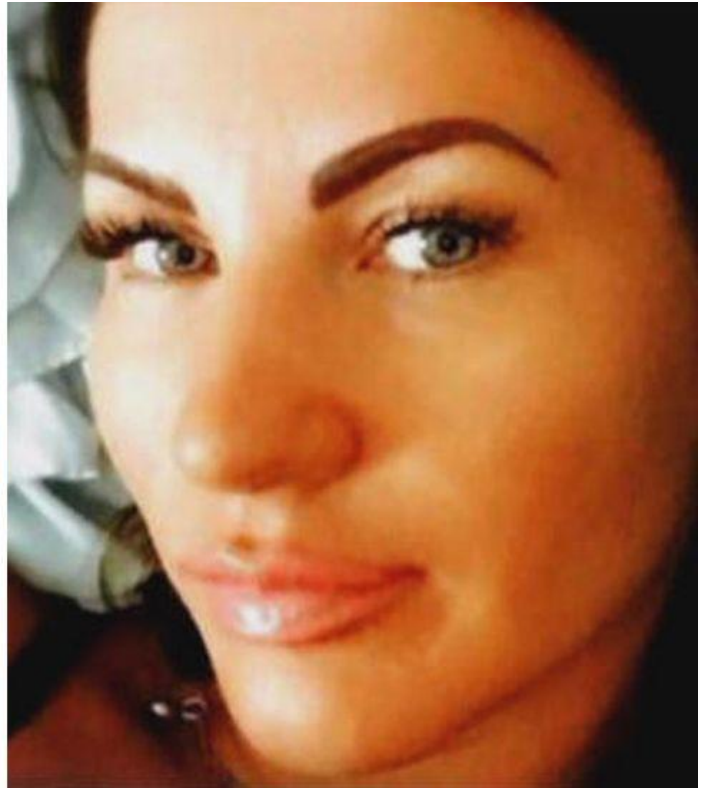


## THE CHEESECAKE KILLER



**A Russian woman living in New York city has been found guilty of attempting to murder her doppelgänger in a bizarre identity-theft plot.**

Viktoria Nasyrova tried to kill her beautician Olga Tsvyk in 2016 by giving her a piece of cheesecake poisoned with a strong sedative.

However Ms Tsvyk survived, and when she returned from hospital, found her identity documents had been stolen.

Nasyrova will be sentenced next month, and is facing up to 25 years in prison.

At the time, the pair looked quite similar, with dark hair and the same skin complexion, and they were both Russian speakers.

"The jury saw through the deception and schemes of the defendant," Melinda Katz, the Queens District Attorney said in a statement.

"Fortunately, her victim survived and the poison led right back to the culprit," Ms Katz added.

The jury heard that in August 2016, Nasyrova, now 47, went to her beautician's house in Queens with a box of cheesecake - eating two pieces herself, and offering the third, poisoned slice to Ms Tsvyk, who was 35 at the time. She started to vomit and went to lie down.

"Before passing out, the woman's last memory was of seeing the defendant walking around her room," Ms Katz's statement said.

Ms Tsvyk's friend found her unconscious the next day, her clothes changed to lacey lingerie and pills scattered around the floor as if she had tried to take her own life.

When she finally returned home, Ms Tsvyk's Ukrainian passport and US work permit were missing, as well as jewellery and about \$4,000 (£3,300) in cash, the prosecutor said during opening statements.

Phenazepam, a strong sedative, was detected in remnants of the cheesecake, and the pills scattered on the floor were also confirmed to be the same drug.

Nasyrova, who lives in Brooklyn, was convicted on Thursday of attempted murder, assault and unlawful imprisonment.

This is not the first time she has been in trouble with the law.

In 2015, Interpol issued a red notice for her arrest over the murder of a woman in Russia a year earlier. She is accused of killing her neighbour Alla Alekseenko and stealing her life savings.

Nasyrova, who US media reports is a former dominatrix, has also been accused of drugging and robbing men she met on dating websites.

Her crimes - both alleged and convicted - were the subject of a documentary by CBS's investigative programme 48 Hours in 2017.



