GCSE History

Crime and Punishment
Revision Guide
2 sections on this paper
• Section 1: Local area study of Whitechapel in London in the 19th century (1800s). There are 3 questions on the exam paper for this
• Section 2: Crime and Punishment 1000-present day. There are 3 questions on the exam paper for this too

Section 1 exam questions on Whitechapel
1/ Describe 2 features (4 marks)
2a/ How useful are sources A and B for an enquiry into (8 marks)
2b/ How would you follow up source A (or B) to find out more about (4 marks)

Q1: What to do on a describe 2 features question
• An event would have occurred and you must give 2 features (Feature = An important aspect of something) about this event
• Give supporting detail/examples/extra information for both points.
• Make one point then give supporting detail and then make a second point and again give supporting detail.
• 6-8 lines should be the maximum that is written.

Q2a: What to do on a how useful are source A and B for an enquiry
*You will need to explain the usefulness of each of the two sources
*You will need to explain the limitation to the usefulness of the two sources
*You should have a small judgement on the overall usefulness of both sources
*When considering usefulness you should think is the CONTENT useful? Does it gives facts or statistics? Does it miss bits out?
*Think about the PROVENANCE of the source. That means who wrote it, when they wrote it and where they wrote it such as in a newspaper. Could the source have bias or a reason to exaggerate? Was the person an eye witness?
*Lastly the CONTEXT. Does the sources information fit in with what you know about the time?

Q2B. What to do on a how would you follow up a source to find out more
• There are 4 parts to this question.
• Firstly you must choose a detail from source A (or it may ask you to use source B) that you would follow up if you wanted to know more.
• You must then write a question you would ask to find out more based on the element you wanted to follow up.
• You would then need to give an example of a type of source you could use to find out more. E.g. council records, photographs, police reports, newspapers, census returns, employment records, etc,
• Lastly you need to describe how this would help you to answer your question
• Only worth 4 marks so there is no need to write in too much detail.
2 sections on this paper
- Section 1: Local area study of Whitechapel in London in the 19th century (1800s). There are 3 questions on the exam paper for this
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Section 2 exam questions on crime and punishment from 1000-present day
3/ Explain one way something is similar or different to another time period (4 marks)
4/ Explain why (with 2 prompt points) 12 marks
5/ How far do you agree (with 2 prompt points) 16 marks +4 SPAG

Q3: What to do on a ‘explain one way something is similar or different’ question
*Half a page is the absolute maximum to write in exam booklet so no more than 6-8 lines in your book
*Only worth 4 marks so does not need a big answer
*ONE EXAMPLE ONLY
*Make sure you clearly show the similarity and explain your example

Q4: What to do on a ‘explain why something changed’ question
*You MUST explain about a minimum of 3 things.
*You will be given two prompt points you can use but you will need one more point (you don’t have to use the prompt points)
*Simple sentence starter: One reason there was a change was..........
*For each change/continuity identified offer a mini-judgement at the end if the paragraph about the type/extent of change.
*You can use the 2 points given in the question but you must have one more of your own.

Q5: What to do on a ‘how far do you agree?’ question
* You will be given a quote and asked how far do you agree with it?
* You MUST talk about a minimum of 3 things.
* You will be given two prompt points that you can use if you want to
* You must give both sides and an overall judgement
* Simple sentence starter: To some extent I agree with the statement because... To some extent I disagree with the statement because ................. Overall I believe .........................
* Think carefully. If you decide to give 2 reasons when you agree and only 1 when you disagree then your overall judgement should agree with the statement. If it was the other way round then your judgement would disagree with the statement.
DIFFERENT PERIODS OF TIME

- MIDDLE AGES 1000-1500
- EARLY MODERN PERIOD 1500-1700
- INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION 1700-1900
- 20TH CENTURY 1900-2000 (BUT also up to modern day)

MAKE SURE YOU KNOW THESE AS SOME QUESTIONS WILL ASK YOU ABOUT THESE PERIODS SPECIFICALLY

POTENTIAL COMPARISON QUESTIONS

1) How did crime/punishment/law enforcement change between the Saxons and Normans (OR HOW WAS IT SIMILAR).

2) How did crime/punishment/law enforcement change between 1000 and the later Middle Ages (OR HOW WAS IT SIMILAR).

3) How did crime/punishment/law enforcement change from the Middle Ages to the Early Modern Period (OR HOW WAS IT SIMILAR).

4) How did crime/punishment/law enforcement change from the Early Modern Period to the Industrial Period (OR HOW WAS IT SIMILAR).

5) How did crime/punishment/law enforcement change from the Industrial period to the 20th century (Modern Period) (OR HOW WAS IT SIMILAR)
**Historic Environment: WHITECHAPEL**

**Background/context**
*Whitechapel is a district in the East End of London. It was a hive of beggars, prostitutes, criminals and alcoholics. There was widespread unemployment. Perhaps up to 1 in 30 people were homeless. Social reformer Charles Booth investigated East End living conditions between 1889-1903 and found that 37.5% East Londoners were living in utter poverty.*

*The police were rarely ready to deal with crime. For example this was a time that Jack the Ripper operated in the East End of London. This was the context that the H Division (the police division that was in charge of Whitechapel) of the Metropolitan Police had to operate.*

**Conditions in Whitechapel**
*There was serious overcrowding in Whitechapel. Criminals, very poor families and those that just made enough were all mixed in.*

*In some homes there were up to 40 people living in one home. Some lived in a cellar or you may find 10 sleeping in the same room.*

*Some even slept in sewers. Drunks could sleep on a penny hang. (pay a penny to sleep on something like a hammock in a room). If you did not wake up one end of rope would be cut so you fell to the floor.*

