



# History

## Crime and Punishment

# Through the Ages



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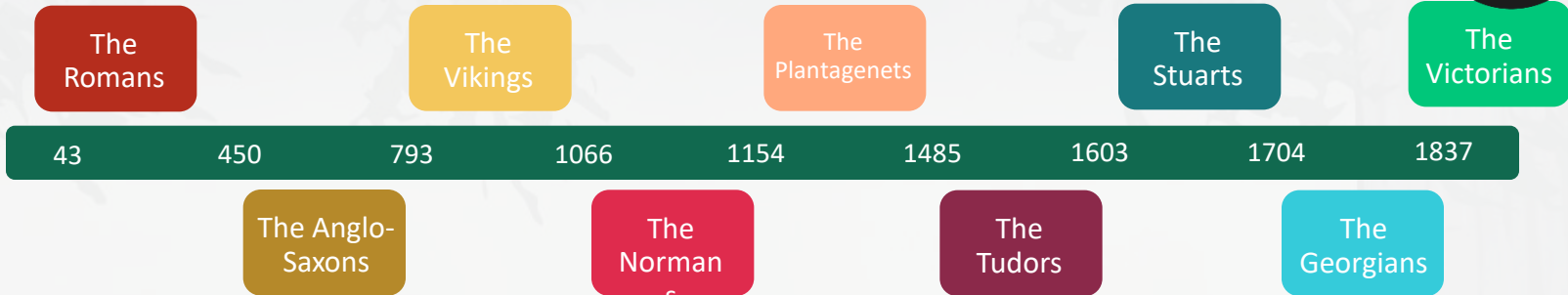
# Aim

- I can reflect on what I have learnt about the history of crime and punishment in Britain.
- I can compare modern methods of crime and punishment and detection with what existed in the past.

# Success Criteria

- I can recall key facts about crime and punishment in Britain from the Roman, Anglo-Saxon, Tudor and Victorian periods.
- I can write about what I have learnt about the history of crime and punishment in Britain.
- I can talk about modern crime prevention and detection methods that we have now.
- I can compare these modern methods with what was used to prevent and detect crimes in the past.

# Crime and Punishment Timeline



## Activity

1. What can you remember about the crime and punishment that existed in some of these historical periods?
2. Look at your activity sheet. Cut out the words and place them on the period you think it relates to.



# Crime and Punishment Through the Ages

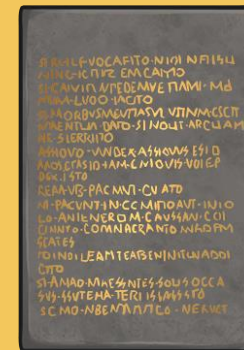
## The Romans

Punishments would be very harsh to try to stop people from committing a crime in the first place. If you had money however, you could pay to have your punishment lessened. If you were a slave, you had no rights at all. The worst crime was considered to be rebellion against the emperor.



People accused of committing a crime were 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 job of finding a criminal was the role of the **legionaries**.

The Romans introduced their laws that were called the **Twelve Tables**, that were written around 450 BC.



# Crime and Punishment Through the Ages

## The Anglo-Saxons

The Anglo-Saxons also used very harsh punishments to stop people from committing crimes. Punishments ranged from hanging, branding and whipping to **trials by ordeal**.

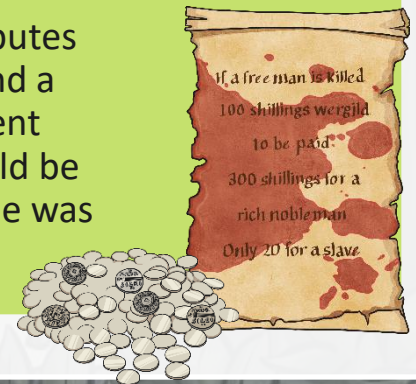
Communities were divided into groups of 10 men, that were called **tithings**. These men were responsible for each other's behaviour. When a village needed to find a criminal, they would call upon all of the community to find them – this was called a **hue and cry**.



If the person accused of the 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.



A common way to solve disputes between a victim's family and a criminal was through payment called **wergild**. Wergild would be paid to the family if someone was killed or injured.



# Crime and Punishment Through the Ages

## The Tudors

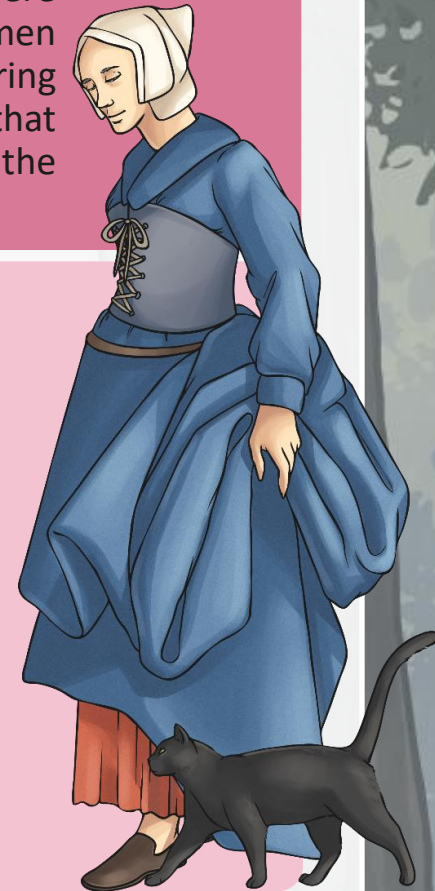
The Tudors brought in even more terrifying punishments than ever before. The Tudor kings and queens were very worried about **treason** – people plotting against them – and so punishments for that were extremely severe. Public executions were very common, especially during the time of Henry VIII.



