Medieval Period
1250-1500

Petty Crimes
- Theft less than 12d.
- Debt
- Limited damage to a person.

Felonies
- Burglary
- Murder
- Rape
- Theft of more then 12d.
- Treason

New crimes, 1350-1400
1) **Vagrancy** – Black death caused many to die (3.5 million) so wages rose. This made many leave their Lord land in search of better wages. 1348.
2) **Scolding** – Women arguing or shouting. Used as a crime to supress women and preserve patriarchy.

13th Century Crimes
1) **Outlaws gangs** – groups of criminals living in the forests. They were feared by many and so went unchallenged.
2) **Treason** – Treason became officially defined as a crime in 1351. It is to plot to kill someone above you in society.
3) **Bad Behaviour** – The Church believed that people were acting immorally and wanted to remove the 'sinful' behaviour. E.g. gambling, shaving your beard on a Sunday.

Hue and Cry
- The **Hue and Cry** continues throughout the medieval period to be the main form of law enforcement. There is **no police force** so local people police themselves.

Cheating death
1) Run away to be an outlaw.
2) Seek sanctuary in a church.
3) Have powerful friends.
4) Refuse to plead guilty or not guilty.
5) Hope for a friendly jury.
6) Buy a pardon from the king.
7) Join the king's army.
8) Be pregnant.
9) Claim the benefit of the clergy.
10) Become a kings approver.

High homicide rate of 18.2%
1) **Anger** – strip farming caused close working and regular arguments.
2) **Hunger** – Thefts and arguments were at their worst during times of famine or high pressure.
3) **Suicide** – Christians believed that only God could take a life, so if you killed yourself it was classed as murder by yourself.
4) **Lack of medical care** – Meant that many injuries became infected and turned deadly.

Changes to law enforcement
- **Watchmen** were **introduced** for towns in **1285**.
- **JPs introduced in 1361** to assist the sheriffs.
- **JPs begin to run** quarterly court sessions.
- **Royal courts** are replaced by the **County Assizes in 1293**.
- Church courts increase in status as they challenge more '**bad behaviour**'.

4 forms of medieval punishment
1) **Fines** – most common form of punishment generated income for the King, Lord or Church.
2) **Public humiliation** – form of humiliation to embarrass the person such as cucking stool, stocks or pillory.
3) **Imprisonment** – Used for debtors or people awaiting trail.
4) **Death** – Hanging was most common method. Executions for noble people. Hanging, drawing and quartering for treason. Different places used different death penalties e.g. thrown of the cliffs in Dover.

Early Modern Period
1500-1750

Nature of EMP crime
- Crimes of ordinary people continued to be the same.
- Most **serious crimes** were against **property**.
- The most common crime continued to be **petty theft**.
- Rise in crime as the population doubled 1550-1650 → **2.4 million to 4.2 million**.

New EMP crimes
1) **Vagrancy** – hugely increased due to rising population and bread prices. Printing press showed vagrants to be dangerous thugs.
2) **Moral crimes** – New puritan influences wanted to use their position of power to crack down on sinful behaviour to create a godly community.
3) **Organised crime: Smuggling** import duties charged by the government over high value item's such as brandy and tabacco. Smuggling avoided paying these duties. At hotspot was Whitbey.
4) **Organised crime: Highway Robbery** – Around London wealthy people were targeted in stage coaches. It increases as roads are built more and there are no banks so the wealthy have to carry their valuables when they travel.

Changes to punishment
- **Bridwell's** introduced from 1550 to punish vagrants. 1609 every county had to have a Bridewell.
- **Bloody Code** was slowly **introduced 1688-1820** which gave the death penalty for crimes against **property** to scare people into following the law!
- **Vagrants** punished by being branded – through the ear after **1572**.
- **Scolds Bridle** used against scolds as a punishment. First used in **1600s**.

Continuities in punishment
- **Prisons** still used as **holding** places for **debtors** and **those awaiting trial**.
- **Public humiliation** such as the **stocks**, **pillory** and **cucking stool** continued to be used.
- **Fines** continued to be the **most common form** on punishment as it makes money for the church, lord or King!