Image source, Facebook

## Crimes and Criminals

CRIME	CRIMINAL	VERB
Abduction <i>sequestro</i>	Abductor <i>sequestratore</i>	To abduct <i>sequestrare</i>
Arson <i>incendio doloso</i>	Arsonist <i>incendario / piromane</i>	To commit arson / set fire to sth. <i>appiccare un incendio</i>
Assault <i>aggressione</i>	Assailant <i>aggressore</i>	To assault s.o. <i>aggreire q.uno</i>
Blackmail <i>ricatto</i>	Blackmailer <i>ricattatore</i>	To blackmail <i>ricattare</i>
Burglary <i>furto con scasso</i>	Burglar <i>scassinatore</i>	To burgle <i>scassinare / svaligiare</i>
Embezzlement <i>peculato / appropriazione indebita</i>	Embezzler <i>malversatore</i>	To embezzle <i>appropriarsi indebitamente</i>
Espionage <i>spionaggio</i>	Spy <i>spia</i>	To spy <i>spiare</i>
Evasion (of service of sentence) <i>latitanza</i>	Fugitive from justice <i>latitante</i>	To flee from custody / evade justice <i>latitare / essere latitante</i>
Extortion <i>estorsione</i>	Extortioner <i>estorsore</i>	To extort <i>estorcere</i>
Forgery <i>falsificazione</i> <i>contraffazione</i>	Forger Counterfeiter <i>falsario / contraffattore</i>	To forge To counterfeit <i>falsificare / contraffare</i>
Fraud <i>frode / truffa</i>	Fraudster / Swindler <i>truffatore / imbroglione</i> <i>frodatore</i>	To defraud To swindle <i>frodare / truffare</i>
Hijacking <i>dirottamento</i>	Hijacker <i>dirottatore</i>	To hijack <i>dirottare</i>
Kidnapping <i>sequestro</i>	Kidnapper <i>sequestratore</i>	To kidnap <i>sequestrare</i>
Money laundering <i>riciclaggio di denaro sporco</i>	Money launderer <i>riciclatore di denaro</i>	To launder money <i>riciclare denaro</i>
Murder / homicide = <i>omicidio / assassinio</i> Manslaughter = <i>omicidio colposo</i>	Murderer <i>omicida / assassino</i>	To murder <i>uccidere / assassinare</i>
Pickpocketing <i>borseggio</i>	Pickpocket <i>borsaiolo/a</i> <i>borseggiatore/trice</i>	To pick people's pockets <i>borseggiare</i>
Robbery <i>rapina</i>	Robber <i>rapinatore</i>	To rob <i>rapinare</i>
Shoplifting <i>taccheggio</i>	Shoplifter <i>taccheggiatore</i>	To shoplift <i>taccheggiare / rubare</i>
Smuggling <i>contrabbando</i>	Smuggler <i>contrabbandiere</i>	To smuggle <i>contrabbandare</i>
Stalking <i>stalking</i>	Stalker <i>stalker</i>	To stalk s.o. <i>fare stalking a q.uno</i> <i>stalkerare</i>
Tax evasion <i>evasione delle tasse</i>	Tax evader <i>Evasore fiscale</i>	To evade taxes <i>evadere le tasse / frodare il fisco</i>
Theft <i>furto</i>	Thief <i>ladro</i>	To steal <i>rubare</i>
Trafficking / drug trafficking / people trafficking / organ trafficking <i>traffico / di droga / di persone / di organi</i>	Trafficker <i>trafficante</i>	To traffick <i>trafficare</i>
Treason / High Treason / Treachery <i>alto tradimento</i>	Traitor <i>traditore</i>	To betray <i>tradire</i>
Vandalism / criminal damage <i>vandalismo / atti vandalici</i>	Vandal <i>vandalo</i>	To vandalize sth. <i>vandalizzare qualcosa</i> <i>commettere atti vandalici</i>

## Bungling Robbers Caught after 'Highly Distinctive Car' Blunder



**Three bungling robbers have been jailed after being caught driving to multiple crime scenes in the same "highly distinctive" car, police said.**

Friends Alex Kinsey, Terry Woroch, and Lee Birtles went on a day-long crime spree on 22 January in a dark-coloured Toyota Aygo with a bright orange roof. Nottinghamshire Police said they failed to rob a post office, stole petrol, took cigarettes in a knifepoint robbery and tried to burgle a house. The trio were jailed on Wednesday.

Police said while the vehicle may have been travelling on false plates, its highly identifiable colour "made it easy to spot on CCTV".

