Crime and Punishment

450 BC
Twelve Tables Written.
Roman laws were called the 'Twelve Tables'. They were written around 450 BC - these were basic rights for all Roman people and decided what they should and should not do.

Roman Punishments
Punishments in Roman Britain were severe. The punishment you received depended on how much money you had. If you were a slave, you had no rights at all and the punishment would usually be death, by many different, awful means - or to be forced to become a gladiator. However, if you were a noble, you were often saved from death and were exiled instead.
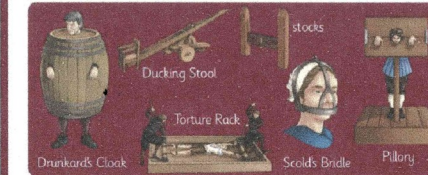
Anglo-Saxon Punishments
When a village wanted to find a criminal, they would call upon everyone else in the community to find them. This was called a hue and cry.
If an Anglo-Saxon committed a crime, they could choose oath-keepers who would swear that they were innocent. If they couldn't find enough oath-keepers, they would have to do a trial by ordeal.

Tudor Punishments
Crime - mainly stealing - was widespread in the Tudor times, as many poor people could not afford to pay for increasingly expensive food. Punishments were harsh in belief that it would stop others from committing crimes.

stocks
Ducking Stool
Torture Rack
Drunkard's Cloak
Scold's Bridle
Pillory

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400 BC — AD 43 — AD 300 — AD 400 — AD 1000 — AD 1400

Romans — **Anglo-Saxons** — **Tudors**

AD 43
The Romans Invade Britain.
People accused of committing a crime were taken to court to be judged guilty or not guilty. In Britain, the job of finding a criminal was down to the legionaries.

Roman Law
The ideas that the Romans started are still used in the British justice system today. These are the use of a court, a judge, a jury and a lawyer.

AD 410
Anglo-Saxon Period
The different villages and communities were divided into ten men called tithings. They were all responsible for each other's behaviour. If a man in that tithing comitted a crime, it was up to the other men in that tithing to bring him into court, and if they did not, they would face punishment themselves.

Wergild
Wergild was a payment system used in Anglo-Saxon times to settle disputes between the criminal and victim or victim's family.

Police Force
The police force was first introduced in London in 1829. Sir Robert Peel introduced them as part of a campaign to improve public law. These policemen were called 'Bobbies' or 'Peelers'. They wore long, blue coats and tall hats and their only weapon was a truncheon.

AD 1066 - 1603
Norman Period
December 1066: William of Normandy was crowned king after the Battle of Hastings.
Plantagenet Period
December 1154: Henry II, the first 'Plantagenet' King takes the crown.
Tudor Period
August 1485: Richard III is defeated by Henry Tudor in the Battle of Bosworth.
Stuarts Period
The end of the Tudors and the beginning of the Stuarts.
Georgian Period
August 1714: George I becomes King.

AD 1840 — AD 1800 — AD 1700

Modern — **Victorians** — **Georgians**

Modern Crime
DNA testing, CCTV cameras, use of fingerprints, improved street lighting and car/house alarms have helped to prevent and detect crime in modern Britain.

AD 1837
Victorian Period
Victoria I is crowned Queen of England.

Highwaymen
Georgian Highwaymen
Highwaymen became a greater threat to people in the Georgian period because trade was increasing and there were more wealthy people who were travelling on the roads. There were also many areas of forest and countryside where highwaymen could lie in wait. The pistol had been invented in the 17th century which made it easier for highwaymen to threaten travellers.
Dick Turpin
The most famous highwayman was called Dick Turpin. He was born in 1705 in Essex. He was captured and hanged in 1739.

Prison
During the Victorian period, prison became the main form of punishment for lots of different crimes. Between 1842 and 1877, 90 prisons were built or added to. It was a huge building programme which costs millions of pounds.

Prison Punishment
Treadwheel
Picking Oakum
The Crank
Shot Drill