*There were many brothels (places for prostitutes) & pubs all around.*

*There was no clean water going into most homes, rats were everywhere, windows were smashed and covered by dirty rags.*

*A number of people turned to alcohol to escape the conditions.*

*Diseases were frequent. Some people did disgusting jobs like removal of medical waste without the right protection.*

*There was a workhouse in Whitechapel where people could go to find a place to stay but they had to work. The work was hard and their treatment was poor. It was designed to make them want to leave and not stay to scrounge.*

*There were some jobs factories in Whitechapel but no where near enough for all.*

*In 1864 a ‘model dwelling’ known as the Peabody Estate was opened. It had improved living conditions e.g. laundry rooms, rubbish collection and space for children to play.*
Rising tensions in Whitechapel

*Thousands of Jews had fled persecution from Europe arriving in Whitechapel. East Europeans and Irish people were also migrating to England in large numbers. Many people settled in Whitechapel.

*Jews in particular dressed differently and ate different food. They mainly spoke Yiddish. Locals were suspicious of these different customs.

*Immigrants accepted low paid jobs which some believed stopped others getting work. The Jewish holy day is on Saturday so they still worked on a Sunday. Local shopkeepers suspected Jews were open this day only to steal their business. Jews often charged less for their products breaking pricing laws but as the police could not speak their language and most Jews could not speak English the crime went unpunished. This led to an increase in anti-Semitic violence.

*The Irish population grew in the 1840s. They often worked doing labouring jobs.

*Eastern Europeans, Jews and Irish immigrants did not integrate well with the locals and some areas in Whitechapel became especially violent.

*Many people feared Irish immigrants. There had been terrorist attacks from Irish nationalists known as Fenians. They wanted independence from Britain. In 1893 the Metropolitan Police created special branch of police to deal with this kind of threat – it was called the ‘Special Branch’!

*A socialist group called the SDF wanted to represent the rights of workers and women. This group had been involved in a violent protest against police in Trafalgar Square in 1887. Many protesters were killed. The event was known as Bloody Sunday.

*Many socialists in the SDF were keen to whip up problems by highlighting police incompetence. The problems catching Jack the Ripper gave them this opportunity.

*Anarchists believe governments should be removed. Anarchists had tried to seize control in Paris in 1871. This had failed but now the leaders had fled to London. Many feared they would try in London. Special Branch was sent to deal with this too.

*With all of this the police really feared riots could break out in London.
Policing Whitechapel

**Difficulties**
* Police were often disliked due to their links to the government which was unpopular due to mass unemployment
* Criminal gangs offered protection rackets. Businesses would be approached & told they would be ‘protected’ if they gave money. Refusals led to violence or building damage. Ordinary people were too terrified to report it so the police could not get evidence
* Prostitution wasn’t illegal but with no contraception there was a rise in illegal backstreet abortions. Criminals often visited prostitutes so there was an increased presence
* Whitechapel was a series of Rookeries (close buildings and flats) and narrow streets and alleys. Criminals knew them well making escapes easier for them.
* With high unemployment many people turned to crime. For the police it was difficult to keep on top of it & so they often ignored fights completely as they were overstretched
* When the police tried to intervene in social issues like controlling prostitution, they were met with hostility as they were seen as interfering
* Alcohol was the only escape for some people in Whitechapel. You could find up to 45 buildings that served alcohol in a 1 mile radius. Drunkenness often turned to violence.

**Historical context**
* The Metropolitan Police force was split into 20 divisions, each responsible for a district of London and named with a letter of the alphabet. Whitechapel was covered by H Division.
* H Division was run by a superintendent and chief inspector. There were also 27 inspectors, 37 sergeants and 500 ordinary constables

** Typical day **
* Constables marched into Whitechapel then went to their beat (area) to patrol it
* Questioning what people were up to at night
* Report back to the sergeant on what had happened on his beat. A constable could be fined if he missed a crime or was not on his beat. Sergeants sometimes followed constable to ensure they were doing their job and not sleeping in doorways
* The police often hosted soup kitchens and looked after stray children

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Jack the Ripper strikes Whitechapel

**Background/context**
In 1888 5 women were killed in and around Whitechapel. The police were never able to capture this person. Many people blame this on the H division police force of Whitechapel. The killer’s identity has never been revealed and is only known as ‘Jack the Ripper’

**Why the ripper was never caught. Police’s fault**
- There was rivalry between police forces. A key piece of evidence, (a message written in chalk on a wall) that was located just outside Whitechapel was wiped away. This was done on orders from the London Police Commissioner Charles Warren who didn’t want a rival police force using it.
- 2 murders happened on the same evening in the same area. The police were on the streets after the first murder but still failed to spot or stop the second murder.
- The police used bizarre methods to catch the Ripper. They dressed as prostitutes to lure the Ripper into a trap. Some wore strips of rubber on their boots so they could sneak up on the murderer.
- The police failed to pay the dog’s owners of the sniffer dogs they used so they refused to work with the police anymore.

