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Level 3

Three-quarters of British people commit micro crimes

26th October, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime.html>

A new report from a British market research company says there is a "wave of micro crime" in the country. Researchers from the organisation YouGov said they were shocked by their findings. Matthew Smith, a data analyst at YouGov, said: "Looking around you, you probably wouldn't expect that three in every four people you see are [hiding] a criminal past. Yet that's exactly what is happening as new research...[shows] that as many as 74 per cent of British people are 'micro-criminals' – having [done] at least one very minor or 'micro' crime." The most common crime confessed to by the British public is paying someone cash for services, knowing that the person will not pay tax on it.

YouGov says that men and middle-class people were the most likely to commit these micro crimes. Researchers say 77 per cent of men and 71 per cent of women committed micro crimes. About 80 per cent of middle-class people admitted to committing micro crimes while the figure was closer to 70 per cent for working-class people. The second-most commonly committed crime was illegally downloading or streaming TV shows, movies or music. Slightly fewer than 30 per cent of people said they had done this. Other micro crimes included not paying for plastic bags in supermarkets, lying about your age to get a better deal, and eating things in a supermarket without paying.

Sources: <http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/three-four-brits-admit-committing-petty-crimes-claim-pollsters-1587803>
<http://news.sky.com/story/three-out-of-four-britons-are-micro-criminals-poll-10629227>
<http://www.examiner.co.uk/news/west-yorkshire-news/you-micro-criminal-see-how-12071441>

WARM-UPS

1. CRIME: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about crime. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

report / market / research / shocked / probably / hiding / criminal / micro / tax / middle class / working class / figure / illegally / movies / music / plastic bags / age

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. CRIMINALS: Students A **strongly** believe we are all criminals; Students B **strongly** believe we aren't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. MICRO CRIME: How bad are these micro crimes and why? What should the punishment for them be? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How bad?	Why?	Punishment
Illegal downloading			
Not paying a train fare			
Lying about your age			
Refilling a drink without paying			
Eating fruit in a store without paying			
Speeding			

5. MICRO: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "micro". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. CRIMES: Rank these with your partner. Put the worst crime at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- corruption
- slander
- car theft
- house burglary
- bank robbery
- blackmail
- cyber-bullying
- drugs possession

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. A report says there is a wave of micro crime in Britain. **T / F**
- b. Researchers were not surprised by their findings. **T / F**
- c. The report says three in four British people are hiding a criminal past. **T / F**
- d. The most common micro crime in Britain is related to tax. **T / F**
- e. The middle class commits more micro crimes than the working class. **T / F**
- f. Women commit more micro crimes than men. **T / F**
- g. The second most common micro crime was not paying for shopping bags. **T / F**
- h. Lying about your age to get a better deal is not a micro crime. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| 1. wave | a. owned up to |
| 2. findings | b. unimportant |
| 3. expect | c. a little |
| 4. minor | d. think |
| 5. likely | e. do |
| 6. commit | f. flood |
| 7. admitted | g. bargain |
| 8. figure | h. probable |
| 9. slightly | i. number |
| 10. deal | j. discovery |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1. they were shocked by | a. these micro crimes |
| 2. three in every four people you see are | b. to by the British public |
| 3. having done at least | c. without paying |
| 4. The most common crime confessed | d. or streaming TV shows |
| 5. knowing that the person will not | e. one |
| 6. the most likely to commit | f. to get a better deal |
| 7. the figure | g. their findings |
| 8. illegally downloading | h. pay tax on it |
| 9. lying about your age | i. was closer to 70 per cent |
| 10. eating things in a supermarket | j. hiding a criminal past |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime.html>

A new report from a British market (1) _____ company says there is a "(2) _____ of micro crime" in the country. Researchers from the organisation YouGov said they were (3) _____ by their findings. Matthew Smith, a data analyst at YouGov, said: "Looking around you, you probably wouldn't (4) _____ that three in every four people you see are [hiding] a criminal (5) _____. Yet that's exactly what is happening as new research...[shows] that as many as 74 per cent of British people are 'micro-criminals' – having [done] at (6) _____ one very minor or 'micro' crime." The most common crime (7) _____ to by the British public is paying someone cash for services, knowing that the person will not pay (8) _____ on it.

