

Topic vocabulary: Social issues

D Complete using the correct form of the words in the box.

bureaucracy • community • convict • corruption • deterrent • institution
legislation • prejudice • reform • state

Crime and punishment

The demand for prison (1) has steadily increased as more and more people have come to see that locking people up in (2) simply doesn't reduce crime. Not only does it fail to act as a (3), but it does very little to help (4) readjust to life back in the (5) after they have served their time. Prisons are isolated places, where prisoners learn from other criminals, and where bullying, bribery and other forms of (6) spread. Once outside prison, offenders face (7), which tends to force them back into a life of crime. Even once the (8) recognises the need for change, it is notoriously slow. It usually demands new (9) to change the system, and while the slow processes of (10) go on, more and more lives are affected.

E If the word in bold is correct, put a tick. If it is incorrect, replace it with one of the words in bold from the other sentences.

- 1 It's ridiculous to think that we should **advocate** passports and just let everyone go where they like.
- 2 What I don't understand is why the government aren't doing the work that this **heritage** is doing.
- 3 Don't you think that our library system is an important part of our national **action**?
- 4 Unions are threatening industrial **class** unless the pay offer is increased.
- 5 Do you **alleviate** capital punishment for very serious offences?
- 6 Derren came from a working **immigration** background but eventually became a lord.
- 7 Warning: We will **abolish** anyone caught shoplifting.
- 8 I suppose I was **privileged** to go to private school, but I don't think about it much.
- 9 More must be done to **prosecute** the suffering of the poorest in society.
- 10 High levels of **charity** to Australia from Europe in the nineteenth century meant there was a rapid increase in its population.

Phrasal verbs

F Match to make sentences.

- | | | |
|---|-------|---|
| 1 No matter what I said, Chris refused to back | | A in to this kind of blackmail from the workers. |
| 2 Hardly had they locked the shop | | B off with just 100 hours' community service. |
| 3 Only radical action will bring | | C in at this election because it doesn't make any difference. |
| 4 What annoys me is that the man got | | D down from her position on abortion. |
| 5 The Prime Minister hit | | E over the business and rearranged things. |
| 6 Things have certainly improved since you took | | F up when the alarm went off. |
| 7 The authorities shouldn't give | | G about the changes that we so desperately need. |
| 8 I don't care who gets | | H back at her critics and claimed she had done nothing wrong. |

Answer Key:

D

1. reform
2. institutions
3. deterrent
4. convicts
5. community
6. corruption
7. prejudice
8. state
9. legislation
10. bureaucracy

E

1. abolish
2. charity
3. heritage
4. action
5. advocate
6. class
7. prosecute
8. ✓
9. alleviate
10. immigration

F

1. D
2. F
3. G
4. B
5. H
6. E
7. A
8. C