The crime spree began when Kinsey and Birtles attempted to force their way behind the counter of the Post Office in Scrooby Road, Bircotes - only to be chased away by a female employee. After stealing £30 of petrol from a garage in North Road, Retford, the trio then made their way to a convenience store in Owston Ferry. Police said the shopkeeper was punched repeatedly and threatened with a knife before Kinsey and Birtles made off with cigarettes, alcohol and cash. Detectives traced the men and they were later arrested.

**'Pretty Terrible Criminals'**

Kinsey, 35, pleaded guilty to two charges of robbery, attempted burglary, assault, making off without payment, and handling stolen goods. He was jailed for five years and three months at Nottingham Crown Court. Birtles, 42, pleaded guilty to both robberies, attempted burglary and possession of an offensive weapon. He was jailed for five years and six months. Woroch, aged 51, admitted robbery, making off without payment and attempted burglary. He was jailed for four years and seven months.

Det Con Holly Cotter said: "These men may have proven themselves to be pretty terrible criminals, but their calculating and violent actions will unfortunately live long in the memory of their victims."

# Indian Gang Ran Fake Police Station out of Hotel for Eight Months

*Six arrested but ringleader still at large after fraudsters in Bihar charged money to locals and paid others to work there*



An Indian gang operated a fake police station from a hotel for eight months where they dressed up as officers and are believed to have extorted money from hundreds of people, an official has said.

Incidents of fraudsters pretending to be police or soldiers are common in India, where there is widespread fear of and respect for those in uniform, but setting up a bogus police station takes the scam up to a whole new level. The gang in Bihar state set up shop barely 500 metres from the home of the actual local police chief and wore uniforms with rank badges and carried guns.

They would then charge money to local people coming into the fake station to file complaints and cases, while pocketing cash from others by promising to help them secure social housing or jobs in the police. They also paid people from the largely rural area daily wages of about 500 rupees (about £5) to pretend to be other police officers working at the station.

But the scam fell apart when a genuine police officer spotted two members of the gang carrying guns made in local workshops instead of service-issue weapons. At least six members of the gang including two women were arrested but the ringleader is still at large.

“We have heard of cases of fake cops or investigating officers but this is the first time we have heard of a fake police station,” one real officer told local media. Corruption in India is common, with genuine members of the police and armed forces demanding money to carry out their duties, so people often impersonate police officers to make money.

In June, the son of a retired policeman, P Madan Kumar, reportedly had a police jeep fitted with sirens and masqueraded as an officer to defraud unsuspecting locals of nearly two million rupees in the south Indian state of Tamil Nadu.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/video/news/video-2754357/Video-Real-cops-bust-Indian-gang-running-fake-police-station-hotel.html>

# Photocopiable worksheet 4.1

Match the crimes with the definitions.



<b>1</b> armed robbery	<b>a</b> a type of theft which does not involve burglary or robbery
<b>2</b> arson	<b>b</b> attempting to physically attack a person
<b>3</b> assault	<b>c</b> buying and selling illegal narcotics
<b>4</b> battery	<b>d</b> concealing the source of money obtained from crimes
<b>5</b> bribery	<b>e</b> creating a false document
<b>6</b> burglary	<b>f</b> deceiving somebody out of money or property
<b>7</b> domestic violence	<b>g</b> hiding evidence, threatening witnesses, etc.
<b>8</b> drug trafficking	<b>h</b> entering a building with intent to commit a crime
<b>9</b> drunk driving	<b>i</b> general term for taking another person's personal property without permission
<b>10</b> embezzlement	<b>j</b> giving money etc. to influence a public official
<b>11</b> extortion	<b>k</b> illegally trying to avoid paying taxes
<b>12</b> forgery	<b>l</b> intentional and malicious damage to or destruction of property
<b>13</b> fraud	<b>m</b> intentionally burning a building
<b>14</b> homicide	<b>n</b> killing somebody through an act or omission
<b>15</b> insider dealing	<b>o</b> obtaining money or property through indirect threats or intimidation
<b>16</b> joyriding	<b>p</b> operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol
<b>17</b> kidnapping	<b>q</b> repeatedly following and/or harassing a person with unwanted attention
<b>18</b> larceny	<b>r</b> stealing a car and driving it dangerously for fun
<b>19</b> manslaughter	<b>s</b> stealing from an employer
<b>20</b> money laundering	<b>t</b> stealing merchandise from a shop or business
<b>21</b> obstruction of justice	<b>u</b> striking a person with intent to harm
<b>22</b> rape	<b>v</b> taking a person against his/her will (or taking a child from the control of a parent or guardian)
<b>23</b> shoplifting	<b>w</b> using a weapon to take money or property by force or direct threat of violence
<b>24</b> stalking	<b>x</b> unlawful killing but without intent to kill
<b>25</b> tax evasion	<b>y</b> using confidential knowledge to give yourself an advantage when buying or selling stocks and shares
<b>26</b> theft	<b>z</b> using violence or threats to have sex without consent
<b>27</b> vandalism	<b>aa</b> violence or abuse against a member of the offender's own household (e.g. wife/husband and children)

