

# 8A Beat the robbers...and the burglars

## HOW NOT TO GET ROBBED IN THE STREET

### 1 [ ]

You dramatically increase your chances of being robbed if you look as if you might have a lot of money on you. You don't have to look like a tramp, but you should try to look as if you aren't carrying much of value. If you're a tourist, keep your expensive camera or phone hidden.



### 2 [ ]

This is especially true in countries where there are big income differences, and particularly in urban areas. Children are sadly often the most dangerous people on the street because they have nothing to lose. If you see a group of children coming towards you, ignore them completely and walk quickly to an area where there are plenty of other people.

### 3 [ ]

If you see that people are watching you in a suspicious way, look straight back at them and make eye contact. If they were thinking of robbing you, it will make them realize that you may not be an easy target.

### 4 [ ]

If you are a tourist and somebody in the street tells you to put your phone away, do it. Sometimes the locals can be overprotective because they want you to see the best side of their town, but it's always a good idea to take their advice. If they say don't go somewhere, don't.

### 5 [ ]

The safest thing to do is to phone a reputable company every time you need one (your hotel can normally help with this). If you do have to get a taxi in the street, make sure it looks like a regulated one (e.g. one which has an official number or company phone number on it) and never ever get into a cab that has another person in the front passenger seat.

### 6 [ ]

What's the first thing tourists do when they come out of Westminster Tube station in London? They look up at Big Ben, and then they pose to have their photo taken. When they're looking up, or looking at the camera, that's the moment when a pickpocket steals their wallet. Thieves also love the posters you see that warn tourists: 'Watch out! Pickpockets about!' When men read that their natural reaction is to immediately put their hand on the pocket where their wallet is, to make sure it's still there. The pickpockets are watching and so they see exactly where the man is carrying his wallet.

## 1 READING & LISTENING

- Have you ever been robbed in the street? Where were you? What was stolen?
- Read the article *How not to get robbed*. Match the headings to the paragraphs.
  - Be careful when you're sightseeing
  - Be smart about cabs
  - Don't look too well off
  - Keep an eye on the kids
  - Listen to the locals
  - Look confident
- Read the article again. Then cover the text and look at A-F. Can you remember the advice? What advice would you give someone to avoid being robbed in your town?
- Look at the questions and predict the answers.

### How to beat the burglars

- How long do you think a burglar normally takes to search someone's house?
- Which are the most common things that burglars steal, apart from money?
- What one thing would be likely to stop a burglar coming into your house?
- What factors influence a burglar to choose a house?
- Why do some burglars prefer it if the owners are at home?
- When are you most likely to be burgled, during the day or night?
- How are burglars more likely to get into a house?
- What is the best room in the house to hide your valuables?



Adapted from CNN

- e 430 Listen to an interview with an ex-burglar. Check your answers to d.
- f Listen again for more detail. What reasons does he give for each answer? What tips can you learn from what he says to protect yourself from being burgled?
- g Of all the tips for keeping safe at home and in the street, which one do you think is the most useful? Why?

## 2 VOCABULARY crime and punishment

- a Match the words for people who steal with the definitions in the list.

burglar mugger pickpocket robber shoplifter thief

- A \_\_\_\_\_ is someone who breaks in and steals from a private house.
  - A \_\_\_\_\_ is someone who steals from a person or place, e.g. a bank, using or threatening violence.
  - A \_\_\_\_\_ is someone who steals something from a shop.
  - A \_\_\_\_\_ is someone who steals from you in the street, usually without you noticing.
  - A \_\_\_\_\_ is someone who uses violence to steal from you in the street.
  - A \_\_\_\_\_ is the general word for someone who steals from a person.
- b 431 Listen and check. Underline the stressed syllables.
- c ➤ p.160 Vocabulary Bank Crime and punishment.

## 3 PRONUNCIATION & SPEAKING the letter u

accuse burglar caught court drugs fraud judge  
jury mugger murderer punishment smuggling

- a Look at the words in the list, which all have the letter u in them. Put them in the correct column below according to how the vowel sound is pronounced.

			ju:	

- b 434 Listen and check. Which two words are pronounced exactly the same?

- c Practise saying the sentences.

- Luke was accused of smuggling drugs.
- 'Murderers must be punished,' said the judge.
- The burglar is doing community service.
- The jury said he was guilty of fraud.
- The mugger was caught and taken to court.



- d Talk to a partner.

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

What has been the biggest crime story in your country in the last few weeks?

Do you have trial by jury in your country?

Do you think it's a good system?

Do you have capital punishment in your country? If not, would you re-introduce it?

Do you know anyone...? What happened?