Changes to law enforcement
- **Church courts** and manor decline after 1660 as petty sessions take more cases.
- **Role of the sheriff** decreases and more powers given to JPs. **Elizabeth I** gives power to mend roads and **licence beer**.
- Number of **Watchmen increases** as towns begin to grow due to **huge population increases**.

Continuities to law enforcement
- **Hue and Cry** continues to be the main form of law enforcement as there is no police force still.
- **County Assizes continue** to try the most serious crimes going round England on a circuit.
- **Quarter sessions continue** to be used 4 times a year by JPs but due to increasing number of cases the petty sessions are introduced.

Puritan Influence on church courts!
- They became **more popular** in the early 1600s. After 1660 the Puritans influence declines, and so the power of the **church courts declines** after this date too.

Industrial Period
1750-1900

Nature of Industrial Crime
- **Petty theft continued to be the most common crime** as people were stealing for survival. Up to **80%** of crime was petty theft.
- **Violent crime** continued to be **rare**. Only **10%** of crime was violent and the murder rate was low.
- Some '**organised**' criminals emerged, but most were opportunistic (unplanned). Criminals stealing from markets, stalls or shops.
- **Crime rate rapidly increases after 1815** due to soldiers returning from Napoleonic Wars without a job.
- **3/4 of offenders were male**, usually in their teens or 20s. **Women** were mainly involved in **prostitution**.

19th Century views and attitudes

Radical thinkers
- Made a connection between poverty and crime.
- Argued that the poor environment that working-class children grew up in was the main cause of crime.

Middle classes
- Felt that poverty and crime were closely related and that people chose to be criminals.
- A growing number joined the Temperance Movement believing that alcohol was the main reason for the increase in crime.

Medical scientists
- Claimed criminals could be identified by their physical features.

Penny Dreadfuls
- Cheap newspapers popular with working classes.
- They reported on the most gruesome crimes with lots of images.

Transportation
- **Convicts** sent to **Australia** as an alternative to the death penalties.
- 1770s-1868 over **160,000** transported.
- **Humanitarians** argued that transportation was wrong and inhumane for 3 reasons:
  1. Ships were unclean.
  2. Taxpayers did not want to pay for a 'new life' in Australia.
  3. People in Australia were unhappy at the 'dumping' of criminals.
- Transportation declines from the 1840s onwards and totally ended in 1868.
- Reasons for decline:
  1. Seen as a soft option as it gave prisoners a chance to start a new life in Australia.
  2. Authorities in Australia objected to the dumping of convicts in their country.

Prisons in 1750
- In 1750, prisons were **dirty** and **dark** places e.g. **gaol fever**. This was exactly as they had been since the medieval period.
- After **1770**, prisons began to be reformed for the better, following **humanitarian values**.

Bow Street Runners
- **Part time law enforcement** patrolling the area of Bow Street in London.
- In **1750s** set up by **John Fielding**.
- Very important for the future!

Metropolitan Police Act, 1829
- **Robert Peel** introduced the first full time paid police in London.
- This ended the **700 years** of the **Hue and Cry**.

Municipal Corporations Act, 1835
- **Towns** could set up their own police force but it was **optional**.
- It was **optional** so all did due to cost.

Rural Constabulary Act, 1839
- **Rural areas** could now set up a police force.
- It was **optional** so not all did due to cost.

The County and Borough Police Act, 1856.
- Government wanted to create a **national system of policing**.
- **Inspectors** made sure local forces met national standards.
- In 1876 government provided ½ funding for forces.

Changing role of police after 1850
- **Detectives** introduced in 1842.
- **Criminal investigation department** opened in 1878.
- **1867** the **telegraph** is first used.
- **Fingerprinting** used from 1897.

Changes to courts
- No court changes.
- Trials become longer and more formal.
- Lawyers become involved in trials.

