

Crime and Punishment – History Knowledge Organiser

Time can be split into Ages. Crime and punishment was different from one age to another:

Romans	Anglo-Saxons	Tudors	Stuarts	Victorians	New Millennium
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crime	an illegal act for which someone can be punished by the government
period	representing a particular historical period
deter	to discourage someone from acting in a way.
severe	something is very strict in action or punishment.
justice	the administration of law and fairness.
court	a place where legal cases are heard
jury	people called to a court of law who listen to facts of a case and decide its outcome.
treason	the betrayal of one's country by giving information to its enemies.
abolish	to get rid of or do away with; end
custody	right to take care of and control someone or something.
prevention	to keep or stop from happening.
rehabilitation	to restore to good health or to an otherwise improved state of being
prison	a place for holding and punishing people who have broken the law
detection	to discover or notice something.

The Romans

When the Romans invaded, they already had established laws which were brought over to Britain. Their laws were called the Twelve Tables and were written around 450 BCE.



The Anglo-Saxons

The Saxons lived by a payment system called wergild. If somebody had committed a crime, they had to pay compensation to the victims. They also had to complete trials of ordeals, which were extremely painful and usually involved hot water and fire.



The Tudors



During the Tudor period, harsher punishments were introduced that involved mutilation, execution, humiliation and fines. People were also punished and executed for not following the religion of the time.

The Stuarts



During the Stuart period, women were accused of witchcraft and subjected to horrific tests and trials. They were usually punished by hanging or being burnt at the stake.

The Victorians



During the Victorian period, the first police force was set up in Britain. Public hangings were stopped in 1868 and the prison system became organised and professional.

The New Millennium



In the new millennium, there are new crimes such as car theft, online hacking and anti-social behaviour. Punishments include being fined, being electronically tagged and being sent to prison. A record number of people are in prisons now for many.