- who has been burgled
- who has been mugged
- whose car has been stolen
- who has been unfairly accused of shoplifting
- who has been stopped by the police while driving
- who has been robbed while on holiday
- who has been offered a bribe
- who has been kidnapped



## 4 MINI GRAMMAR have something done

They look up at Big Ben, and then they pose to have their photo taken.

- Use have (something) done when you get another person to do something for you.

Compare:

I took a photo of Westminster Bridge = I took the photo myself.

I had my photo taken on Westminster Bridge = I asked someone to take my photo.

- Have is the main verb so it changes according to the tense.  
I'm going to have my hair cut tomorrow. I had my car repaired after the accident.
- You can also use get instead of have, e.g. I'm going to get my hair cut tomorrow.

- a Complete the sentences with the right form of have + the past participle of a verb from the list.

cut install renew repair take

- How often do you \_\_\_\_\_ your hair \_\_\_\_\_?
- Have you ever had a problem with your laptop? Where did you \_\_\_\_\_ it \_\_\_\_\_?
- Do you usually \_\_\_\_\_ your passport or ID card \_\_\_\_\_ in plenty of time before it runs out?
- Have you \_\_\_\_\_ a burglar alarm \_\_\_\_\_ in your house or flat? What kind is it?
- Have you ever \_\_\_\_\_ your photo \_\_\_\_\_ in front of a famous monument? Where?

- b Ask and answer the questions with a partner.



### 1 CRIMES AND CRIMINALS

a Match the examples to the crimes in the chart.

- A They took away a rich man's son and then asked for money for his safe return.
- B She went to her ex-husband's house and shot him dead.
- C Two passengers took control of the plane and made the pilot land in the desert.
- D After the party, the man made the woman have sex against her will.
- E We came home from holiday and found that our TV had gone.
- F A teenager got into the Pentagon's computer system and downloaded some secret data.
- G Someone tried to sell me some marijuana during a concert.
- H When the border police searched his car, it was full of cigarettes.
- I Someone threw paint on the statue in the park.
- J He said he'd send the photos to a newspaper if the actress didn't pay him a lot of money.
- K An armed man in a mask walked into a shop and shouted, 'Give me all the money in the till!'
- L The company accountant was transferring money into his own bank account.
- M The builder offered the mayor a free flat in return for giving his company permission to build new flats on a piece of green land.
- N They left a bomb in the supermarket car park which exploded.
- O Somebody stole my car last night from outside my house.
- P A man held out a knife and made me give him my wallet.
- Q A woman followed a pop singer everywhere he went, watching him and sending him constant messages on the internet.

Crime	Criminal	Verb	
1 blackmail /'blækmeɪl/	blackmailer	blackmail	
2 bribery /'braɪbəri/	-	bribe	
3 burglary /'bɜːgləri/	burglar	break in / burgle	
4 drug dealing /drʌg 'diːlɪŋ/	drug dealer	sell drugs	
5 fraud /fraʊd/	fraudster	commit fraud	
6 hacking /'hækɪŋ/	hacker	hack (into)	
7 hijacking /'haɪdʒækɪŋ/	hijacker	hijack	
8 kidnapping /'kɪdnæpɪŋ/	kidnapper	kidnap	A
9 mugging /'mʌɡɪŋ/	mugger	mug	
10 murder /'mɜːdə/	murderer	murder	
11 rape /reɪp/	rapist	rape	
12 robbery /'rɒbəri/	robber	rob	
13 smuggling /'smʌɡlɪŋ/	smuggler	smuggle	
14 stalking /'stɔːkɪŋ/	stalker	stalk	
15 terrorism /'terərɪzəm/	terrorist	set off bombs, etc.	
16 theft /θeft/	thief	steal	
17 vandalism /'vændəlɪzəm/	vandal	vandalize	

b 432)) Listen and check.

### 2 WHAT HAPPENS TO A CRIMINAL

a Complete the sentences with the words in the list.

#### The crime

arrested /ə'restɪd/ questioned /'kwɛstʃənd/  
charged /tʃəɪdʒd/ committed /kə'mɪtɪd/  
investigated /ɪn'vestɪɡeɪtɪd/ caught /kɔːt/

- 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'kjuːzd/ acquitted /ə'kwɪtɪd/  
court /kɔːt/ evidence /'eɪdɪns/  
guilty (opposite innocent) /'ɡɪlti/  
judge /dʒʌdʒ/ jury /'dʒʊəri/ 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 \_\_\_\_\_.
- 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).
- There was no \_\_\_\_\_ that Adam had committed the crime.
- He was \_\_\_\_\_ and allowed to go free.

b 433)) Listen and check.

◀ p.75