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## Level 6 - 8th January 2024

## Muggers now targeting luxury winter coats

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https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240108-winter-coat-muggings.html

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## Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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## THE ARTICLE

From <a href="https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240108-winter-coat-muggings.html">https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240108-winter-coat-muggings.html</a>

There has been a spate of muggings in cities across the globe as muggers are focusing on a new item to steal – luxury coats. In recent weeks, people in London, Washington DC and other metropolitan areas have been robbed of their coats at knifepoint. One man in Birmingham in the UK was slashed across his face as thieves made off with his jacket. Criminals are targeting coats that cost as much as \$2,200 each. As well as literally stealing the coats off people's backs, thieves are breaking into people's vehicles. Professor David Wilson, a criminologist at Birmingham City University, warned that the muggings were the start of a new "luxury crime trend". He said the thefts were "worrying".

Professor Wilson warned those with high-end winter jackets to be careful. He said: "I would tell anyone wearing Canada Goose branded jackets to be careful and be aware of your surroundings and who is around you. You have to be vigilant for opportunists who might try to steal them." He added that: "Thieves used to target Rolex watches which go for thousands of pounds and then sell them online." A London Transport spokesperson said: "Canada Goose coats are targeted for robbery. It's a real concern to us because it really impacts the safety of young people on the network." She added that this "acquisitive crime" was "very concerning, intimidating and frightening".

Sources:

https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/canada-goose-wearers-warned-luxury-31794767 https://www.birminghammail.co.uk/news/midlands-news/warning-over-fashion-label-bullring-2020742

https://www. dailymail.co.uk/news/article-12916253/The-rise-Canada-Goose-coat-muggings-Warning-crooks-targeting-owners-1-700-jackets-selling-profit-Lawless-Britains-latest-luxury-items.html

## **WARM-UPS**

- **1. WINTER COATS:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about winter coats. 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?

spate / muggers / luxury coats / recent weeks / thieves / stealing / criminologist / winter jackets / your surroundings / vigilant / opportunists / robbery / network / crime

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

- **3. PRISON:** Students A **strongly** believe muggers should go to prison for at least 20 years; Students B **strongly** believe that's too long. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.
- **4. CRIMINALS:** How dangerous are these criminals? What harm do they do? What experiences have you had of them? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How Dangerous?	Harm?	Your Experiences
Mugger			
Burglar			
Pickpocket			
Shoplifter			
Vandal			
Trespasser			

- **5. MUGGER:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "mugger". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.
- **6. BRANDS:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best brands at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.
  - Louis Vuitton
  - Apple
  - Disney
  - Lego

- Mercedes
- Adidas
- Airbnb
- McDonald's

## **VOCABULARY MATCHING**

#### Paragraph 1

- 1. spate a. An expert in the scientific study of crime and criminals.
- 2. mugger b. Relating to or about a large city.
- 3. metropolitan c. Stole
- 4. slashed d. A large number of similar things coming in quick succession.
- 5. made off with e. Exactly.
- 6. literally f. A person who attacks and robs another in a public place.
- 7. criminologist g. Cut with a wide, sweeping movement, typically using a knife or sword.

#### Paragraph 2

- 8. high-end h. A person who takes advantage of chances or possibilities as and when they arise.
- 9. branded i. Sell for.
- 10. vigilant j. Having a frightening, overawing, or threatening effect.
- 11. opportunist k. Having a brand name.
- 12. go for I. Have a strong effect on someone or something.
- 13. impact m. Keeping careful watch for possible danger or difficulties.
- 14. intimidating n. The most expensive of a range of products.

## **BEFORE READING / LISTENING**

From <a href="https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240108-winter-coat-muggings.html">https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240108-winter-coat-muggings.html</a>

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

- 1. Muggers have been stealing expensive coats in cities worldwide. T / F
- 2. Some muggers have used knives to steal luxury winter coats. **T/F**
- 3. Muggers are only stealing coats that cost more than \$2,200. T / F
- 4. A criminologist said the coat thefts have become a trend. **T / F**
- 5. A professor warned people who wear the Canada Duck brand coats. **T/F**
- 6. The professor said people with luxury coats should be vigilantes. **T/F**
- 7. London Transport asked people not to wear luxury coats on their trains. T / F
- 8. London Transport said the coat thefts were worrying and scary. **T/F**

#### **2. SYNONYM MATCH:** (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- 1. spate
- 2. steal
- 3. slashed
- 4. literally
- 5. worrying
- 6. high-end
- 7. surroundings
- 8. vigilant
- 9. crime
- 10. intimidating

- a. threatening
- b. alarming
- c. lawbreaking
- d. thieve
- e. observant
- f. series
- g. expensive
- h. exactly
- i. environment
- i. knifed

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

- 1. There has been a spate
- 2. London, Washington DC and other
- 3. robbed of their coats
- 4. thieves made off
- 5. thieves are breaking into
- 6. high-
- 7. You have to be vigilant for
- 8. Rolex watches which go
- 9. it really impacts the safety
- 10. concerning, intimidating

