killed by William Duke of Normandy (France)

13. What was the 300 – 1 rule?

After the Norman invasion – the new King William noticed that there were 300 Saxons for every Norman.

14. What were the Murdrum Fines?

- If a Norman was murdered by a Saxon – then the Saxon was hunted by a Tithing and Hue and Cry. If this was not done within 3 days – the Lord of the Manor was fined 40 marks (a huge sum in those days). If he could not pay it was passed on to the Community to pay

15. What were the Forest Laws?

- William built many New Forests because he loved hunting animals
- 30% of England's forests would become protected as 'Royal Forests'
- No person allowed to kill deer (even if they eat your crops)
- No person allowed to cut down trees for fuel
- No person living in a forest is allowed to keep a bow and arrow
- Persons living in forests who have dogs must keep the dogs nails clipped
- The King controls law and order in the forests
- Sherriffs can issue fines to people who break forest laws

16. What was sanctuary?

An area inside the chancel of a Church where a criminal cannot be arrested (but as soon as they leave the Church they can be arrested)

17. Name 3 types of Tudor Beggar?

1. Sturdy beggar – was a deserving poor person
2. Vagabond – considered lazy
3. Vagrant - lazy and travelled from place to place

18. What were the punishments for begging?

- Vagabonds – placed in village stocks
- Vagrants – would be dragged behind a cart and whipped – then branded where they burned a ‘V’ onto their arm or forehead. They were then sent back to their Hundred

19. What is “heresy”?

Heresy is a crime against God, the Pope, a local Priest or against the Church

Protestants were considered ‘heretics’ as were Catholics depending the religion of the monarch. Heresy was usually punished by torture and death and was considered similar to treason

20. What was the Reformation?

This was Martin Luther from Germany introduced a new form of Protesting (Protest-ants = Protestants) against the bad practise in the Catholic Church, such as when Priests married local women, Nuns had children, drunken Priests and where Priests took money from their communities, did not conduct tyheir church services, etc).

Henry VIII broke away from the Pope in Rome and the Catholic Church and **'reformed'**, hence - **REFORMATION** the Church from Catholic to Protestant and the 'Church of England'.

21. What was Treason?

Name a group who committed Treason and what was their punishment?

Treason was a serious crime committed against the King or country, usually where you would endanger the lives of others in your country. Punishment was by torture, mainly hanging, drawing and quartering your body, cutting off your head and placing this at traitors gate – London bridge as a deterrent to others.

22. How was a 'witch' identified?

- Unusual birth marks on the body, some people have a third nipple, which was believed witches would use for feeding familiars
- The needle test – to test where a Devil's mark may be on the body
- Swimming test – where witches based on trial by ordeal – if they floated they were accused of special powers of a witch
- Evidence – usually verbal accounts given by neighbours
- Owning a black cat
- Walking outdoors late at night – often in moonlight
- Confession – or being grassed-on by other witches
- Local 'wise-women' who had a knowledge of herbs to cure physical illnesses

23. Describe a witch

- A widow or old lady who lives alone with her cat, may be mentally ill, or odd, knows which cures help certain illnesses, may have been also known as wise, performed abortions, stayed up late, talked to herself, sold superstitious charms, lived away from others

24. List 5 different familiars?

1. Black cat
2. Dog
3. Owl
4. Toad or frog
5. Bird (crows which nest nearby) etc]#

25. A familiar was believed to have what?

A familiar was any animal owned or adopted by a suspected witch. A familiar was believed to be a spirit or even the Devil in animal form.

26. Who was known as the 'Witch-finder General' during the English Civil War and how many witches did he have killed?

A lawyer named Mathew Hopkins was known as the 'Witch-finder General' during the English Civil wars (1642-49). He created a panic over witches to earn his name and enhance his reputation. In his court cases at Manningtree in Essex he accused 36 women of being witches and 19 were hanged and 9 died while being tortured by his 'investigators' to get confessions. He was paid well for every witch he brought to court. His brutality was stopped in 1646, because of their horrific nature.

Between 1560 and 1700 over a 1000 witches are believed to have been executed, some by local village mobs who stoned witches to death.

27. Why did Witch – hunting stop after 1750?

- As economic prosperity increased people enjoyed their new wealth and didn't worry about witches so much
- Superstitious attitudes declined as science proved that many illnesses and plagues, etc could not have been caused by witches spells but germs
- King Charles II promoted science at the Royal Academy and literacy improved so people could read scientific reports
- Witches became unfashionable with 'local cures' being replaced by medicine

28. What was the Gunpowder Plot?

On 5th November, 1606, a Catholic gang led by Guy Fawkes tried to blow up the Protestant King James I in the Houses of Parliament - in an attempt to start a rebellion to get a Catholic King on the throne. They were spotted, arrested, severely tortured, confessed their crimes and were then hung, drawn, their bodies quartered, beheaded and their heads displayed on London Bridge with other traitors for the crime of treason

29. How did society develop during Elizabeth's reign?

- Mary sold off Crown Lands to raise money – so new land-owning structure – mainly nobles
- New 'merchant' class emerged with foreign trading
- New town houses being built to show wealth
- JPs and local courts organise new law systems and parish constables
- New types of beggars emerging

30 . Why did Towns grow after 1750?

