

WORD FORMATION

Crime in Estonia

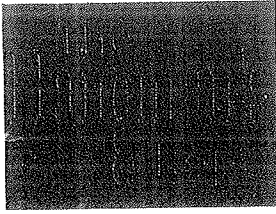
Estonia is a (0) ...**relatively**... (**relative**) safe country, although crime in Tallinn's "Old Town" is an (1) (**go**) concern, especially during the summer tourist season, and this has prompted the authorities to set up warning billboards in the most- (2) (**frequent**) sites in Tallinn. Take precautions with regard to personal safety and (3) (**belong**) as in any major city. The most common crimes encountered by foreign tourists are purse snatching, pick-pocketing, and (4) (**mug**). Tourists are often targeted by individuals and small groups of (5) (**thief**) working together. In public places such as the Town Hall Square, airport, train stations, and the Central Market, exercise special care in safeguarding your things against purse-snatchers and (6) (**pocket**). Valuables should never be left (7) (**attend**) in vehicles and car doors should be kept locked at all times. Racially-motivated verbal and (on occasion) physical (8) (**harass**) of non-Caucasian travellers can occur. Police (9) (**capable**) in Estonia are improving, but still suffer from lack of equipment, training, (10) (**person**) and resources. Due to the low pay, the police are (11) (**apathy**) and lax in the prosecution of their work and are suffering a chronic (12) (**short**) in officers. Police response during the past year has become very sluggish and (13) (**predict**). If a visitor is (14) (**victim**), it is unlikely that the police will be able to do more than take a report. While the use of English is growing (15) (**rapid**) in Estonia, the typical police officer may well not understand it.

6 Complete the text by writing one word in each space.

Mr Jeffries, I have decided against a prison sentence in your case. You may walk free from this court on (1) *condition* that you report to Chesham police station every Friday for the next six months. Should you fail to (2) so, you will be given one warning; and if you persist (3) failing to meet this obligation, you will return to this court for a harsher sentence. (4) you can present good reason why you were unable to report to the station, you will (5) yourself in severe trouble. If you are (6) to attend because of illness, please note that a medical certificate must be produced, signed by your doctor, proving your state of health. You should realize that (7) for your previous good conduct, I would (8) had no hesitation in imposing a prison sentence. And I shall not forget that if your friend had (9) intervened in the fight, you might (10) seriously injured the defendant.

4 Comprehension

A Read the article and the missing paragraphs again. Choose from the paragraphs A–G the one which fits each gap 1–6. There is one extra paragraph which you do not need to use.



Capital punishment has been used throughout history, although its methods and the crimes for which it is used have changed over the centuries.

1 In the USA, 85% of the population over the age of 21 approve of the death penalty. In the many states which still have the death penalty, some use the electric chair, which can take up to 20 minutes to kill, while others use gas or lethal injections.

2 The first of these was the case

of Ruth Ellis, who was hanged for shooting her lover in what was generally regarded as a crime of passion. The second was the posthumous pardon of Timothy Evans, hanged for murders which, it was later proved, had been committed by someone else.

3 The pro-hanging lobby uses four main arguments to support its call for the reintroduction of capital punishment. First there is the deterrence theory, which argues that potential murderers would think twice before committing the act if they knew that they might die if they were caught. The armed bank robber might, likewise, go back to being unarmed.

4 The other two arguments are more suspect. The idea of retribution demands that criminals should get what they deserve: if a murderer intentionally sets out to commit a crime, he should accept the

consequences. Retribution, which is just another word for revenge, is supported by the religious doctrine of an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.

5 The arguments against the death penalty are largely humanitarian. But there are also statistical reasons for opposing it: the deterrence figures do not add up. In Britain, 1903 was the record year for executions and yet in 1904 the number of homicides actually rose. There was a similar occurrence in 1946 and 1947. If the deterrence theory were correct, the rate should have fallen.

6 The other reasons to oppose the death penalty are largely a matter of individual conscience and belief. One is that murder is murder and that the state has no more right to take a life than the individual. The other is that Christianity preaches forgiveness, not revenge.

A By contrast, in Britain, public opinion started to turn against the use of capital punishment after the Second World War. A number of well-publicised cases in the fifties, two in particular, helped to bring about this swing.

B The next argument in favour of bringing back capital punishment concerns public security. If the death penalty were reinstated, it would mean that a convicted murderer could not be set free after serving 20 years or less of a life sentence and be able to go on to murder again. Consequently, the general public would be safer.

C As a consequence, juries were unwilling to convict. This brought about a gradual reduction in the use of the death penalty until finally it was decided that it should only be available for murder and serious violent crimes.

D Nowadays not only are the methods different but more importantly not everyone agrees that capital punishment

should be used. People are divided into two distinct groups; those for and those against. This is because this issue is black and white; there is no grey area.

E The fourth and last main pro-hanging argument is the most cold-blooded. It is that it makes economic sense to hang convicted murderers rather than keep them in prison wasting taxpayers' money.

F However, despite this change of opinion, the death penalty was not actually abolished in Britain until 1965. And even now there are many people both inside and outside Parliament who would like it to be reintroduced. There have been 14 attempts to bring back hanging since its abolition.

G The second main argument against reintroducing capital punishment is that innocent people are sometimes wrongly convicted, and while people can be released from prison, they cannot be brought back from the dead if they have been hanged.