expect
research
tax
least
wave
confessed
shocked
past

YouGov says that men and middle-class people were the most (9) _____ to commit these micro crimes. Researchers say 77 per cent of men and 71 per cent of women (10) _____ micro crimes. About 80 per cent of middle-class people (11) _____ to committing micro crimes while the (12) _____ was closer to 70 per cent for working-class people. The second-most (13) _____ committed crime was illegally downloading or streaming TV shows, movies or music. Slightly (14) _____ than 30 per cent of people said they had done this. Other micro crimes (15) _____ not paying for plastic bags in supermarkets, lying about your age to get a better (16) _____, and eating things in a supermarket without paying.

admitted
likely
commonly
deal
figure
included
committed
fewer

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime.html>

- 1) a British market research company says there is a " _____ crime"
 - a. weave of micro
 - b. waiver of micro
 - c. wave of micro
 - d. waft of micro
- 2) Researchers from the organisation YouGov said they were shocked _____
 - a. by them findings
 - b. by their finding
 - c. buy their findings
 - d. by their findings
- 3) a data analyst at YouGov, said: "Looking around you, you probably wouldn't _____."
 - a. expect that
 - b. except that
 - c. excerpt that
 - d. expert that
- 4) people are 'micro-criminals' – having [done] at least one very _____ crime
 - a. minor or 'micro'
 - b. miner or 'micro'
 - c. manor or 'micro'
 - d. mine are or 'micro'
- 5) paying someone cash for services, knowing that the person will _____ it
 - a. not pays tax on
 - b. not pay tax on
 - c. not paid tax on
 - d. not payee tax on
- 6) YouGov says that men and middle-class people were the most _____ these
 - a. likely to commits
 - b. likely to commit
 - c. likely to committed
 - d. likely to committee
- 7) while the figure was closer to 70 per cent for _____ people
 - a. working-class
 - b. walking-class
 - c. weakling-class
 - d. walk-in-class
- 8) The second-most commonly committed crime was illegally downloading _____ shows
 - a. or steaming TV
 - b. or stream in TV
 - c. or storming TV
 - d. or stealing TV
- 9) Slightly fewer than 30 per cent of people said they _____
 - a. had doing this
 - b. had done these
 - c. had done this
 - d. have done this
- 10) lying about your age to get _____
 - a. a better deal
 - b. a better steal
 - c. a better teal
 - d. a better doll

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime.html>

A new report from a British market (1) _____ says there is a "wave of micro crime" in the country. Researchers from the organisation YouGov said they were (2) _____ findings. Matthew Smith, a data analyst at YouGov, said: "Looking around you, you probably wouldn't (3) _____ in every four people you see are [hiding] a criminal past. Yet that's exactly what (4) _____ new research...[shows] that as many as 74 per cent of British people are 'micro-criminals' – having [done] (5) _____ very minor or 'micro' crime." The most common crime confessed to by the British public is paying someone cash for services, knowing that the person (6) _____ on it.

YouGov says that men and (7) _____ were the most likely to commit these micro crimes. Researchers say 77 per cent of men and 71 per cent of (8) _____ micro crimes. About 80 per cent of middle-class people admitted to committing micro crimes while the (9) _____ to 70 per cent for working-class people. The second-most commonly committed crime was (10) _____ or streaming TV shows, movies or music. Slightly fewer than 30 per cent of people (11) _____ done this. Other micro crimes included not paying for plastic bags in supermarkets, lying (12) _____ to get a better deal, and eating things in a supermarket without paying.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime.html>

1. What kind of company made the report?
2. How did the researchers feel about their findings?
3. What did the researchers say three in four British people were hiding?
4. How many micro crimes have 74% of British people done?
5. What will some people not pay when they get cash?
6. Which class of people were most likely to commit micro crimes?
7. What percentage of women committed micro crimes?
8. What is the second most common micro crime?
9. What percentage of people had illegally downloaded things?
10. What did people lie about to get a better deal?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime.html>

- 1) What kind of company made the report?
 - a) a criminal company
 - b) a countryside company
 - c) a microwave company
 - d) a market research company
- 2) How did the researchers feel about their findings?
 - a) surprised
 - b) shocked
 - c) stunned
 - d) sad
- 3) What did the researchers say three in four British people were hiding?
 - a) people
 - b) money
 - c) stolen goods
 - d) a criminal past
- 4) How many micro crimes have 74% of British people done?
 - a) thousands
 - b) 77
 - c) at least one
 - d) countless crimes
- 5) What will some people not pay when they get cash?
 - a) the price
 - b) bills
 - c) attention
 - d) tax
- 6) Which class of people were most likely to commit micro crimes?
 - a) the working class
 - b) the upper class
 - c) the middle class
 - d) ex-prisoners
- 7) What percentage of women committed micro crimes?
 - a) 71%
 - b) 70%
 - c) 77%
 - d) 74%
- 8) What is the second most common micro crime?
 - a) stealing plastic bags
 - b) lying
 - c) illegally downloading stuff
 - d) speeding
- 9) What percentage of people had illegally downloaded things?
 - a) exactly 30%
 - b) fewer than 30%
 - c) greater than 30%
 - d) about 30%
- 10) What did people lie about to get a better deal?
 - a) their age
 - b) money
 - c) everything
 - d) their job

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime.html>

Role A – Corruption

You think corruption is the worst crime. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their crimes aren't as bad. Also, tell the others what the punishments for these should be and why: slander, house burglary or drugs possession.