Some of the following punishments were often used during the Tudor period. Women could be punished for 'gossiping' by wearing a **scold's bridle** – a piece of equipment that was placed over the head and would hurt the tongue if it moved.

If a woman was thought to be a witch, she would be tied to a **ducking stool** and lowered into water. If she floated, she was considered a witch and would be killed. If she drowned, she would be thought innocent but it would be too late for the poor woman!

If they had been causing a local nuisance, some men would have to wear a **drunkard's cloak** – a large barrel that restricted movement – and walk around their village.



# Crime and Punishment Through the Ages

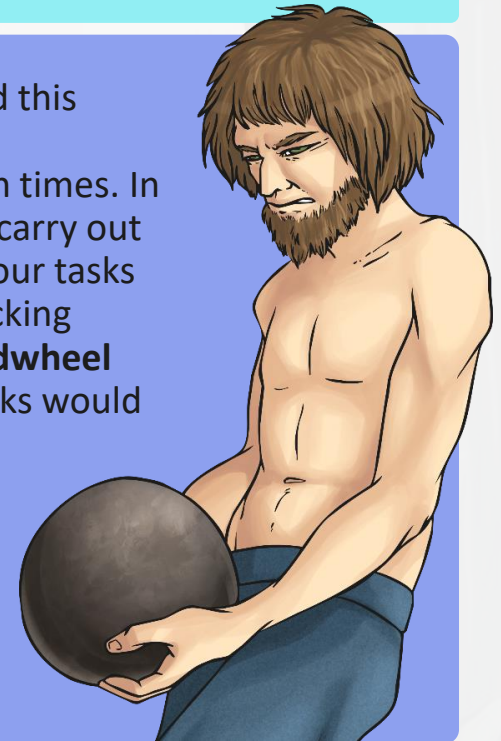
## The Victorians

During the Victorian period, the **police force** was introduced. People were becoming unhappy about hanging and so new ideas for punishment started to be used instead. Some criminals were punished by being sent to live in Australia. This was called **transportation**.



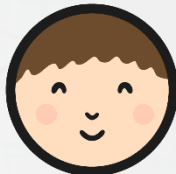
More **prisons** were built and this became the main form of punishment during Victorian times. In prison, they were forced to carry out **hard labour**. Some hard labour tasks included **picking oakum** (picking apart tarred rope), the **treadwheel** and the **shot drill**. These tasks would be extremely physically

demanding and would take place for hours at a time, so that the prisoners could earn their food for the day.





# What Have I Learnt?



## ★ What Have I Learnt?

**The Roman**  
The Romans introduced laws that were called the  
If a criminal was caught, they would be put on trial. If  
would decide if they were guilty or not. A  
guilty of a minor crime. It was the duty of  
so that he could be tried and punished. During the Roman  
no rights at all. However, if you had  
punishment to be lessened.

Twelve Tables	slave	Judge
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**The Anglo-Saxons**  
Communities were divided into groups of 10 men, that  
These men were responsible for each other's behaviour.  
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wergild	oath-keepers
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## ★★★ What Have I Learnt?

**The Romans**

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Twelve Tables	slave	Judge	Jury	money	legionaries
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**The Anglo-Saxons**

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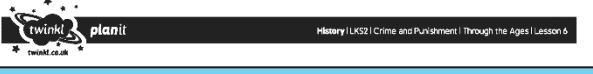
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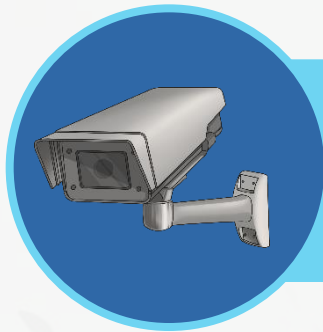
wergild	oath-keepers	tithings	hue and cry
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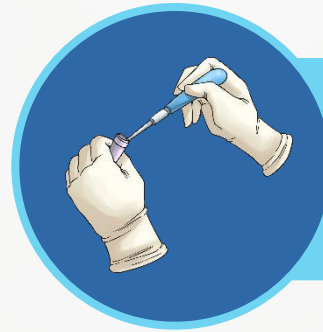
# Modern Crime Prevention and Detection



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.



Prevention – to stop something from happening.



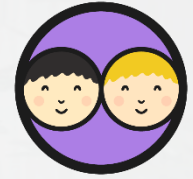
Detection – to find out how something has happened.

## Activity







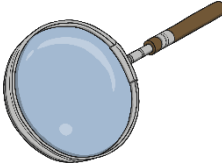
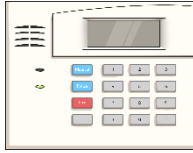

Look at the different things listed on the grid.

1. Which ones prevent or detect crimes? Do any do both of these?
2. Can you think of any other things we have now that prevent crime from happening?

# Modern Crime Prevention and Detection



Which of these things actually started in different historical periods?

<b>DNA testing</b> 	<b>CCTV or video footage</b> 	<b>Use of fingerprints</b> 
<b>Neighbourhood watch</b>  Anglo-Saxons (tithings, hue and cry)	<b>Trial by judge and jury</b>  Romans	<b>Police</b>  Victorians
<b>Witness to a crime</b>  Romans/ Anglo-Saxons (oath-keepers)	<b>House and car alarms</b> 	<b>Improved street lighting</b> 

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