**Why the ripper was never caught. Not police’s fault**
- 300 letters or postcards were sent to them or newspapers claiming to be the murderer. These would need to be all investigated, taking time.
- Key witnesses gave evidence of spotting the victims talking to a man just before they died. This sometimes contradicted doctor’s reports on the time of death.
- Police came up with clever ways of trying to get information from the public by setting up soup kitchens that attracted the poor who could then be questioned. They even went into lunatic asylums to try and find evidence.
- The police followed up on many leads. For example they went to jewellers to see if the rings missing from one victim’s finger had been sold. Although a medical background was likely for the Ripper the police even went to slaughterhouses or butchers on the chance he could be one of those.
- The police did use expert advice from doctors who did post mortems. They did learn the Ripper was left handed was likely to have had medical training.
- The Police did house to house searches and spoke to over 2000 residents.
- The Police used specialist Bloodhound dogs to sniff for clues. There was a complete lack of forensic science at this point in time so no fingerprints, DNA evidence, identifying blood types. Crime scene photography had just started so they were inexperienced at this.
- Some Whitechapel residents set up the Vigilance Committee to try the ripper. They offered rewards. The Committee took to the streets and were very noisy making it less likely to catch the Ripper in the act.

**Positives**
- Police now ensured they took ‘mug shots’ as well as physical measurement (Bertillon System).
- Introduced telephone lines so communication was quicker. Bikes were later introduced too.
- Slum Housing & public Health was improved meaning that with people living in better conditions they were less likely to turn to crime.
Tasks - Whitechapel:

Knowledge Check Questions
1. Describe the living conditions in a typical Whitechapel rookery?
2. Explain the hostility shown to immigrants to Whitechapel in the late 19th century.
3. Why did so many people in Whitechapel turn to crime?
4. Give examples to show how that the police could not always cope with the lawlessness in the East End of London in the late 19th century.
5. Produce a chronological overview of the Ripper murders.
6. Explain why the Vigilance Committee was an obstruction to the police.
7. Suggest three ways in which the Ripper murders led to better living conditions in Whitechapel.

Exam Style Questions
1. Describe two key features of the effects of alcohol on crime in Whitechapel. (4 marks)

2a. How useful are sources A and B for an enquiry into the problems of housing and overcrowding in Whitechapel? (8 marks)

   Source A: From the Tales of the Means Streets a novel by Arthur Morrison published in 1894
   The street is in the East End.... An evil plexus of slums that hid human creeping thing; where filthy men and women live on a penn'orth of gin, where collars and clean shirts are decencies unknown, where every citizen wears a black eye and none ever combs their hair.

   Source B: From Crime and its Causes , a book by WD Morrison a clergyman, published in 1891
   Habitual criminals are not to be confounded (confused) with the working or any other class; they are a set of persons who make crime the object and business of their lives; to commit crime is their trade; they deliberately scoff at honest ways of earning a living.

b. How would you follow up source B to find out more about the causes of crime in Whitechapel? (4 marks)
   • Detail in the source I would follow up:
   • Question I would ask:
   • What type of source I could use:
   • How this might help answer my question:
(MIDDLE AGES) Saxons Background
* Kings made the laws & decided penalties & had a duty to keep peace (King’s peace)
* Nobles assisted the king in keeping law
* Church important to people and wanted to save the souls of criminal
* Capital punishment (death penalty) increased

(MIDDLE AGES) Saxon crimes
* Crimes against the person (e.g assault, murder)
* Crimes against property (e.g theft, robbery, arson)
* Crimes against authority (e.g such as monarch, nobles, landowners)

(MIDDLE AGES) Saxon law enforcement
1: Community had to take responsibility for upholding law
* People were divided into tithings. A group of 10 men who monitored each other and if one broke the law the others would bring him to a court to be punished.
* A local official (the reeve) then carried out the decision made by local courts.
* If a victim raised the hue and cry by calling out the whole village had to track down the person who committed the crime. If the villagers refused they would be fined.
2: Court trials: Saxons used trial by jury.
* Both sides could present their evidence before the jury reached a verdict.
* You could take an oath calling on God as your witness.
* Local witnesses were allowed to be called.
3: Trial by ordeal: If no verdict was reached it was handed over to God to decide
* Trial by hot iron or hot water. The accused could hold a red hot iron or put hands in boiling water. If the wounds took a long time to heal you were guilty.
* Trial by cold water. Accused was put into water & if they floated they were guilty as the water rejected them. If they sunk they were pure & therefore innocent.

(MIDDLE AGES) Saxon Punishments
* Capital punishment - (death penalty). Hanging most common form of capital punishment. Mainly used for crimes like treason or arson.
* Corporal punishment - (physical punishment). Mutilation was the worse. Removing a foot or eye. Was meant to be harsh to act as a deterrent for others.
* Stocks - (for legs) and pillories (for arms). Public punishment - used to humiliate - people would throw rubbish at the criminal.
* The Wergild - A system of fines for assault or murder paid to the victim in compensation. The more important the body part injured the bigger the fine. The fine was bigger if the person hurt was considered a more important person like a noble.
**Normans replaced the Saxons after defeat of Harold at the Battle of Hastings.**

*King William (William the conqueror) introduced some new laws.*

*There was an increase in capital punishments to deal with rebellion against the Normans.*

*Clear social structure – ‘Feudal System’: King - barons and nobles - knights – peasants.*

*King was responsible for keeping his people safe. Known as the King’s Mund.*

**NEW Norman crimes**

*Forest Laws - Hunting in the King’s forest was now a crime known as poaching. People now needed a permit to hunt and these were difficult to obtain.*

*It became illegal for peasants to leave a lord’s land to go elsewhere for work.*

*Slander - Illegal to make false claims against others.*

*Rise in outlaws (people who fled justice). Folville Gang most famous outlaws*

**Norman law enforcement**

*The Murdrum – offered protection to the Normans by imposing a heavy fine for a whole village if the body of a Norman was found nearby.*

*Communities still responsible for catching criminals and were fined – but the fine went to the King instead of the family of the victim.*

*Royal Forest Laws. Forests strictly controlled by the king and a licence was needed to hunt there. Illegal for peasants to carry weapons or hunt animals in a forest (this is a crime known as poaching). The law was unpopular and many ignored it considered a social crime.*

**Norman Punishments**

*The Murdrum Fine replaced the Wergild. Fines were paid to the king’s officials rather than to the victim in compensation.*

*Capital punishment remained but was used more often, including for new crimes such as poaching (aimed at deterring others)*

*Mutilation continued but became more severe such as castration, blinding, branding or chopping off body parts such as a tongue for slander.*

*Stock and pillories remained for less serious crimes such as stealing. Beatings and hangings continued for repeat offenders.*
The Church was very important because people believed the Church could save them from hell. Its buildings looked huge and impressive. Like the King, the Church was allowed to collect taxes from the people. It had wide-ranging influence over people.