Opposition to a police force
1. **Too expensive**
2. **Government** could use them like an **army**. This made people **nervous**.
3. People had always policed themselves. Why should the Government do it?

Changes to punishment
- **New drop** introduced in the **late 1700s** to speed up hanging. (Trap door)
- **Long drop** invented in **1872** which brought **instant death** with no strangling. (Calculation of rope needed to break neck instantly)
- Humanitarian beliefs meant that by 1837, the **Bloody Code had been reduced** to the death penalty for only murder and attempted murder.
- **Transportation** introduced from **1770s** to send criminals to Australia.
- Prison began to be used for incarceration of prisoners as a punishment. No longer used for **debtors** or those **awaiting trial**.

Millbank
- New prison built by the government in 1811. It was a complete failure as it was poorly built, massively over budget and had riots.
- This led the government to halt building new prisons and reform existing ones, hence the passing of the 1823 Gaols Act.

1823 Gaols Act
- **JPs** had to report on **conditions**.
- Each category of prisoner should have their own area.
- **Women prisoners** should be **supervised** by female wardens.
- Each prisoner should have a **separate sleeping cell**.

Prison reformers

John Howard
- Shocked by prison he visited in 1773. He was the Sheriff of Bedfordshire.
- He proposed to have cells cleaned regularly and to abolish the discharge fees in prison.
- **His ideas were not enacted in his lifetime but he was very influential after his death**.

Elizabeth Fry
- Worked at Newgate Women's Prison from 1813. She was shocked at the condition.
- 1816 she established a school in the prison at Newgate.
- Had the prison divided up into zones based on crimes/age.
- Women were encouraged to read the Bible and drinking alcohol was forbidden.
- **Her ideas had a far reaching effect on many British prisons**.

20th Century
1900+

Nature of 20th century crime
- From **1900-1985** crime continued much as it had done before.
- There was a temporary spike in WW2 and particularly during the Blitz when criminals would loot bombsites.
- After **1955**, new crimes such as illegal drugs became major issues.
- After **1955** violent crime increased, despite death rate dropping. This was because of better medical knowledge to deal with stabbings etc.

Development in the police force

Specialisation
- Police have become **experts** in new threats such as **terrorism**, **fraud** and **forensics** due to development of technology.

Recruitment, training and pay
- In 1900, training was minimal and most police were white males from the working class. Today, there is a **National Police College** and police are from a wide range of backgrounds to **reflect modern Britain**.

Technology
- Improvements in science such as the discovery of **DNA** in **1984** allows for better **forensic investigation**.
- Computers allow for greater storage of data and far better communication across the country.
- **CCTV** also allows surveillance in all aspects of our lives.

People felt distanced from the police
- **Police cars** - Lack of face to face contact.
- **Traffic Officers** - Law abiding citizens resent being caught by speed cameras.
- **Crowd Control** - There have been instances of police brutality.
- **Corruption** - Big corruption in 1980s in West Midlands. Covering up the Hillsborough disaster.

Changes to courts in the 20th century

End of the County Assizes
- Ended after over 700 years and replaced by Magistrates and Crown Court in 1971. Much more efficient.

Women's Roles
- From 1919, women could serve as judges, be on juries and be magistrates. Today, there are more female than male magistrates.

Juvenile Courts
- Introduced in 1908 to help care and educate for young people breaking the law.

Juries
- Since 1974, there has been no restriction on who can sit on a jury to ensure that the juries reflect modern day Britain.

New crime after 1955

1. **Car Crime**
   - 1967 - Drink drive limit introduced.
   - 1991 - Compulsory for all passengers to wear seatbelts.
   - 1992 - Fixed roadside cameras caught cars exceeding the speed limit.
   - New laws added for safety on the roads as newer cars can travel faster.

2. **Football Hooliganism**
   - Peak in 1970s/1980s e.g. Hillsborough Disaster.
   - Violence has decreased in recent years as tickets have become more expensive and it has become more 'middle class'.
   - Since late 1980s police have used closed-circuit TV to identify dangerous fans.
   - Greater police presence at sports matches today.