# Photocopiable worksheet 3.1



<b>1</b> Medical negligence	<b>a</b> A businesswoman conspires with her competitors to keep their prices high.
<b>2</b> Negligent damage to private property	<b>b</b> A careless driver accidentally kills a pedestrian.
<b>3</b> Negligent misstatements causing financial loss	<b>c</b> A doctor mistakenly harms a patient by giving the wrong treatment.
<b>4</b> Assault	<b>d</b> A (drunk) driver crashes after driving above the speed limit.
<b>5</b> Battery	<b>e</b> A hooligan physically attacks and injures a victim.
<b>6</b> Trespass	<b>f</b> A hooligan throws a brick at a victim, but misses.
<b>7</b> Fraudulent misrepresentation	<b>g</b> A lawyer causes financial harm to his client by giving faulty advice.
<b>8</b> Interference in contractual relations	<b>h</b> A manufacturer makes and sells food which contains harmful ingredients.
<b>9</b> Unfair business practices	<b>i</b> A motorist drives too close to another car and scratches the side.
<b>10</b> Wrongful death	<b>j</b> A party damages another's reputation by writing or saying untrue statements.
<b>11</b> Fraud	<b>k</b> A party disrupts another party's ability to perform contractual obligations.
<b>12</b> Conversion	<b>l</b> A party threatens to harm a victim at an unspecified time in the future.
<b>13</b> Defamation	<b>m</b> A party tricks another party into signing a harmful contract.
<b>14</b> Reckless driving	<b>n</b> A party wears a disguise in order to trick a victim into believing he is someone else.
<b>15</b> Professional negligence	<b>o</b> A property owner irritates her neighbours by burning rubber tyres in the garden.
<b>16</b> Nuisance	<b>p</b> A saleswoman takes deposits from customers who want holiday homes, but the homes don't actually exist.
<b>17</b> False imprisonment	<b>q</b> A shop manager wrongly accuses a customer of theft, and locks her in his office for an hour.
<b>18</b> Intentional infliction of emotional distress	<b>r</b> A thief takes and uses another person's property as his own.
<b>19</b> Product liability	<b>s</b> A walker crosses a farmer's land and damages his crops.
<b>20</b> Deceit	<b>t</b> An estate agent mistakenly tells a client that a property is structurally sound, but hasn't actually checked.

## WORD ORDER, ADVERBS & ADVERBIALS

### 1) CLAUSE STRUCTURE: a clause may be one of seven types.

SUBJECT VERB	The murderer confessed.
SUBJECT VERB OBJECT	The police arrested the kidnappers.
SUBJECT VERB COMPLEMENT	The defendant was guilty.
SUBJECT VERB ADVERBIAL	Pickpocketing increased on public transport.
SUBJECT VERB OBJECT OBJECT	The judge gave him a life sentence.
SUBJECT VERB OBJECT COMPLEMENT	The jury found the accused not guilty.
SUBJECT VERB OBJECT ADVERBIAL	The criminals burgled his house during the night.

### 2) ADVERBS / ADVERBIALS:

Within a clause, adverbs and adverbials specify the Time / Manner / Place of the action/event/state described by the verb. E.g. 'Last night', 'yesterday', 'now', 'then'; 'quickly', 'slowly', 'badly', 'well'; 'in prison', 'in court', 'here', 'there', or intensify or qualify other adverbs, adjectives or prepositions: For example, 'too quickly', 'more famous' 'right in'.

ADVERBS are single words. ADVERBIALS are phrases which perform the same function as an adverb.