Role B – Slander

You think slander is the worst crime. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their crimes aren't as bad. Also, tell the others what the punishments for these should be and why: corruption, house burglary or drugs possession.

Role C – House Burglary

You think house burglary is the worst crime. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their crimes aren't as bad. Also, tell the others what the punishments for these should be and why: slander, corruption or drugs possession.

Role D – Drugs Possession

You think drugs possession is the worst crime. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their crimes aren't as bad. Also, tell the others what the punishments for these should be and why: slander, house burglary or corruption.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'micro' and 'crime'.

micro	crime
--------------	--------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• new• shocked• four• 74• least• pay	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 77• 80• 70• second• 30• age
---	--

CRIME SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime.html>

Write five GOOD questions about crime in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.
When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

CRIME DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What springs to mind when you hear the word 'crime'?
3. What do you think about what you read?
4. What do you think of micro crime?
5. Is micro crime different from crime?
6. How often do people around you commit micro crimes?
7. What kind of micro crimes do people commit in your country?
8. Is speeding a micro crime?
9. Are you a criminal if you illegally download a song?
10. How easy is it to follow the law and not commit crimes?

Three-quarters of British people commit micro crimes – 26th October, 2016
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CRIME DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. Why do men commit more micro crimes than women?
13. Why do the middle class commit more crimes than the working class?
14. Who commits the most crimes in your country?
15. What crimes do you worry about in your country?
16. Have you ever committed a crime?
17. Is lying a crime?
18. What should the punishment be for micro crimes?
19. What things would you like to become a crime?
20. What questions would you like to ask a micro criminal?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime.html>

A new report from a British market research company says there is a "(1) ____ of micro crime" in the country. Researchers from the organisation YouGov said they were shocked (2) ____ their findings. Matthew Smith, a data analyst at YouGov, said: "Looking around you, you probably wouldn't (3) ____ that three in every four people you see are [hiding] a criminal (4) _____. Yet that's (5) ____ what is happening as new research...[shows] that as many as 74 per cent of British people are 'micro-criminals' – having [done] at least one very minor or 'micro' crime." The most common crime confessed to by the British public is paying someone cash for services, knowing that the person will not (6) ____ tax on it.

YouGov says that men and middle-class people were the most (7) ____ to commit these micro crimes. Researchers say 77 per cent of men and 71 per cent of women committed micro crimes. About 80 per cent of middle-class people admitted (8) ____ committing micro crimes while the figure was closer to 70 per cent for working-class people. The second-most commonly (9) ____ crime was illegally downloading or streaming TV shows, movies or music. (10) ____ fewer than 30 per cent of people said they had done this. Other micro crimes included (11) ____ paying for plastic bags in supermarkets, lying about your age to get a better (12) _____, and eating things in a supermarket without paying.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) waif | (b) weave | (c) wave | (d) waft |
| 2. | (a) of | (b) by | (c) at | (d) as |
| 3. | (a) expect | (b) except | (c) expert | (d) excerpt |
| 4. | (a) past | (b) passed | (c) psst | (d) parsed |
| 5. | (a) exact | (b) exactly | (c) extract | (d) exalt |
| 6. | (a) pry | (b) ply | (c) purr | (d) pay |
| 7. | (a) liked | (b) likeable | (c) likely | (d) liking |
| 8. | (a) by | (b) of | (c) on | (d) to |
| 9. | (a) committed | (b) doing | (c) actioned | (d) carried |
| 10. | (a) Sprightly | (b) Slightly | (c) Sleight | (d) Slight |
| 11. | (a) no | (b) not | (c) non | (d) nor |
| 12. | (a) finally | (b) stuff | (c) deal | (d) resulting |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime.html>

Paragraph 1

1. a British market hsreaecr company
2. they were edcskoh by their findings
3. you probably wouldn't etcexp that
4. hiding a amniicrl past
5. at least one very mnoir or 'micro' crime
6. The most common crime neoscefsd to

