

Topic: Legal System

Lesson: What causes crime?	KS or Year Group: KS3
Resources: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. SKY video2. Resource 1 – Causes of crime categories (teacher resource)3. Resource 2 – Causes of crime Venn diagram	Outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All students will gain knowledge of the different types of crime.• Most students will be able to categorise the causes of crime as social and/or economic factors.• Some students will be able to identify strategies that could reduce levels of crime.

National Curriculum

Key Concepts – 1.1b, 1.1c, 1.2a, 1.3d
Key Processes – 2.1a, 2.1c, 2.2c, 2.3a
Range and Content – 3b, 3f, 3g

Lesson

The lesson will focus on the causes of crime in the United Kingdom. The students will explore social and economic causes of crime before considering strategies that could reduce crime levels.

Starter

- Introduce the title and lesson objectives.
- Students split into pairs and name as many crimes as possible.
- Students share these crimes with the class in a brainstorming exercise.
- Students categorise the crimes into groups: 'against people', 'against property' and 'against society'.

Main activity

Activity 1: What are the causes of crime?

- Students to view the **SKY video**.
- Students write a follow up report to the video entitled 'Why do some areas experience more crime than others?', listing the factors that are associated with high levels of crime.

What causes crime?

Activity 2: Categorising the Causes of Crime

- Students swap reports with their partners from the starter activity and highlight in their partners report all the causes of crime that they themselves have already included.
- Using **Resource 1 – Causes of crime categories**, the teacher should explain the economic and social causes of crime (writing key terms on the whiteboard).
- Using **Resource 2 – Causes of crime Venn Diagram**, the paired students then categorise the causes of crime listed in both their reports.

Plenary

Students draw sketch maps of their local areas (street, estate etc) and label the map with crimes that are likely to occur in the area. Some students will also label the map with strategies that could reduce the risk of crime.

Aim high

Pairing of students in Activity 1 should be of approximately equal ability to allow Aim Higher students to be challenged. Activity 2 to be attempted with minimal help (help may be in the form of placing some causes of crime onto the board).

During the plenary, some students will be able to annotate their sketch maps with strategies that will reduce the risk of crime in their local area.

Assessment

Teacher assessment of students' knowledge of crimes during the starter brainstorm exercise and peer assessment during activity 1 in searching the video report for the causes of crime.

Check the web

<http://news.sky.com/skynews/article/0,,91214-1268137,00.html>

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/bcs1.html>

<http://www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk/neighbourhoodwatch/nwatch03e.htm>

<http://www.crimeinfo.org.uk/crimeandjustice/index.jsp>

Summary of key learning

- Students gain knowledge of the various types of crime.
- Students will understand some of the social and economic causes of crime.
- Students will be able to identify strategies that could reduce crime in the local area.

What causes crime?

Resource 1 – Cause of crime categories (teacher resource)

This table can be used during activity 2 by the teacher to aid students in generating ideas as well as checking quality of answers at the end of the activity. The causes of crime can be displayed uncategoryed to aid lower ability students further.

Economic causes of crime	Both	Social causes of crime
<i>(Crime committed where financial gain is the incentive)</i>	<i>(Crime committed has an element of both economic and social)</i>	<i>(Crime committed where social setting has had an influence)</i>
Debt	Poverty	Poor parenting
Greed	Unemployment	Lack of education
Opportunity through work	Drug addiction	Lack of security (temptation)
	Revenge	Peer pressure
	Gambling addiction	Boredom
		Pleasure
		Drunkenness

What causes crime?

Resource 2 – What causes crime Venn diagram