- Essentially because employment changed from cottage industry to factories
- People flocked to new factory towns such as Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, etc for work
- Factory owners developed lots of cheap back-to-back houses to accommodate a growing population
- There were more opportunities in towns and cities

31. Why did crime grow with towns?

- Factory wages were low resulting in poverty and slums
- Overcrowding made crime easier to get away with, with back-alleys and courts making good escape routes
- Thieves, pick-pockets and burglars operated in gangs
- Wealthy individuals lived on the edges of towns but close to slums, also the rich visited the many shops available – making them an easy target in the streets
- No organised Police Force patrolling the streets
- Alcoholism, public disorder and riots were common
- Prostitution (including child Prostitution) was common

32. What was the “Bloody code”?

- The ‘Bloody Code’ refers to the very harsh approach to punishments, for example in 1650 only 50 crimes carried the death penalty – by 1815 225 crimes carried the death penalty. Public executions were common and created a carnival atmosphere

33. How did Jonathan Wild cause problems in 18th C. Law enforcement?

- He organised his own gang of thieves to rob rich people and then made the rich people pay for the recovery of the same stolen goods
- He organised an early form of police force to catch criminals and was paid for this
- He became known as the 'Thief Catcher of Great Britain'
- If his gang of thieves were not loyal to him, he would turn them in to the authorities
- He became very popular in the media
- He was exposed and hung in Tyburn, London in 1725

34. How did growing Industry cause more crime?

- Factories and Mines grew to towns and cities created extreme poverty
- Rich people live by poor – so could be robbed easily
- Growth in Alcoholism caused crime
- Increase in prostitution
- More criminals on the move from town to town

35. Why did the Peterloo (Manchester) Massacre take place?

- Poor workers want reform (change)
- French Revolution encouraged rebellion
- Workers want rights to vote, strike and criticise Government
- Government used soldiers to stop rebellion (no police force yet)
- 18 unarmed civilians killed, 500 injured by soldiers charging on horseback = a massacre
- Peterloo is in Manchester

36. Who were the Tolpuddle Martyrs?

- Tolpuddle is in Dorset
- Farm workers (not farmers) wanted to form a trade union
- Non-violent protest – they took a secret oath to stand together and support each other
- Rich farmers protested to Government
- Government said nobody could swear a secret oath
- Sent Farm workers to Australia for 7 years
- After national protest they returned to England in 1836

37. Who were the Luddites?

- Men made unemployed by machines being set up in factories
- Turn up at night at Factories to smash machines with large hammers
- Rebecca Riots in Wales – men go to factory to smash machines at night dressed as women calling each other Rebecca
- If caught – public hanging would take place

38. Who were Highwaymen?

- Highwaymen robbed stage coach (horse and cart which carried post – valuables and money)
- In disguise – if caught public hanging
- Romantic idea – brave, mannerly, nice to women and children and gave money to poor (Dick Turpin)
- Lonely roads an obvious target
- Turnpikes on Highways and weapons like guns stopped Highwaymen who decreased after 1820s.
- Banknotes replaced Gold – no good to robbers.

39. Who were smugglers?

- Operate at night rob ships, boats by coast
- Often targeted 'contraband' like alcohol, tobacco, silks, which were taxed by Government
- Often hid stolen goods in caves – worked as teams – often whole village together
- Dangerous, killed soldier who chased them
- Punishment – death by public hanging
- Poachers steal livestock, fish, etc at night to sell on as food
- Illegal trades in dealing with stolen goods

40. Who was Sir Henry Fielding and who were the 'Bow Street Runners' (BSR) ?

- BSR founded 1749 in London, Bow Street Courts
- Tracked down criminals - only small number
- Made up of part-time soldiers – could stop riots
- In 1829, Sir Robert Peel introduced Metropolitan Police Act with Government
- Organised, uniform, paid wage, catch criminals in the act of crime. Well trained and patrol streets

41. How did the Metropolitan Police Force become established?

- 1929 Home Secretary, Sir Robert Peel, persuaded Parliament to set up the Metropolitan Police Act
- Peel believed the Government should employ, train and control the Police, like a disciplined army
- He used his great influence amongst other friends and MPs to pass the Act
- Police now wore a uniform and received a wage
- Police were used as a 'deterrent'

42. What was transportation and how did it work?

- When criminals are transported abroad to a colony (place like a prison area – usually Australia)
- Prisons in UK were too full because good policing
- Government decided to ship criminals abroad in ‘Hulk Ships’
- Better choice than public execution – provided free labour in Growing British Empire
- Abolished in 1863 because Britain had built more prisons