### 3) FORMATION OF ADVERBS:

ADVERB = ADJECTIVE + LY	Bad + ly = badly	Recent + ly = recently	Beautiful + ly = beautifully
Special Cases:	i) <u>Easy</u> → easily	<u>Happy</u> → happily	<u>Guilty</u> → guiltily
	ii) <u>Legible</u> → legibly	<u>Notable</u> → notably	<u>Remarkable</u> → remarkably
Exceptions:	i) <u>True</u> → truly	<u>Whole</u> → wholly	<u>Due</u> → duly
	ii) <u>Good</u> → well	<u>Fast</u> → fast	<u>Hard</u> → hard

### 4) POSITION OF ADVERBS:

English is basically an SVO language. Adverbs/adverbials can occupy Position I, Position II or Position III but should **not** be put between the Main Verb and the Object/Complement. Certain adverbs/adverbials occupy particular positions.

SUBJECT	AUXILIARY VERB 'TO BE' / Ø	MAIN VERB	OBJECT / Ø COMPLEMENT
▼ Position I		▼ Position II	▼ Position III

**Position III** may be occupied by Adverbs of Degree / Extent:

London's crime rate has increased	<i>enormously.</i> <i>very much.</i> <i>a lot.</i>	The verdict did not surprise me	<i>much.</i> <i>in the least.</i> <i>at all.</i>
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Multiple adverbs/adverbials in Position III should follow the conventional order Manner, Place, Time.

E.g.	She shoplifted <u>surreptitiously</u> <u>at the supermarket</u> .	He embezzled money <u>successfully</u> <u>for years</u> .
	You must go <u>to the police station</u> <u>this afternoon</u>	She testified <u>in court</u> <u>for half an hour</u> .

## EXERCISES

1. Form sentences by putting these phrases in the correct order.

- a) the blackmailer / his victim / relentlessly / persecuted .....
- b) copied / the forger / very well / the painting .....
- c) burglaries / investigate / the police / have to / every week .....
- d) he / at the end / got / two years off for good behaviour / of his sentence .....
- e) the judge / his instructions to the jury / explained / before they considered their verdict / carefully .....

2. Adverbs and Adverbials in Position 3. Form sentences by putting these phrases in the correct order.

- a) swindled / their victims / the fraudsters / in the City of London / during the financial crisis .....
- b) banks / robbed / for many years / the criminals / in small towns .....
- c) before they escaped / the hijackers / their hostages / released / .....
- d) increased / domestic violence / in many countries / dramatically / in 2020-2022 .....
- e) the trial / take place / in September / at the Appeals Court in London / will .....

**Position II** may be occupied by:

- i) Adverbs of Frequency (*never, hardly ever, rarely, seldom, occasionally, sometimes, often, usually, always*).
- ii) Other adverbs/adverbials, including *still, already, just, not yet, both, all, also, only, almost, nearly, mainly*.
- iii) Commenting adverbs:

I	<i>just</i>	want to check the suspect's alibi.	The victim	<i>almost</i>	died of her injuries.
	<i>simply</i>			<i>nearly</i>	
	<i>only</i>			<i>probably</i>	

We	<i>certainly</i>	need more police on the streets.
	<i>definitely</i>	
	<i>still</i>	

Adverbs/adverbials precede lexical verbs but follow 'to be' and auxiliary verbs ('to do', 'to have' + modals).

Vandalism is	<i>also</i>	called criminal damage.	The blackmailers should	<i>both</i>	go to prison.
	<i>usually</i>				
	<i>often</i>		Rapists don't	<i>always</i>	get convicted.

The thieves had *just* stolen my car.

NB. Although the adverbs *probably* and *still* occur in **Position II** in affirmative sentences, e.g. 'I can *probably* help you' / 'There is *still* time', they precede all verbs in negative sentences, e.g. 'We *still* don't know' / 'You *probably* won't agree.'

## EXERCISES

1. Adverbs and Adverbials in Position 2. Form sentences by putting these phrases in the correct order.

- a) During a trial, the prosecution / first / presents / always / its case .....
- b) vandals / go to prison / usually / for a first offence / don't .....
- c) very anxious / all / the defendants / felt / ..... were / but / they / all / found not guilty .....
- d) probably / the killer / has / murder / got away with .....
- e) probably / the prosecution / enough evidence / hasn't got / against him .....
- f) be able to / probably / will / leave the court / he / a free man .....
- g) probably / a legal precedent / will / this case / set .....
- h) already / been / has / she / to prison / twice before .....
- i) still / found / the evidence / haven't / they / they were looking for .....
- j) only / serve / ten months / he / in prison / will .....

