

## LESSON 18

### The law

#### **NOUNS**

**action**= the process of doing sth in order to make sth happen or to deal with a situation.

**arson**= the crime of deliberately setting fire to sth, especially a building.

**authority**= the power to give orders to people; in a position of authority.

**burglary**= the crime of entering a building illegally and stealing things from it – housebreaking.

**consequence**= a result of sth that has happened.

**convict**= a person who has been found guilty of a crime and sent to prison.

**crime**= activities that involve breaking the law.

**crime rate**=

**criminal**= a person who commits a crime.

**deterrent**= a thing that makes sb/sth likely to do sth.

**evidence**= the information that is used in a court of law to try to prove sth.

**fine**= a sum of money that must be paid as punishment for breaking a law or rule.

**fraud**= the crime of deceiving sb in order to get money or goods illegally.

**imprisonment**= to put sb in a prison or another place from which they cannot escape.

**inequality**= the unfair difference between groups of people in society, when some have more wealth, status or opportunities than others.

**intent**= what you intend to do – intention.

**intrusion**= something that affects a situation or people lives in a way that they do not want.

**judge**= a person who decides how a criminal should be punished.

**jury**= a group of members of the public who listen to the facts of a case in a court of law and decide whether or not sb is guilty of a crime.

**kidnapping**= to take sb away illegally and keep them as a prisoner, especially in order to get money or sth else for returning them.

**lawyer**= a person who is trained and qualified to advise people about the law and to represent them in a court of law and to write legal documents.

**motive**= a reason for doing sth.

**murder**= the crime of killing sb deliberately – homicide.

**offence**= crime – an illegal act.

**Pickpocketing**= a person who steals money, etc. from other people's pockets, especially in crowded places.

**prevention**= the act of stopping sth bad from happening.

**prison**= a building where people are kept as a punishment for a crime. They have committed, or while they are waiting for trial.

**prisoner**= a person who is kept in prison as a punishment, or while they are waiting for trial.

**property**= a thing or things that are owned by sb.

**prosecutor**= a person who tries to prove the accused is guilty.

**protection**= the act of protecting sb/sth.

**punishment**= an act or a way of punishing sb.

**recklessness**= lack of care about danger and the possible results of your actions.

**smuggling**= the crime of taking, sending or bringing goods secretly and illegally into or out of a country.

**social system**=

**swearing**= rude or offensive language used especially when angry.

**the accused**= the person who is on trial.

**toxic waste**=

**vandalism**=the crime of destroying or damaging sth, especially public property, deliberately and for no good reason.

**victim**= a person who has been attacked, injured or killed as the result of a crime, a disease, an accident, etc.

**violation**=

#### **ADJECTIVES**

**criminal**= connected with or involving crime.

**drug-related**= Ex: in spite of the large number of prisons we have, crime figures have risen again this year with the number of drug-related crimes in particular increasing.

**evil**= enjoying harming others.

**guilty**= having done sth illegal; being responsible sth bad that has happened.

**harsh**= cruel, severe and unkind.

**innocent**= not guilty of a crime.

**intentional**= done deliberately; intended.

**law-abiding**= Ex: many law-abiding citizens believe that our existing laws are just not tough enough and do not act as enough of a deterrent against crime.

**non-violent**=

**offensive**= connected with the act of attacking sb/sth.

**on trial**= a formal examination of evidence in a court of law by a judge and often a jury, to decide if sb accused of a crime is guilty or not.

**petty**= small and unimportant.

**punishable**= that can be punished, especially by law.

**random**= done, chosen, etc. without sb thinking or deciding in advance what is going to happen.

**strict**= that must be obeyed exactly.

**unintentional**= not done deliberately, but happening by accident.

**victimless**=

#### **VERBS**

**abide**= to dislike sb/sth so much that you hate having to be with or deal with them.

**abolish**= to officially end a law, a system or an institution.

**combat**= to stop sth unpleasant or harmful from happening or from getting worse.

**deter**= to make sb decide not to do sth or continue doing sth, especially by making them understand the difficulties and unpleasant results of their actions.

**enforce**= to make sure that people obey a particular law or rule.

**imprison**= to put sb in a prison or another place from which they cannot escape.

**monitor**= to listen to telephone calls, foreign radio broadcasts, etc. in order to find out information might be useful.

**obey**= to do what you are told or expected to do.

**offend**= to commit a crime or crimes.

**perpetrate**= to commit a crime or do sth wrong or evil.

**prevent**= to stop sth from happening or someone from doing sth.

**protect**= to make sure that sb/sth not harmed, injured, damaged, etc.

**prove**= to use fact, evidence, etc. to show that sth is true.

**punish**= to make sb suffer because they have broken the law or done sth wrong.

**resent**= to feel bitter or angry about sth, especially because you feel it is unfair.

**respect**= to agree not to break a law, principle, etc.

**violate**= to go against refuse to obey a law an agreement, etc.

#### **VERB PHRASES**

**accept the consequence**= Ex: if people commit a crime then they should be punished and made to accept the consequence of their actions.

**commit a crime**= do sth illegal.

**convict a criminal**=

**impose a fine**= Ex: in some countries the police can enforce laws against crossing the street at the wrong place by imposing a fine.

**pass a law**=

**solve a crime**=

**Vocabulary note**



Prevent= to stop something from happening or someone from doing sth: I stayed away from the bully to **prevent** only trouble. This will **prevent** crimes from happening. NOT ~~this will avoid crimes.~~

Avoid= to stay away from someone or something: you should try to **avoid** dangerous situations.

**Error warning**

A convict is a person who is in prison. To convict someone is to find them guilty in a court of law. You commit a crime or convict a criminal, NOT ~~convict a crime.~~ we talk about criminal acts. NOT ~~criminal actions.~~