3. **Race, Religion and Hate crimes**
   - Huge migration to Britain after WW2. 1947 Commonwealth Migration Act.
   - Racial hate crimes towards migrants by white British people.
   - Race Relation Act in 1965, 1968 and 1976 made racial prejudice illegal.
   - Hate crime examples are Altab Ali (1978) and Stephen Lawrence (1992)
   - 1998 + 2003 Parliament created a new category of offences known as 'hate crimes'.

4. **Cyber Crimes**
   - Committing crimes online such as fraud and illegal downloads.
   - Theft committed at home.
   - Everyone is connected through laptops and smartphones.

5. **Illegal drugs**
   - Remained legal to until 1920, when opium and cocaine became controlled substances.
   - Britain's serious drug problems started in the 1960s.
   - In 1971 Parliament imposed a sweeping ban and listed illegal drugs in categories.

Prisons - Young offenders
- From **1902**, young offenders were sent to '**young offenders**' prisons.
- From **1908**, the age of criminal responsibility was set at **7**.

Alternatives to Prisons
- **Community service** orders introduced in **1972**.
- **Electronic tags** introduced in the **1990s**.
- **Parole system** introduced in **1967**.

Support for victims of crime - Victims Charter
- In **1990**, the Victim Charter was introduced. This makes the rights of 'victims' clear.
- The Victim Charter allows victims to make a **Victim Personal Statement (VPS)** to explain how the crime had affected them.

New prison systems

Separate System
- **Prisoners were in their cells at all times** to pray and **reflect on their crimes**.
- They would only leave their cell for short periods of time.
- It drove many to suicide and desperation.
- An example was Pentonville Prison.
- It was decided that the **separate system did not work in the 1850s**.

Silent System
- Introduced in the 1850s when the 'separate system' was not reforming prisoners.
- People were also concerned about the cost of the 'separate system' so preferred the 'silent system'.
- Prisoners would **work in silence** doing pointless hard labour such as 'the crank' and '**the treadmill**'.
- This concept of silent hard work was the way prisoners worked for the remainder of the 1800s. This was known as "Hard labour, hard fare"

Prison Reforms
- First prison for mentally ill patients set up in 1896 called Broadmoor.
- Meaningless pointless labour such as 'the treadmill' and 'the crank' was abolished in 1902.
- **Sir Alexander Paterson** led the reform to the prisons from **1922**.
  - Heads no longer shaved.
  - Education increased.
  - Prisoners were paid for the work they did, such as, making fishing nets or mail bags.
  - Rule of silence was relaxed.
- Sir Alexander's biggest contribution was in 1948 with the **Criminal Justice Act**. This meant that **dangerous prisoners could not be released into society**.

20th Century Punishment Overview
- 1855-1900 the attitude was based on hard labour and punishment.
- From 1900-1970 a big shift towards a more liberal (soft) approach.
- Since 1970 the approach has been mixed.

Corporal Punishment
- **Ended corporal punishment** for **young offenders** in **1933**.
- **Ended corporal punishment** as a punishment in **1948**.
- **Ended corporal punishment** for **misbehaving prisoners** in **1962**.

Capital Punishment
- 1908 - Nobody under 16 could be hung.
- 1947 - House of Commons votes to abolish the death penalty but House of Lords refuses. This happens again in 1956.
- 1965 - Death penalty abolished for 5 years to test its effects.
- **1969 - Permanently abolished the death penalty.**

Structure and timings

The Crime and Punishment is on the same paper as The Elizabethans. You will have 50 minutes for each half of the paper.