**Position I** may be occupied by:

i) Sentence Adverbs, which should be followed by a comma.

*Frankly / To be honest,* the detective didn't believe what the witness had told him.

*Luckily,*

*Fortunately / Unfortunately,*

*Obviously,*

*Basically,*

*In fact,*

*Between you and me,* I think the defendant is guilty.

*Personally,*

*Hopefully, / With luck,* the arsonist will go to prison.

ii) Negative or Restrictive Adverbials. Negative or restrictive adverbials may be put in **Position I** for emphasis. In this case, the subject and the verb must be inverted, i.e. the question form should be used.

*No sooner* had the detective arrived *than* the criminal confessed.

*Hardly / scarcely* had the arsonist left the building *when* the fire started.

*Under no circumstances* must you leave the victim unattended.

*Never / seldom* have I seen such a bad forgery.

*Not only* was he a smuggler *but* he was a drug-dealer, too.

*On no account* must you get involved in espionage.

*Nowhere else* in the world will you find so many pickpockets.

*Only in this way* will you catch the bank robbers.

*So greedy* were the victims *that* the fraudsters tricked them easily.

*Neither* do I / *Neither* was he / *Neither* have we / *Neither* can they.

iii) Adverbial Expressions of Place Introduced by a Preposition. An adverbial expression of place introduced by a preposition may be put in **Position I** for emphasis and/or dramatic effect. This adverbial should be followed by the verb and then the subject.

*In the dock*, stood the accused.

*Next to the defence lawyer*, sat his client.

*In his pocket*, were the stolen watches.

*At the end of the trial*, came the verdict.

## EXERCISES

1. Adverbs and Adverbials in Position 1. Form sentences by putting these phrases in the correct order.

- a) arrived in court / I / as the jury / fortunately / gave their verdict .....
- b) and money-laundering is rare / in fact / tax evasion is common .....
- c) manslaughter / is / basically / unintentional homicide .....
- d) thought / to be honest / I / treason / was no longer a crime .....
- e) the contradictory evidence / notwithstanding / the jury / still / guilty / the accused / found .....

2. Negative or Restrictive Adverbials in Position 1. Now complete these sentences in a logical way.

- a) Under no circumstances .....
- b) Not only ..... but ..... also.
- c) No sooner ..... than .....
- d) So ..... that .....
- e) Only in this way .....

## 5) DISCUSSION

Think about

- (i) Stalking
- (ii) Extortion
- (iii) Vandalism
- (iv) Hijacking

Explain, (a) what does the criminal usually do

- (b) what the victim should do
- (c) what the police will probably do
- (d) what the police probably won't do

## 6) PRACTICE ACTIVITY

Now put the words and phrases in brackets in the correct place in each sentence.

- 1) He is a habitual criminal. He commits ..... (frequently / burglary).
- 2) He can ..... (also / pick people's pockets / very well).
- 3) The drug-dealers didn't ..... (have the chance / often / to launder their money).
- 4) He worked ..... (for many years / in Indonesia / as a smuggler).
- 5) The thieves parked ..... (carelessly / outside the airport / their getaway car).
- 6) The bank robbery began ..... (at the Lugano branch / unexpectedly / at 10 a.m.).
- 7) Jurors should be ..... (at eight thirty / at the main entrance / ready and waiting).
- 8) The clients ..... (rarely / for their appointments / late / were).
- 9) I have ..... (about the verdict / informed / already / the victim's family).
- 10) I shall ..... (my first case / forget / of arson / never).
- 11) She ..... (remember / always / will / the victims' names).
- 12) You ought ..... (about / told / never / to have / the police / your previous conviction).
- 13) The police officers ..... (very efficient / all / and polite / were).
- 14) My neighbours ..... (to tidy up / after the burglary / all / lent a hand).
- 15) I ..... (hate / really / reading / about violent crime / newspaper stories).
- 16) Not only ..... (the victim robbed / was / also / she was assaulted / but).
- 17) "I don't want to do jury service." "....." (I / do / neither).
- 18) No sooner ..... (than / had I entered the bank / the robbery started).
- 19) The hijackers will ..... (blow up / probably / the plane).
- 20) The police ..... (save the hostages / won't / in time / probably).