



Fitzjohn's Fact File

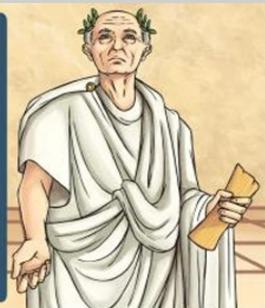


Year 6—Crime & Punishment

The Romans ruled from AD 43 to around AD 410. Roman laws were called the 'Twelve Tables'. They were written around 450 BC – these were basic rights for all Roman people and decided what they should and should not do. The laws written in the Twelve Tables dealt with all manner of crimes, from serious crimes, such as murder, and less serious crimes, such as stealing. Children learnt the laws off by heart at school. There was no police force during this period in history.



During the Roman period in Britain, a person accused of a crime was taken to court to be judged guilty or not guilty. If it was a serious crime, a **jury** would decide whether they were guilty or not. If it was a minor crime, the **judge** would decide.



The Anglo-Saxons

The end of the Roman rule in Britain was around **AD 410** and this was approximately the beginning of the Anglo-Saxon period in Britain. They ruled for around **650** years. **AD 1066** marked the end of the Anglo-Saxon period in Britain

Like the Romans, the Anglo-Saxons continued to use very harsh punishments to try to stop people from committing crimes.



Anglo-Saxon communities were divided into groups of 10 men that were called **tithings**. These men were responsible for each other's behaviour. If a man in their tithing was accused of a crime, they had to bring him into court, otherwise they would be punished themselves.



In Anglo-Saxon times, punishments ranged from hanging, branding and whipping to **trials by ordeal**. If the person accused of a crime could not find enough **oath-keepers** (to say that they were innocent of the crime), then they may face a trial by ordeal. Anglo-Saxons believed that through these trials, God would decide whether the person was guilty or not.



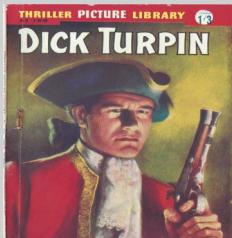
The Tudors

Skip forward almost 400 years and we get to the Tudor Period—AD1485 - AD1603

In Tudor times, there were still no police. Crime was mainly stealing and this was widespread. Many poor people could not afford to pay for increasingly expensive food. However, punishments were harsh, in the belief that it would stop others from committing the same crime. New punishments were created to be even more terrifying than before. The Tudors used punishments like Flogging, The Stocks, cutting off limbs, The Rack and Branding. Find out what these were and you'll know why the Tudor were known as torturers!!



Significant Person



Name:	Dick Turpin
Date of Birth	17. September 1705
Date of death:	7. April 1739
Famous for:	A dashing outlaw from legend with his horse Black Bess

Key Skills

To infer and deduce facts from historical sources. Locate different periods on a historical timeline.

Ask and answer questions about our current legal system.

Track and research the evolution of crime and punishment throughout British History.

Look at the similarities / differences between modern-day justice and periods in the past.

Prepare and participate in a 'mock trial' having knowledge of legal processes, court procedures and modern legal terms.

Key Vocabulary

Court, judge, jury, arson, libel, murder, execution, exile, pillory, hue & cry, tithing, trial by ordeal, wergild, oath-keeper, vagrancy, treason, branding, rack, brank, drunkard's cloak, prevention, deterrence, DNA testing, picking oakum, hard labour, separation, isolation, restorative justice, CCTV, restorative justice, community service, victim, witness, County Court, Magistrates Court, High Court, Civil litigation, criminal litigation, evidence, burden of proof.

Significant Person: Dick Turpin—The Highwayman!



Highwaymen would rob people while they were travelling on the road. This had already been happening for hundreds of years but highwaymen became a greater threat during the Stuart and Georgian periods. Britain still did not have a police force, so it was difficult to catch highwaymen. There were large rewards for their capture. Most highwaymen were eventually caught and hung.

The most famous highwayman was Dick Turpin. He was born in 1705 in Essex. When he was on the run from being caught in London, he moved to York and lived under the name of John Palmer. He was captured and hung in 1739. This was because trade was increasing and there were more wealthy people who were travelling on the roads. There were also many areas of forest and countryside where highwaymen could lie in wait. The pistol had been invented in the 17th century which made it easier for highwaymen to threaten travellers and force them to give up their money, possessions and sometimes, even their lives!

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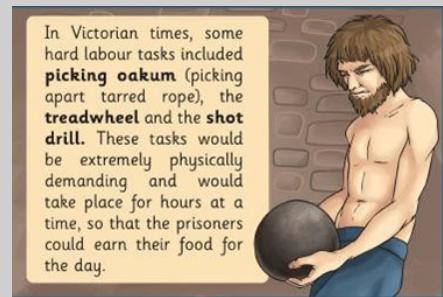
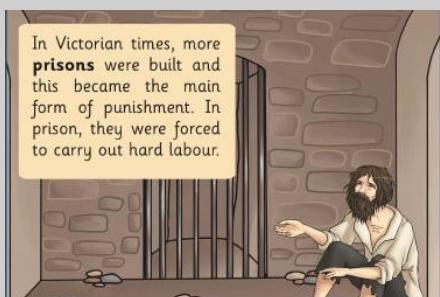


The Victorians



Skip forward again to the Victorian times.

Queen Victoria reigned from AD 1837 until AD 1901. During this time, Britain became one of the most powerful and richest countries in the world. Many factories and machines were built, along with many more ships, buildings and bridges. The car and steam train were invented, which changed the way that people lived their lives.



Modern-Day Crime & Punishment

Nowadays, we have many more ways to find criminals and send them to prison. We also use many methods to stop people from carrying out a crime.



Detection: Using forensic evidence like DNA testing to find out how a crime happened.

CCTV: prevention to stop something happening



Typically, a modern-day crime will be referred to one of four courts: the County Court, Magistrates Court, Family Court or Crown Court. There are however three more types of court (and judge) that deal with more sensitive cases—often if someone disagrees with the original verdict: The High Court, Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court.

