

Y6 Crime & Punishment

What I should already know:



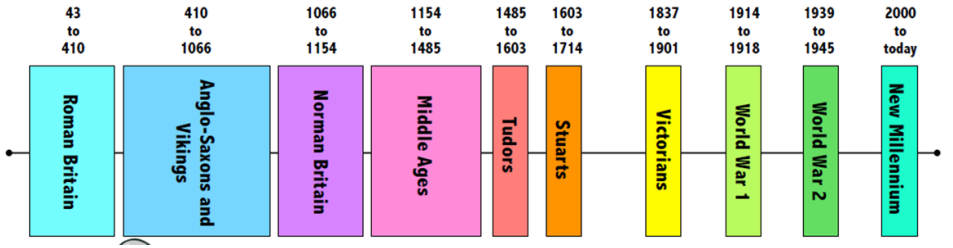
- The chronology of British history (pre 1066) including the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages, and the Roman, Anglo- Saxon and Viking invasions and settlements.
- The Normans invaded Britain in 1066 and at the Battle of Hastings, William I defeats King Harold, bringing an end to the Anglo-Saxon era.
- The Romans believed that if you punished crimes harshly, people would be deterred from committing crimes in the first place. However, how you were punished depended on how important you were.
- In Anglo-Saxon Times, instead of punishment, most crimes demanded that the criminal pay the injured party compensation, known as weregild.

Key Knowledge

- In Medieval times, Common Law for the whole country was created and judges and juries were introduced.
- In Tudor times, witchcraft and heresy were punished by death, often burning. Monarchs were increasingly worried about treason and torture was used to find out the truth.
- King Charles I was beheaded for treason.
- Highwaymen became greater threats during this period in history - this was because trade was increasing and wealthy people increasingly travelled the roads.
- The number of crimes punishable by death was over 200 - this became known as the Bloody Code.
- The Metropolitan Police Force was formed in 1829.
- In Victorian times prisons were full so many criminals were deported.
- The last executions in the UK were by hanging, and took place in 1964, prior to finally being abolished in 1969.
- New technology and scientific advances e.g. fingerprinting, computer databases and DNA profiling have increased detection rates of crimes.

Key Vocabulary

Jury	A group of people who listen to all the evidence and decide if someone is guilty.
Judge	A person who is in charge of a serious trial and decides what punishment a criminal gets.
Trial	A meeting where all the evidence about whether someone is guilty of a crime is read out and a decision is made.
Lawyer	A person who tries to persuade the jury that a person did or didn't commit a crime.
Magistrate	A person who is in charge of a trial that's not as serious.
Transportation	A punishment that meant being sent to live in America or Australia and work really hard.
Pillory	A punishment that meant being put in stocks so people could throw things at you.
Deterrence	The action of discouraging crime through installing doubt or a fear of consequences.
DNA profiling	From 1984, it identified someone from a crime scene through body fluids.
Gallows	A wooden structure with steps leading to a platform where criminals would be hung in front of an audience.
Justice	For someone to have fair treatment for their behaviour.





Crime and Punishment



Timeline

43-410	480-1066	1066-1485	1485-1603	1603-1837	1837-1901	1901-now
Roman Britain	Anglo-Saxon Era	Middle Ages	Tudor Era	Stuart and Georgian Era	Victorians	Modern Era

Romans – Society was made up of the very rich but also of very poor slaves. This resulted in conflict and therefore crime. As slavery was legal, running away from an owner was considered a crime. Sellers would lie to customers and give them less (fraud) and large crowds gathering to spectate often resulted in riots. Roman laws were called 'The Twelve Tables'. Major crimes would be punished by crucifixion, sent to fight in arenas or having molten lead poured down your throat! Vigiles were volunteers who patrolled the streets and Urban Cohorts would be sent to deal with emergencies.

Anglo-Saxons - Anglo-Saxon Britain was not ruled by one person and the Anglo-Saxons were not united. They invaded as many different tribes and each took over different parts of Britain. The Anglo-Saxons didn't have prisons. People found guilty of crimes were either executed or punished with fines. If they ran away, they became 'outlaws' (outside the law), and anyone could hunt them down - unless they hid in a church. The fine for breaking into someone's home was five shillings (25p), paid to the home-owner. For minor crimes like stealing, a nose or a hand might be cut off.

Middle Ages/Medieval Throughout the medieval period it was believed that to keep order, people had to be scared of the punishments. Trial by Ordeal included holding a red-hot iron bar (if it healed in 3 days, they were innocent) or tying them up and throwing them in water (they floated if they were innocent). After 1215 Trial by Ordeal was replaced by Trial by Jury.

Tudors – Increasing populations, dissolution of the monasteries and gaps between rich and poor meant crime was very common. Public executions were huge events with families, food stalls and people queuing for hours to get a good spot. These included beheadings, hangings, burning, pressings and boiling alive! Begging without a licence would mean you would be whipped out of the town and theft resulted in having a limb chopped off (anything worth more than a shilling resulted in hanging). The idea was that severe punishments would put others off from committing crimes.

Victorians – Anyone accused of a crime would be put in a 'lock-up' until they could see a magistrate who would decide whether they could be released or if they needed to be sentenced by a judge. Court rooms were created where victim and the accused could defend themselves and the death penalty became less common with a limited number of hangings. A police force was introduced in 1829. Public executions ended in 1868 and gaols (jails) were built to try to prevent people re-offending, although many were sent out to the Empire to serve sentences abroad.

Modern Times – Modern society is seen as wealthier than in previous eras where more people are employed or can afford to live comfortably. There are still large gaps between the rich and poor in society and crime now ranges from physical (theft, assault, drink and drugs etc) to digital crime (e.g. fraud). Although the last public hanging took place in 1886, the last actual hanging was as late as August 13th 1964. Prisons now work hard to help rehabilitate people so that they do not re-offend and technological advances have meant catching criminals can be used by identifying fingerprints or even DNA.