

Topic: Police & Crime

Let's get started...

Have the police ever helped you? What did they do?

Background:

The police are an important part of the community. Police officers have many important duties, such as keeping the community peaceful, keeping the road safe, and helping people during emergencies.



In pairs for 5 minutes, ask and answer these questions:

Should you call 911 or contact the police department if...

...your house is on fire?

...you get into a car accident?

...there is a strange person walking around your house?

...your neighbors are making a lot of noise?

...you lost your dog?

...your friend stops breathing?



Share your partner's answers with the group.

Discussion Questions:

How can the police help you?

Where is the nearest police station?

What does a police officer uniform look like in America? What does a police officer uniform look like in your native country?

What kinds of weapons do police officers carry in your native country? In America?

In your native country, do people usually bribe the police?

In your native country, how do people feel about the police?

When do you usually see police officers?

In your native country, can people own guns?

Have you ever gotten a speeding ticket? What happened?

What are some examples of crimes in America? Are they crimes in your native country, too?

How should you report a crime?

Do you lock your apartment? Why or why not? Do you lock your car?

Do you walk alone at night in your native country? Do you walk alone at night in America? Why or why not?

How can you protect yourself from becoming a victim of theft? How can you protect yourself from becoming a victim of other crimes?

Is child abuse a crime in your native country?

Is drunk driving a crime in your native country?

Is there organized crime in your native country?

Is it ever okay to break the law? Why or why not?

What are the most common crimes committed in your native country?

Why do people commit crimes?

In your native country, what are punishments for committing crimes?

New words and Idioms:

Peaceful, bribe, victim, theft, child abuse, drunk driving, organized crime, punishment, "break the law," "partners in crime," "crime doesn't pay,"