**Trial by ordeal**
The Church could decide if someone was guilty of a crime by using hot iron, hot water and cold water. This was used if the local court’s could not decide guilt. In the later Middle Ages the Pope ended trial by ordeal much to the anger of the King who relied on this justice.

**Church courts**
The Church claimed the right to put on trial any churchman that committed a crime. Churches also dealt with moral crimes such as drunkenness and adultery. Church courts never sentenced people to death. The King could do nothing to stop any of this.

**Benefit of the Clergy**
If someone had committed a crime but could prove they had a connection to the Church they could claim benefit of the clergy. This meant they avoided the King’s courts and would be tried in the more lenient Church court. You would have to prove you were a member of the Church however. To do this you had to read a verse from the bible. Most people could not read but Church members could.

**Sanctuary**
If someone was on the run from the law and made it to a Church that offered sanctuary then the Church would keep that person safe for 40 days. Again the King could do nothing. After 40 days the criminal could either hand themselves over to the King’s authorities or leave the country walking to the nearest port barefoot carrying a cross and vow never to return.
Later Middle Ages Background
*Power of the king’s continued to increase
*Parliament did assist the king in making some laws too
*The king sometimes worked with the Church when it came to crime

NEW Later Middle Ages Crimes
*Statute of Labourers - This made it a crime to demand higher wages. The Black Death had killed millions and so the peasants were desperately needed. This made them believe they could demand higher wages. The King wanted to stop this.
Hersey - Some people questioned the Church. The Kings wanted to support the Church so made it illegal to go against the Church.
*Crimes like violence, murder, poaching continued throughout this period.

Later Middle Ages Law Enforcement
CHANGE:
*Constables were introduced. One person who led the Hue and Cry. Constables only served a year before someone else took the role
*A shift from local communities dealing with crimes towards a system where crimes were dealt with by government appointed official
*The Coroner was a new role. They investigated suspicious death
*Keeper’s of the King’s Peace. These were men assigned to particular areas that had a lot of trouble to assist the constable
*Prisons were set up (this was known as the Assize of Clarendon). They were holding blocks for suspects before their trial (NOT A PUNISHMENT. THEY DIDN’T GO BACK IF FOUND GUILTY)
*Justices in the Eyre - These were royal judges sent to towns to deal with the most serious of crimes
*Trial by ordeal largely stopped by order of the Pope. Only the cold water one remained
CONINUTIES:
*Tithings were still used but less than before and were now known as wards. Townspeople still played an important part as the Hue and Cry was still used.
*Manor and Royal Courts were still used as were Church courts

Later Middle Ages Punishments
CHANGE:
*Hung, drawn and quartered was a new punishment (for most serious of crimes like treason. This was hanging until almost dead then cutting open and removing intestines and bowels and then beheading. Was very harsh to stop others from committing the crime in future (a deterrent)
*Burning at the stake (most commonly used for heresy as it purified the soul)
CONTINUITY:
*Still relied heavily on fines, corporal punishment such as mutilation and hanging executions for other crimes
Tasks – Middle Ages:

**Knowledge Check Questions**

1. Describe two ways the community took part in enforcing the law.
2. What does ‘Wergild’ mean?
3. Give an example of Anglo-Saxon punishment that varied according to social standing.
4. Explain what happened in a trial by ordeal.
5. Why did the Normans build castles in England?
6. What legal obligations did peasants have to their Norman Lords?
7. How did the Forest Laws change life for Anglo-Saxon peasants?
8. Name 2 aspects of law enforcement that did not change from the Anglo-Saxon to the Norman period. Why do you think they stayed the same?

**Exam Style Questions**

3. Explain one way crimes in the Anglo-Saxon period were similar to crimes in the later Middle Ages. (4 marks)

4. Explain why Anglo-Saxons used corporal punishments to deal with criminals. (12 marks)

5/6. The Norman Conquest saw little change to law enforcement and punishment in England. How far do you agree? Explain your answer (16+4 marks)
**EARLY MODERN PERIOD 1500-1700 CRIMES**

*HERESY AND TREASON:* Monarchs were now the head of the Church. If you followed a different religion to the monarch that made you a traitor for questioning them and a heretic for going against their religion.

**WITCHCRAFT:** Due to a lack of scientific knowledge and religious hatred Henry VIII passed the witchcraft Act that made witchcraft punishable by death. Elizabeth eased this with a law starting only witchcraft that caused death had the death penalty. However, James I who strongly believed in witches passed a law called the Witchcraft and Conjuration Act in 1604 that gave the death penalty to anyone summoning evil spirits. The hysteria was worsened with the witchfinder Matthew Hopkins who used tricks to find witches. With the enlightenment (using science) this hysteria ended by 1700.

*POACHING:* Was due to enclosure (fencing off fields) but many people still poached food from there. The 1671 Game Act made this illegal and a crime.

