

GCSE Crime and Punishment
Early Modern

Key Term	Meaning
Capital crime	A crime punishable by death
Capital punishment	The death penalty
Corporal punishment	A physically painful punishment
Curfew	A time people must be at home, not on the streets or elsewhere
Custody	Being locked up
Deterrence	To scare/warn people from committing a crime
Fraud	An act of deception that results in personal gain.
Justices of the Peace	Local magistrates appointed to keep the peace, hear minor legal cases, and ensure the Poor Laws were being maintained.
Magistrate	Local magistrates appointed to keep the peace and hear minor legal cases
Market regulations	Laws relating to the buying and selling of goods in a market
Moral offences	An action that offends the moral standards of the majority of society.
Pillory	A wooden frame with holes in it that held the head and hands of a convicted offender. Intended to publicly humiliate the criminal.
Posse	A group of men called upon by the sheriff to track down a criminal
Retribution	Revenge
Sanctuary	A safe place within a church or cathedral. Once a person claimed sanctuary they could not be removed by force.
Sheriff	The chief law officer in each county during the Medieval period.
Stocks	A wooden frame with holes in it that held the feet of a convicted offender. Intended to publicly humiliate the criminal.
Tithings	Groups of ten men who were responsible for each other's behaviour. If a member of the tithing broke the law then the others had to bring him to justice or face a fine.
Treason	Disobedience or disloyalty to the monarch or government
Trial by combat	A type of trial by ordeal. Guilt is decided if the participant is defeated in combat.
Trial by ordeal	A trial, usually held in or near a church in which God judges the accused with a sign of guilt or innocence.
Wergild	A form of compensation paid to victims of crime in Saxon times.

Expectation: You need to learn the spelling and definition of these key terms

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