50 minutes

1a/1b/1c) – Single markers, answering in a couple of words. (3 marks)
3 minutes

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2) 'Clear and organised summary' - 2xPDA paragraphs (9 marks)
10 minutes

Point – Make a clear point
One…

Develop – 2/3 pieces of specific information
For example…

Analysis – Use a historical skill in your answer. Such as significance/change/continuity/diversity
This was significant as…
This changed as…
This continued as…
This was different as…

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3) 'Explain' question – 2xPDL paragraphs (10 marks)
12 minutes

Point – Make a clear point
One…
Develop – 2/3 pieces of specific information
For example…
Analysis – Link back to the question and fully explain what the question is asking.
This meant that…

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4 **OR** 5) 'How far do you agree' question – 4xPDL paragraphs + conclusion (18 marks)
25 minutes

Point – Make a clear point
One…
Develop – 2/3 pieces of specific information
For example…
Analysis – Link back to the question and fully explain what the question is asking.
This meant that…

Timelines

Medieval Period
1250-1500

1285 – Statue of Winchester introduced watchmen in towns and county assizes.

1348 – Black Death increases vagrancy hugely.

1350 – Scolding first appeared in local courts.

1351 – Crime of Treason clearly defined. Made sure everyone knew there place.

1361 – JPs introduced to help Sheriffs.

1388 – Quarter Sessions introduced 4 times a year.

Early Modern Period
1500-1750

1550-1650 – Population doubled from 2.4 million → 4.2 million

1531 – The Goal Act forced JPs to build a prison where one was needed.

1572 – Vagrants now punished by branding through the ear.

1609 – Bridewell has to be built in every county.

1660 – Church and Manor courts declined and Petty Session take more cases.

1688- New legal system called the Bloody Code was introduced. 1688 – 50 crimes punishable by death → 1820 – 200 crimes.

1723 – The Black Act makes poaching deer and fish a capital offence.

1750 – Population at 6 million.

Industrial Period
1750-1900

1750s – Bow Street Runners set up.

1774 – Reformer John Howard supported 2 new laws:
- The Discharged Prisoners Act
- The Health of Prisoners Act

1776 – Transportation introduced.

1770s – New drop introduced.

1780s – Criminals sent to Australia for Transportation.

1780s – Executions moved indoors over concerns with rowdy behaviour.

1815 – Soldiers returned from Napoleonic Wars and crime rate increases!

1823 – The 1823 Goals Act contained important reforms for prisons

1829 – Metropolitan Police Act introduced professional paid police in London.

1835 – Municipal Corporations Act introduced police into towns.

1839 – Rural Constabulary Act introduced police into rural areas.

1842 – Detectives introduced.

1840s – Fewer convicts transported.

1850s – Steady fall in crime.

1850s – Silent system introduced,

1856 – The County and Borough Police Act – 3 inspectors ensure local forces met national standard.

1868 – Transportation was ended completely.

1872 – Long drop invented.

1878 – Criminal Investigation Department set up.

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20th Century
1900+

1902 – Pointless labour abolished as corporal punishment.

1907 – Probation Service set up.

1908 – Juvenile courts introduced.

1922 – Sir Alexander Paterson placed in charge of prisons. Reformed prisons:
- Educational work increased
- More meaningful work
- Paid small sum for work

1947 – Commonwealth Migration Act – increase in immigration to Britain.

1948 – Corporal Punishment ended for all offenders.

1948 – Criminal Justice Act meant that if a offender was though to be a danger to society their sentence could be extended.

1955 – New crimes such as drugs become a issue.

1955 – Violent crime increased.

1960s – Start of Britain's serious drug problems.

1967 – Drink drive limit introduced.

1967 – Parole system was introduced.

1969 - Capital punishment permanently abolished for all murders.

1970s – Trust with the police eroded.

1970s/1980s – Peak in football Hooliganism.

1971 – Parliament imposed a sweeping ban and listed illegal drugs in categories.

1971 – The Courts Act introduced the Crown Courts replacing County Assizes after over 650 year.

1972 – Community Service Order introduced.

1974 – No restriction on who can sit on the Jury.

1984 – Discovery of DNA.

1990s – Emergence of the internet.

1991 – All passengers had to wear seatbelts in cars.

1992 – Fixed roadside cameras caught cars exceeding speed limits.

1998 + 2003 – Parliament created a new category of offences called 'Hate Crimes'.