**VAGABONDAGE:** Due to a rising population and a lack of jobs there was a rise in vagabonds. Poor, sometimes beggars, travelling from town to town. The Vagrancy Act of 1547 made it illegal to beg.

**SMUGGLING:** To avoid paying custom duties (tax) some people smuggled goods into the country to be sold at a cheaper rate (without tax).

**MORAL CRIMES:** Puritan government took over after the English Civil. It was now illegal to attend sports on Sunday, drink alcohol, celebrate Christmas.

**EARLY MODERN PERIOD 1500-1700 LAW ENFORCEMENT**

**CONTINUITY:** Hue and Cry continued.

*Rewards for the most serious crimes were still used.*

*Justices of the Peace - Important local men were still used in larger towns. Constable assisted them. Could hand out minor punishments like stocks and pillories.*

**CONTINUITY AND CHANGE:** Town constables continued but they sometimes hired others to help. This was the very start of a professional police force.

*Night watchmen. They were unpaid volunteers who reported to town constable and patrolled towns at night with a bell to warn people to go home. Role expanded due to rise in number of criminals.*

**CHANGE:** Professional thief takers. These were groups of men who were hired by victims to hunt down criminals if a towns constable had been unsuccessful. Thief takers would be paid a reward. However, they were often criminal themselves, e.g. Jonathan Wild.

**EARLY MODERN PERIOD 1500-1700 PUNISHMENTS**

**PRISONS:** First purpose built prisons made. Inmates forced to do hard labour.

**TRANSPORTATION:** Sent to do hard labour in America (later Australia) helping build the new colonies. Unlikely to be able to afford to come back after sentence was served. Many died on harsh voyage there or the harsh conditions there.

**BLOODY CODE:** The increase in crimes carrying the death penalty. It was supposed to deter people from committing crimes. It did not work as a deterrent as most crimes were committed by poor people in a state of desperation.

**OTHER PUNISHMENTS:** Vagrants faced corporal punishment. You would be publically shamed if you broke Puritan moral laws. Hung, drawn and quartered for heresy and treason.
Knowledge Check Questions
1. What did the punishment of hanging, drawing and quartering involve?
2. What did the 1601 Poor Law aim to do?
3. What was the role of the night watchmen?
4. Name one punishment that was used to humiliate criminals?
5. What was the name of James I’s book about witchcraft?
6. Where were convicts sent when transportation was introduced in the 17th century?
7. In what year was the Gunpowder Plot?
8. What title did Matthew Hopkins give himself?

Exam Style Questions
3. Explain one way in which punishment in the Middle Ages was similar to punishment in the 16th century. (4 marks)

4. Explain why the authorities took vagabondage so seriously in the period 1500-1700 (12 marks)

5/6. The most important factor in the rise of witchcraft accusations was the role of Matthew Hopkins. How far do you agree? Explain your answer. (16+4 marks)
Industrial Period 1700-1900

**BACKGROUND:** During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, there was a huge growth in Britain’s population. More people meant the need for more efficient methods of farming. There were protests against new machinery which then meant new crimes. During times of economic hardship, riots and demonstrations became more common. This period also saw the start of a professional police force.

**Industrial Period Crimes:**

**CHANGE AND CONTINUITY:**

**Smuggling.** Smuggling continued but intensified. More goods now had import duties (taxes) on them. Many people struggled for money so avoiding paying tax on goods. This led to a rise in smuggling gangs who took advantage. This was viewed as a social crime (not hurting anyone and out of necessity). This crime began to drop when the government lowered import taxes.

**Poaching.** Poaching continued but intensified. Again this was a social crime. Poor people poached out of desperation. Poaching gangs took advantage. There was even a black market for poached good.

**CHANGE:**

*Highway robbery.* Although these sorts of robberies existed. Due to the improvements in roads it became a huge problem. More people travelled and had their money on them as there were no banks at the start of this period. Highway were robbers on horseback. There were also footpads. Robbers on horseback. This was seen as a serious and violent crime.

**Industrial Period law enforcement (1700s)**

In the early 18th century the law continued to be enforced with a combination of methods used previously. For example:

- Parish constables dealt with disorderly behaviour and petty crime
- Night watchmen who protected private property
- Part time soldiers who dealt with rebellions or riots

In some places there were salaried constables and watchmen so there was the beginnings of a modern police force. However this was to develop much further as the 18th century progressed and then went into the 19th century.
**Industrial Period law enforcement (1700-1900)**

**CHANGE: Bow Street Runners:**
- Started by Henry and John Fielding who were London magistrates based in Bow Street
- They believed there was a need for men patrolling the streets to stop crime
- They started a crime fighting team called the Bow Street Runners in 1748
- Fielding’s used professional thief takers but monitored them to make sure they were not corrupt
- The objective was to stop crime by having a more visible force on the streets
- They initially charge a fee for their service or collected rewards. Eventually the government paid them and it led to the first detective agency being set up
- A newspaper called the Hue and Cry shared news about crimes, criminals and stolen goods. This was the start of a network helping to solve crimes nationally. The Bow Street Runners used this
- Bow Street Runners were the first steps to a professional police force

**CHANGE: Robert Peel and the Metropolitan Police Force (the Met)**
- Replaced the Bow Street Runners
- Home Secretary Robert Peel set up the first professional police force in 1829
- Peel was big believer in criminal being able to reform and was a supporter of prisons (penal reform). He also helped end the Blood Code
- Initially set up in London. Each of the 17 districts in London had 4 detectives and 144 constables. This large number was supposed to deter criminals or catch them in the act
- In an effort to be visible and seen in a good light. Police wore a blue uniform and a top hat
- In 1842 a specialised detective unit was set up to solve crimes. The detectives wore plain clothes
- In 1878 the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) was set up. Over 1000 detectives belonged to this and they now used fingerprints and handwriting investigations to solve crimes
- Outside London improvements were slow until the government introduced the 1856 Police Act. All police forces were now inspected by the government and all agreed the main aim of policing should be deterrence.