Paragraph 2

7. the most likely to ocmitm these micro crimes
8. the irefgu was closer to 70 per cent
9. lglaeyill downloading or streaming TV shows
10. histlgyl fewer than 30 per cent
11. crimes niedcudl not paying for plastic bags
12. gynil about your age

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () YouGov says that men and middle-class people were the most likely to commit these micro crimes. Researchers say
- () 77 per cent of men and 71 per cent of women committed micro crimes. About 80 per cent of middle-class people admitted
- () to committing micro crimes while the figure was closer to 70 per cent for working-class
- () by the British public is paying someone cash for services, knowing that the person will not pay tax on it.
- () country. Researchers from the organisation YouGov said they were shocked by their
- () expect that three in every four people you see are [hiding] a criminal past. Yet that's exactly what is
- () people. The second-most commonly committed crime was illegally downloading or streaming TV shows, movies
- () at least one very minor or 'micro' crime." The most common crime confessed to
- (**1**) A new report from a British market research company says there is a "wave of micro crime" in the
- () age to get a better deal, and eating things in a supermarket without paying.
- () or music. Slightly fewer than 30 per cent of people said they had done this. Other micro crimes included
- () findings. Matthew Smith, a data analyst at YouGov, said: "Looking around you, you probably wouldn't
- () happening as new research...[shows] that as many as 74 per cent of British people are 'micro-criminals' – having [done]
- () not paying for plastic bags in supermarkets, lying about your

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime.html>

1. report British company new a research A from market .
2. were they said YouGov findings their by shocked .
3. criminal a hiding are see you people four every in Three past .
4. as criminals' are of 74 As 'micro British many - people % .
5. The to most by common the crime British confessed .
6. class to admitted micro- Middle- people committing crimes .
7. to figure class for 70 was people working- per closer The cent .
8. supermarkets for Crimes plastic included bags not in paying .
9. age deal to Lying get about a your better .
10. a without Eating in supermarket paying things .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime.html>

A new report from a British *market / bazaar* research company says there is a "*tidal / wave* of micro crime" in the country. Researchers from the organisation YouGov said they were *shocked / shocking* by their findings. Matthew Smith, a data *analysis / analyst* at YouGov, said: "Looking around you, you probably wouldn't expect that *three / third* in every four people you see are [hiding] a criminal *past / passed*. Yet that's exactly what is *happens / happening* as new research...[shows] that as many as 74 per cent of British people are 'micro-criminals' – having *doing / done* at least one very minor or 'micro' crime." The most common crime confessed *to / of* by the British public is paying someone cash for services, knowing that the person will not *refund / pay* tax on it.

YouGov says that *men / man* and middle-class people were the most *liked / likely* to commit these micro crimes. Researchers say 77 per cent of men and 71 per cent of women *committed / committing* micro crimes. About 80 per cent of middle-class people admitted *by / to* committing micro crimes while the *numeral / figure* was closer to 70 per cent for working-class people. The second-most commonly committed crime was *illegal / illegally* downloading or streaming TV shows, movies *or / nor* music. Slightly *fewest / fewer* than 30 per cent of people said they had *doing / done* this. Other micro crimes included not paying for plastic bags in supermarkets, lying about your age to get a better *deal / dealer*, and eating things in a supermarket without paying.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime.html>

_ n_w r_p_r_t fr_m _ Br_t_sh m_rk_t r_s__rch c_mp_ny
s_ys th_r__s _ "w_v__f m_cr_-cr_m_" _n th_c__ntry.
R_s__rch_rs fr_m th__rg_n_s_t__n Y__G_v s__d th_y
w_r__sh_ck_d by th__r f_nd_ngs. M_tth_w Sm_th, _
d_t__n_lyst _t Y__G_v, s__d: "L__k_ng _r__nd y__,
y__pr_b_bly w__ldn't _xp_ct th_t thr__ _n _v_ry f__r
p__pl_ y__s__ _r_ [h_d_ng] _ cr_m_n_l p_st. Y_t
th_t's _x_ctly wh_t _s h_pp_n_ng _s n_w
r_s__rch...[sh_ws] th_t _s m_ny _s 74 p_r_c_nt _f
Br_t_sh p__pl_ _r_ 'm_cr_-cr_m_n_ls' - h_v_ng [d_n_]
_t l__st _n_ v_ry m_n_r _r 'm_cr_' cr_m_." Th_ m_st
c_mm_n cr_m_ c_nf_ss_d t_ by th_ Br_t_sh p_bl_c_s
p_y_ng s_m__n_ c_sh_f_r s_rv_c_s, kn_w_ng th_t th_
p_rs_n w_ll n_t p_y_t_x_n_t.