43. How did John Howard help reform prisons?

- Born 1726 High Sheriff of Bedfordshire
- Introduced hygiene, water and good food
- Had paid guards, also visiting vicar and doctor
- Parliament passed Gaol Act in 1774 because of Howard's good ideas

44. How did Elizabeth Fry help reform prisons?

- Set up education classes
- Introduced Christian worship in prisons
- Treated prisoners with kindness and respect
- Published rules for prisoners to agree together
- She recognised children and women needed separate prisons
- Offered medical help

45. How did Sir Robert Peel help reform prisons?

- Introduced Gaol's (pronounced "Jails") Act 1823
- Paid Gaolers, women gaolers for women
- Prisoners given clean, separate cells
- Offered work to inmates
- Built many new prisons to avoid transportation
- Improved education, food, medical treatment

46. Why was there a rise in Victorian crime?

- Jack the Ripper – started a new crime wave (serial killings)
- Over-crowding caused more crime
- New roads make getaways much easier
- Criminals organised in gangs
- Lots of street crime
- Too many people – too few police
- Non-effective police technology

47. What was “garrotting”?

Garrotting means – to strangle somebody before you rob them.

These criminals would cut somebody’s finger from them to get a ring

48. How did Victorian Attitudes to crime and punishment change?

- With prison reforms working criminals felt that they did not want to re-offend
- Media caused panics over crime – but helped solve crimes
- More effective helped prevent crime
- Religion and education changed attitudes away from crime

49. What new technologies began to support effective policing after 1900?

- Police Radios (1910 first used)
- Police Motorbikes & Cars
- Finger-printing to identify criminals (1901)
- CCTV – from 1970s
- DNA – 1995
- Computers for storage of criminal records

50. What were the changing patterns in crime from the 1950s onwards?

- Race crimes as immigrant population increases
- Drugs Crime
- Gang crime
- Increase traffic = increase in crime
- CID formed – serious crimes
- E-Crime - computers

51. Why was the Stephen Lawrence case so bad for British policing?

- Racism becomes more common in multi-cultural society
- Stephen Lawrence killed in 1993 by white gang
- Police force slow to act on the case and enquiry
- Evidence was not gathered properly
- Stephens family had to push for Inquiry
- White gang got away with the murder
- Police accused of “Institutional Racism”.
- After 20 years – gang was committed for murder

52. What were the differences between 'Conscientious objectors' in WW1 and WW2?

- WW1 COs were considered criminals if they did not enlist
- Placed in prison for 2 years
- Branded cowards by their country
- Faced possible execution (306 deserters from the trenches were shot)
- WW2 Cos, were used in the Land Army and Farming
- Not considered criminals, not put in jail
- Did not face execution
- However, some public & media attitudes against them

53. How did prisons begin to change for men after the 1950s?

- Punishments – more supportive
- Education provided
- Better living conditions
- More ‘Open prisons’
- Better parole (time off for good behaviour)
- Some prisons still harsh – so prisoners protest with ‘roof-top’ protests

54. How did prisons change for women after the 1950s?

- Women sent to separate prisons from 1850s
- Women given social support to help sort live – education and skills
- Mother and baby units created to help children and young mothers stay in touch

55. How did prisons change for young offenders after 1950s?

- “Borstals” created for young offenders under age 16.
- Education & skills
- Social support available for those needing help with drugs and mental illness

56. What alternatives to prison emerged after the 1980s?

- Drug & Rehab Centres
- Community & Charity programme
- Criminals meet their victims programme
- College, Education & Skills Training
- ASBOs (Anti-Social Behaviour Orders)
- Curfews (be home by certain time)
- Tagging to allow police to check whereabouts of criminals and reinforce curfew

57. Why was 'Capital Punishment abolished by 1969?

- 1908 – under 16s no longer hanged
- 1933 – under 18s no longer hanged
- 1950 Timothy Evans found guilty for murdering his wife – but later proved innocent
- 1953 – Derek Bentley hanged for killing a policeman – when Christopher Craig who shot policeman was not hung because he was 16!
- 1964 Last executions Peter Allen and Gwynne Evans
- 1965 Capital punishment suspended for 5 years
- 1969 Capital punishment abolished (apart from Treason – abolished in 1979)

58. How has crime changed in the last 30 years?

- Drugs crime
- Smuggling – people – drugs, alcohol, cheap goods
- Cyber crime – people’s bank accounts being robbed
- People trafficking
- Car crime
- Dark Web crime – people smuggling, drugs, paedophile activity
- Gun crime – armed crime

59. How did the “Suicide Bombings” in July 2005 change police technology in catching criminals?

- Police now watch airports and border controls
- Police active on computer websites to track terrorist organisations
- MI5 and MI6 covert (underground) policing
- Mobile phones tracked
- CCTV used and ‘drones’ (flying cameras)