**OTHER LAWS**

1. It was now illegal to blacken or disguise face, have animal capturing items or hunting dogs. This was related to poaching. The government tried to deal with this problem by passing the 1723 Black Act that made poaching a capital offence (execution). Anti-poaching laws were hugely resented and in 1823 the Black Act was dropped. Poaching was still illegal but was no longer punishable by death
2. For highway robbery mounted patrols (police on horseback) made the roads more secure and the growth of the banking system meant people no longer had to carry their money (Highway robbery)
CHANGE AND CONTINUITY: Transportation to Australia

- A punishment for petty crimes such as theft. Seen as a more humane alternative to the death penalty. Early prisons could not hold large numbers. Prisoners could populate the new colony and be forced to do work there. Before transportation prisoners were often held in disused ships known as hulks. They would then be transported below decks in cramped conditions for up to 3 months. The sentence was usually for 7 years but released convicts could not afford to return home so stayed in Australia.
- Transportation to Australia ended in 1868 due to changing attitudes. In Australia many people believed ex-convicts were responsible for crime in new towns. Free settlers in Australia also argued convict workers were making it so there were less jobs or employers could pay lower wages. In Britain the ships and voyage to Australia were seen as inhumane and some people believed Australia was not a deterrent to crime as it could be a desirable place to live. Furthermore running prison colonies were expensive whilst better purpose built prisons were being built in Britain.

CHANGE AND CONTINUITY: The Bloody Code

- The number of crimes carrying the death penalty increased through the 1700s. Many executions done in public. These executions were supposed to strike so deterring others from committing crime. This punishment was even for crimes such as theft or cutting down trees. It was known as the Bloody Code.
- By 1868 public executions had stopped and the amount being executed decreased. This was because the public executions were often seen as entertainment. The crowds that turned up were often drunk and often mocked the authorities. Ironically the executions led to more crime as pick pockets would steal from the crowd gathered there. Many people also argued that public executions were inhumane. Some argued that the Bloody Code did not give criminals the chance to reform as it was so final. So the Bloody Code ended.

CHANGE AND CONTINUITY: Prisons

- In the 1700s prison was rarely used as a punishment. It was mainly just for holding a suspect in the run up to their trial or punishment. There had been exceptions to this such as the Bridewell Prison built in the 16th century that was built to hold criminals for a longer period.
- During the late 1700s and 1800s the use of imprisonment grew. This was largely due the decline of the Bloody Code and concerns over transportation. Prisons gave offenders the chance to reform and it made society safer as criminals were separated from the rest of society. Prisoners were expected to do hard labour such as the treadwheel where prisoners had to continually walk up a wheel whilst it turned. This in turn could provide the power to pump water for the prison. Prison largely became about rehabilitation. The prisons were soon ran by the government and each prison followed national rules and prisoners were held in categories (eg violent, non violent, women).

OTHER PUNISHMENTS

1. Transportation for smugglers. Death penalty if they resisted capture
2. Execution for poachers. Wearing a disguise, hunting dogs, animal capturing items led to prison
3. From 1772 execution for men found armed or in disguise on highway (highway men)
Knowledge Check Questions
1. Which law was broken by the Tolpuddle Martyrs?
2. What date did transportation to Australia begin?
3. What book was published by John Howard?
4. What was the police service brought under the control of the national government?
5. Who started the Bow Street Runners?
6. Which city was policed by the Metropolitan Police Force?
7. Name two famous highwaymen.
8. Describe the layout of Pentonville prison.

Exam Style Questions
3. Explain one way in which crime in the Middle Ages was similar to crime in the 18th century. (4 marks)

4. Explain why there was changes to policing in the period between 1700 and 1900. (12 marks)

5/6. The role of reformers was the main reason why prison conditions improved in the 19th century. How far do you agree? Explain your answer. (16+4 marks)
**Context:** The French Revolution in 1789 saw the French monarchy being overthrown. The government became terrified it happening in Britain. Landowners and politicians viewed every protest as a potential riot uprising. They were particularly anxious about the Grand National Consolidated Trades Union, which aimed to give workers better conditions. Trade unions were not illegal but employers believed that by demanding better pay & conditions, unions threatened their interests.

**What happened with the Tolpuddle Martyrs**
- Life was tough for farm workers in the town of Tolpuddle.
- Local labourers led by George Loveless asked for their wages to be increased. The request was denied and their wages were cut even more.
- Loveless set up a trade union, the Friendly Society of Agricultural Labourers, that was designed to protest against their low wages. They took an oath to help each other.
- The government didn’t like this new Friendly society and used an old navy law about not taking secret oaths and applied it to Loveless and his men to make up a crime.

This showed the government could just the change the law and crime to suit their purposes.
- Loveless and his men were sentences to transportation to Australia to do hard labour for 7 years and Trade Unions were seriously weakened.
- There was outrage at their treatment in Britain and after 4 years of protest they were pardoned and eventually allowed home.
- The trade union movement eventually recovered.

This showed that public opinion could also affect laws and punishments.