Y__G_v s_ys th_t m_n _nd m_ddl_-cl_ss p__pl_ w_r_
th_ m_st l_k_ly t_ c_mm_t th_s_ m_cr_ cr_m_s.
R_s__rch_rs s_y 77 p_r_c_nt _f m_n _nd 71 p_r_c_nt _f
w_m_n c_mm_tt_d m_cr_-cr_m_s. _b__t 80 p_r_c_nt _f
m_ddl_-cl_ss p__pl_ _dm_tt_d t_ c_mm_tt_ng m_cr_-
cr_m_s wh_l_ th_ f_g_r_w_s cl_s_r_t_ 70 p_r_c_nt f_r
w_rk_ng-cl_ss p__pl_. Th_ s_c_nd-m_st c_mm_nly
c_mm_tt_d cr_m_ w_s _ll_g_lly d_wnl__d_ng _r
str__m_ng TV sh_ws, m_v__s _r m_s_c. Sl_ghtly f_w_r
th_n 30 p_r_c_nt _f p__pl_ s__d th_y h_d_d_n_ th_s.
_th_r m_cr_-cr_m_s _ncl_d_d_n_t p_y_ng f_r pl_st_c
b_gs _n s_p_rm_rk_ts, ly_ng _b__t y__r _g_t_g_t _
b_tt_r d__l, _nd __t_ng th_ngs _n _s_p_rm_rk_t
w_th__t p_y_ng.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime.html>

a new report from a british market research company says there is a "wave of micro crime" in the country researchers from the organisation yougov said they were shocked by their findings matthew smith a data analyst at yougov said "looking around you you probably wouldn't expect that three in every four people you see are [hiding] a criminal past yet that's exactly what is happening as new research...[shows] that as many as 74 per cent of british people are 'micro-criminals' - having [done] at least one very minor or 'micro' crime" the most common crime confessed to by the british public is paying someone cash for services knowing that the person will not pay tax on it

yougov says that men and middle-class people were the most likely to commit these micro crimes researchers say 77 per cent of men and 71 per cent of women committed micro crimes about 80 per cent of middle-class people admitted to committing micro crimes while the figure was closer to 70 per cent for working-class people the second-most commonly committed crime was illegally downloading or streaming tv shows movies or music slightly fewer than 30 per cent of people said they had done this other micro crimes included not paying for plastic bags in supermarkets lying about your age to get a better deal and eating things in a supermarket without paying

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime.html>

A new report from a British market research company says there is a "wave of micro-crime" in the country. Researchers from the organisation YouGov said they were shocked by their findings. Matthew Smith, a data analyst at YouGov, said: "Looking around you, you probably wouldn't expect that three in every four people you see are [hiding] a criminal past. Yet that's exactly what is happening as new research... [shows] that as many as 74 percent of British people are 'micro-criminals' – having [done] at least one very minor or 'micro' crime." The most common crime confessed to by the British public is paying someone cash for services, knowing that the person will not pay tax on it. YouGov says that men and middle-class people were the most likely to commit these micro-crimes. Researchers say 77 percent of men and 71 percent of women committed micro-crimes. About 80 percent of middle-class people admitted to committing micro-crimes while the figure was close to 70 percent for working-class people. The second-most commonly committed crime was illegally downloading or streaming TV shows, movies or music. Slightly fewer than 30 percent of people said they had done this. Other micro-crimes included not paying for plastic bags in supermarkets, lying about your age to get a better deal, and eating things in a supermarket without paying.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about micro crime. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. CRIME: Make a poster about crime. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. MICRO CRIME: Write a magazine article about micro crime. Include imaginary interviews with micro criminals and with police officers.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on crime. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to reduce it. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a T b F c T d T e T f F g F h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1. wave | a. flood |
| 2. findings | b. discovery |
| 3. expect | c. think |
| 4. minor | d. unimportant |
| 5. likely | e. probable |
| 6. commit | f. do |
| 7. admitted | g. owned up to |
| 8. figure | h. number |
| 9. slightly | i. a little |
| 10. deal | j. bargain |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. A market research company
2. Shocked
3. A criminal past
4. At least one
5. Tax
6. The middle class
7. 71%
8. Illegally downloading and streaming
9. Fewer than 30%
10. Their age

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. d 2. b 3. d 4. c 5. d 6. c 7. a 8. c 9. b 10. a

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)