

## U 56 - IDIOMS TO DO WITH CRIME

### 1. Match the idioms on the left with the correct definition on the right

1. An inside job	o. a crime committed by someone connected with the place or organisation where the crime took place
2. Get off scot-free	f. avoid being punished, although you deserve to be
3. Go joyriding	p. to steal a car and drive it (often dangerously) just for fun
4. Launder money	b. put money which has been obtained illegally into legal business and bank accounts.
5. Be light fingered	a. likely to steal something
6. Be on the fiddle	l. getting money dishonestly or illegally
7. An open-and-shut case	c. a dispute that is easily decided or solved because the facts are very clear.
8. Be up to no good	d. doing or about to do something wrong or illegal
9. Get away with murder	h. succeed in doing whatever one chooses without being punished
10. not have a leg to stand on	k. have no facts or sound reasons to support one's argument or justify one's actions
11. take the rap for something	n. be blamed or punished, especially for something that you did not do
12. crack down on something	g. become stricter in making people obey rules or laws
13. do time	e. serve time in prison
14. Fall off the back of a lorry	m. (of goods) be acquired in dubious circumstances.
15. kangaroo court	q. a self-appointed tribunal that disregards or parodies existing principles of law or human rights
16. by hook or by crook	j. by any means, legal or illegal.
17. funny business	i. something that is suspicious and probably illegal or dishonest

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.
O	F	P	B	A	L	C	D	H	K	N	G	E	M	Q	J	I

### 2. Say whether the idioms in the following sentences are used correctly (TRUE) or incorrectly (FALSE)

Sentences	TRUE	FALSE
1. £ 15 for a sandwich! That's <b>daylight robbery</b>	T	
2. The bank robbers have been finally <b>put behind bars</b>	T	
3. The thieves were <b>caught red-handed</b> as they were leaving the shop through a back window	T	F
4. <b>Blow the whistle</b> is to give money to someone in order to gain an unfair advantage		F
5. He was threatened with a knife. He was <b>ripped off</b>		
6. If you <b>do a runner</b> , you run away without paying for a good or service.	T	
7. My son is very good at maths, he is always <b>wheeling and dealing</b>		F
8. The robbery happened very quickly. The thieves <b>pulled a fast one</b>		F
9. He asked me to help him launder the money = he asked me to <b>take him to the cleaners</b>		F
10. Get <b>a slap on the wrist</b> means to be punished with the greatest severity possible		F
11. The accountant was arrested for <b>cooking the books</b>	T	

- daylight robbery = it cost far more than it should, it's a rip-off
- be put behind bars = be sent to prison
- caught red-handed = they were caught in the act of stealing
- Blow the whistle = publicly reveal something illegal or dishonest
- be ripped off = to be cheated, to be charged too much money for something
- do a runner = leave in a hurry, especially to avoid paying for something
- wheeling and dealing = making clever, often dishonest or illegal business deals
- pull a fast one = deceive someone
- take someone to the cleaners = defraud, get a lot of money from someone, usually by cheating them
- a slap on the wrist = a mild reprimand or punishment.
- cook the books = change numbers dishonestly in the accounts/financial records