**Industrial Period CASE STUDY 2 Pentonville Prison (1842)**

**WHY THE PRISON WAS BUILT:**
Pentonville Prison was built to keep prisoners separate. First prison to do this. Prisoners stayed in separate isolated prisons up to 23 hours a day. Separate conditions Intended to:

- Give prisoners solitude so they could reflect on what they had done wrong
- Ensure prisoners were not influenced by other criminals
- Deter people from committing crimes because of the serious nature of the punishment
- Ensure the criminal 'paid' for their behaviour and crime(s) they had committed

**THE PENTONVILLE PRISON BUILDING**
- There were 5 wings. Each could accommodate up to 520 prisoners.
- The cells were small with only one small window high up to let in a little natural light. The window had thick glass with iron bars to protect it.
- There was heating & a ventilation system and there was piped water to each cell. This comfort was added to ensure the prisoners did not need to leave their cell.

**LIVING CONDITIONS**
- Isolated and their work was boring and repetitive
- Allowed out to do exercise but had to wear masks so they could not communicate
- Due to isolation many developed mental conditions. Some committed suicide

**REFORMS AND CHANGE**
- Reformers like Elizabeth Fry said prisoners needed to be able to talk about what they had done. 1923 Gaol’s Act by Robert Peel also improved conditions. It said prisoners:
  Receive visits from chaplains, not be in chains, female prisoners watched by female guards
CHANGES

- **HOMOSEXUALITY:** This was illegal until 1967. Crimes against homosexuals then intensified. The government passed 2005 Criminal Justice Act that made this a hate crime.
- It became a **crime to deny a person job due to their race** due to the 1968 Race Relations Act (there had been an influx of immigrants from the British Commonwealth countries). Attacks on immigrants became hate crimes.
- **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.** Governments used to largely ignore this as accepted men were dominant. Due to the domestic Violence Act of 1967 this became a crime. In 1991 the government also recognised rape in a relationship and in 2014 a further law was added to stop a partner controlling another.
- **ABORTION:** Up until 1967 it had been illegal to have an abortion. To stop dangerous illegal (backstreet) abortions, it was legalised under the 1967 Abortion Act so long as it could be proved the child would have a disability, birth risked the woman’s health and the pregnancy had not gone past 28 weeks.
- **DRINK DRIVING:** This had been illegal since 1925. The government passed further laws that limited the amount of alcohol in their system. Many ignored this until the government’s media campaign against it. The same applied with speeding and using a mobile phone.
- **DRUGS:** Many drugs were not illegal until 1971. The government’s 1971 Drugs Misuse Act changed this. It caused controversy as some argued drugs were a personal choice. Others said it caused other crimes & led to social issues.
- **CYBERCRIME:** A crime using the internet. Trickling victims into giving their personal details. Also now linked to hate crimes due to misuse of social media.
- **FRAUD:** At the start of the 20th century tricksters usually conned people out of their money or got bank details. This was done face to face. This is now usually done via the internet or over the phone.
- **COPYRIGHT THEFT:** Taking/copying someone’s else work without permission after they have copyrighted it. This ranges from photocopying, recording or today this would be downloading music or films illegally for example.

CONTINUITIES

- **TERRORISM:** Had existed for centuries. It is used for fear to bring about political or religious change. For example Guy Fawkes and Gunpowder Plot in the Early Modern Period. Terrorist attacks have intensified in 20th century. The IRA used violence to try and get independence for Northern Ireland. Al-Qaeda and Islamic State have carried out attacks in recent times. Animal activists have also used violence.
- **PEOPLE TRAFFICKING:** Black slaves had been taken as part of the Triangular Trade in the Industrial Period or even girls sold into prostitution. It still occurs in more recent time as people are sold as slaves into work or forced to work for very low wages.
- **EXTORTION:** Threatening or blackmailing for money. In the past this would have been done by letter or in person. In the 20th century this would most likely happen by phone or over the internet.
CONTINUITY AT THE START OF 20TH CENTURY

- At the start of the 20th century there were no central records for crime and police officers, who were all male, travelled by foot and used a whistle to call for assistance.

CHANGES AS 20TH CENTURY WENT ON

- Women were recruited to join the police force in the 1920s.
- More emphasis put on training and the Police Training College was set up in 1947 to train new recruits.
- The police force now used science to help them. Officers first used bikes and then by the 1930s cars. 999 number was used by 1930s. The discovery of different blood types, use of fingerprints & later the use of DNA samples allowed the police to catch more criminals. There is now a national DNA database & computerised central records.
- Specialist departments were set up. The Bomb Squad was set up in 1971 to deal with the growing terrorist threat of the IRA.
- The Fraud Squad was set up to tackle crime in business. The Fraud Squad have evolved to now tackle other high value crime like art theft too. Officers need to be experts in this.
- There is a specialist drugs-trade unit within the police, they monitor known drug users & prevent the further spread of drugs. The National Crime Agency (set up in 2013) targets drug production and dealers. Raids are common.
- Dogs had been used since the 1930s. By the 1950s most police forces had dog units. Today trained sniffer dogs are used.
- Every police force has its own Special Branch to tackle national security threats and terrorism. The work with the MI5 (security service) and often use the most modern surveillance techniques.

PREVENTION AND SOLVING CRIME

CONTINUITY AND CHANGE: Today the police heavily rely on prevention of crime (just as the Bow Street Runners and MET believed in). Today through the police go into schools, confiscating alcohol, removing abandoned cars. PCSO’s do a large amount of this work.

CONTINUITY AND CHANGE: A neighbourhood watch was set up in 1982 meaning that the local community helped to reduce crime by neighbours looking out for crime & reporting it to the police. (Hue and cry had used the community in previous eras but neighbourhood watch is voluntary.

CHANGE: police can now use smart phones, CCTV, breathalyser, speed cameras to help prevent or solve crime. Eye scanners and fingerprint recognition also helps reduce crime.

CHANGE: A huge DNA database and forensic teams mean that crimes can often be tracked backed to an individual. Facial and voice recognition means officers can quickly find a criminal from hours of videotapes or recordings.
• Use of death penalty began to decrease from the start of the 20th century.
• The 1908 Children’s Act said under 16s could no longer be executed. By 1933 a second Children’s Act made it no under 18 to be executed.
• In 1922 the Infanticide Act was passed meaning mothers that kill their new born babies would not be executed. The law took into account a woman’s mental health after child birth.
• Due to the work of the Home Secretary, Roy Jenkins, The Homicide Act of 1957 declared the death penalty only for the most serious cases of murder.
• By 1965 the death penalty had been removed for almost all crimes (apart from high treason and piracy) in an act known as the Murder Act.
• By 1998 the death penalty was removed for all crimes completely.
• Life imprisonment became the harshest punishment available to courts and judges.
• Community service and fines now heavily used.

**PUNISHMENTS FOR YOUTHS**

• The first Borstals were set up in Kent in 1902. They were purpose built to keep young male criminals away from older criminals.
• Hard labour was ended in 1902 for mentally ill youths.
• In 1908 the Prevention of Crime Act made sure borstal gave education, work and exercise to help offenders reform. By 1922 this had improved further and by 1933 the aim was to prepare offenders for returning to society.
• The Criminal Justice Act of 1946 created alternatives to prison. For example detention centres were created (like borstals but more relaxed). Attendance centres were also made that were for young offenders to attend at weekends who had committed minor crimes only. These reforms focused on rehabilitation.
• The Children and Young Person’s Act of 1963 raised the age of criminal responsibility from 8 to 10 years. It stressed caring for young offenders.
• A second Children and Young Person’s Act in 1969 brought in specialised juvenile courts, care and supervision orders (remove the child from a harmful environment that has encouraged their crime). Another alternative to prison.
• In 1982 the Criminal Justice Act abolished the borstal system and replaced it with youth custody centres.

N.B. Although you may be asked to compare crimes/law enforcement/punishments from the Industrial Period of 1700-1900s to 20th century and Modern. A lot of change happened within the 20th century/Modern Period so you could be asked about change within this one time period. They could also do that in the Industrial Period (1700-1900).
Knowledge Check Questions
1. Define the term ‘hate crime’.
2. What is PCSO an abbreviation of?
3. Who were detained in borstals?
4. What were court hearings for conscientious objectors called?
5. What does ‘age of criminal responsibility’ mean?
6. When was the first open prison in the UK?
7. Who was the last woman to be given the death penalty in the UK?
8. When was Derek Bentley pardoned?

Exam Style Questions
3. Explain one way in which the treatment of witchcraft in the period 1500-1700 was similar to the treatment of conscientious objection in the 20th century. (4 marks)

4. Explain why there were changes to punishments in the period 1900 to the present day. (12 marks)

5/6. Miscarriages of justice were the main reason why capital punishment was abolished in 1965. How far do you agree? Explain your answer. (16+4 marks)
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**COMPARING CRIMES ACROSS THE COURSE**

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**EARLY MODERN PERIOD 1500-1700**

- Town constable<br>- Hue and Cry<br>- Night Watchmen<br>- Professional thief takers<br>- Rewards<br>- Justice of the Peace

**INDUSTRIAL PERIOD 1700-1900**

- Town constable and night watchmen (in the 1700s)<br>- Bow Street Runners<br>- Metropolitan Police (MET)<br>- Mounted police (for highway robbery)<br>- It was now illegal to blacken or disguise face, have animal capturing items or hunting dogs.

**MODERN 1900-TODAY**

- Women in police<br>- Police training college<br>- Use of science and forensics (e.g. DNA, fingerprints)<br>- Specialist departments<br>- Fraud squads<br>- Drug units<br>- Sniffer dogs<br>- Modern surveillance equipment<br>- Special branch to deal with national threats<br>- Prevent strategies (going into schools)<br>- Neighbourhood watch
**COMPARING PUNISHMENTS FROM MIDDLE AGES TO EARLY MODERN PERIOD**

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<td>Prisons (rarely used)</td>
<td>Transportation to Australia (ends in the 1800s)</td>
<td>Prison (most severe punishment by end of 20th century)</td>
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<td>Corporal punishments (whippings &amp; mutilation)</td>
<td>Transportation to America</td>
<td>Bloody Code (ends in the 1800s)</td>
<td>Death penalty slowly reduces and finally ends</td>
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<td>Stocks &amp; pillories</td>
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<td>Prisons (heavily used from 1800s)</td>
<td>Youth borstals and then youth custody centres</td>
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<td>Public shamings including stocks and pillories</td>
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<td>Detention centres</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NORMANS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital punishment</td>
<td>Whippings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corporal Punishments (whipping and mutilation)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stocks &amp; pillories</td>
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<tr>
<td>Murdrum (Fines)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LATER MIDDLE AGES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital Punishment (hung drawn and quartered)</td>
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<td>Burning at the stake</td>
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<td>Murdrum Fine ended but fines continued</td>
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</table>

**N.B.** Although you may be asked to compare crimes/law enforcement/punishments from the Middle Ages to Early Modern, you may also be asked to compare the Saxon to the Normans or the start of the Middle Ages to the later Middle Ages as so much changed in that first period.

**N.B.** Although it is true to say crimes like murder or theft continued. The examiners will be looking for more than just general statements. You will need to be specific.