- a. for thousands of pounds
- b. at knifepoint
- c. people's vehicles
- d. opportunists
- e. of muggings
- f. of young people
- g. end winter jackets
- h. metropolitan areas
- i. and frightening
- j. with his jacket

## **GAP FILL**

There has been a (1) of muggings in cities	knifepoint
across the globe as muggers are focusing on a new	literally
(2) to steal – luxury coats. In recent weeks,	criminologist
people in London, Washington DC and other metropolitan areas	criminologist
have been robbed of their coats at (3) One	spate
man in Birmingham in the UK was (4) across	slashed
his face as thieves made off with his jacket. Criminals are	trend
targeting coats that cost as much as \$2,200 each. As well as	item
stealing the coats off people's backs,	item
thieves are (6) into people's vehicles.	breaking
Professor David Wilson, a (7) at Birmingham	
City University, warned that the muggings were the start of a new	
"luxury crime (8)". He said the thefts were	
"worrying".	
Professor Wilson warned those with high- (9)	target
	target
winter jackets to be careful. He said: "I would tell anyone wearing	_
winter jackets to be careful. He said: "I would tell anyone wearing Canada Goose (10) jackets to be careful and	concern
	_
Canada Goose (10) jackets to be careful and	concern
Canada Goose (10) jackets to be careful and be aware of your (11)	concern end
Canada Goose (10) jackets to be careful and be aware of your (11) and who is around you. You have to be (12)	concern end vigilant intimidating
Canada Goose (10) jackets to be careful and be aware of your (11) and who is around you. You have to be (12) for opportunists who might try to steal them." He added that:	concern end vigilant
Canada Goose (10) jackets to be careful and be aware of your (11) and who is around you. You have to be (12) for opportunists who might try to steal them." He added that: "Thieves used to (13) Rolex watches which	concern end vigilant intimidating
Canada Goose (10) jackets to be careful and be aware of your (11) and who is around you. You have to be (12) for opportunists who might try to steal them." He added that: "Thieves used to (13) Rolex watches which (14) for thousands of pounds and then sell	concern end vigilant intimidating branded
Canada Goose (10) jackets to be careful and be aware of your (11) and who is around you. You have to be (12) for opportunists who might try to steal them." He added that: "Thieves used to (13) Rolex watches which (14) for thousands of pounds and then sell them online." A London Transport spokesperson said: "Canada	concern end vigilant intimidating branded go
Canada Goose (10) jackets to be careful and be aware of your (11) and who is around you. You have to be (12) for opportunists who might try to steal them." He added that: "Thieves used to (13) Rolex watches which (14) for thousands of pounds and then sell them online." A London Transport spokesperson said: "Canada Goose coats are targeted for robbery. It's a real	concern end vigilant intimidating branded go
Canada Goose (10) jackets to be careful and be aware of your (11) and who is around you. You have to be (12) for opportunists who might try to steal them." He added that: "Thieves used to (13) Rolex watches which (14) for thousands of pounds and then sell them online." A London Transport spokesperson said: "Canada Goose coats are targeted for robbery. It's a real (15) to us because it really impacts the safety	concern end vigilant intimidating branded go

## **LISTENING** — Guess the answers. Listen to check.

1)	and other metropolitan areas have been robbed of their  a. coats at knifepoints  b. coat sat knife paint  c. coats at knifepoint  d. coats at knife paints
2)	One man in Birmingham in the  a. UK was sloshed  b. UK was slushed  c. UK was slashed  d. UK was splashed
3)	Criminals are targeting coats that cost as much a. at \$2,200 each b. as \$2,200 each c. has \$2,200 each d. was \$2,200 each
4)	stealing the coats off people's backs, thieves are breaking a. into people's vehicles b. unto people's vehicles c. onto people's vehicles d. as to people's vehicles
5)	warned that the muggings were the start of a new  a. luxury crime trendy b. luxury crime trends c. luxury crime trending d. luxury crime trend
6)	I would tell anyone wearing Canada Goose branded jackets to be carefula. and beware b. and be a where c. and beer where d. and be aware
	of your surroundings and who is around you. You have a. to be vigilante b. to be vigilance c. to be vigil ant d. to be vege lentil
8)	He added that: "Thieves used to target Rolex watches which a. come for thousands b. go for thousands c. grow for thousands d. ago for thousands
9)	A London Transport spokesperson said Canada Goose coats are  a. targeted for rubbery b. targeted four robbery c. targeted for Ribery d. targeted for robbery
10)	She added that this "acquisitive crime" was "very concerning,
	<ul><li>a. intimidation and frightening</li><li>b. intimidating and frightening</li><li>c. intimidating and frightened</li><li>d. intimidation and frightened</li></ul>

## **LISTENING** – Listen and fill in the gaps

There has been a (1)	_ in cities across the globe as
muggers are focusing on a new item to (2)	In
recent weeks, people in London, Washingto	n DC and other metropolitan
areas have been robbed of their (3)	One man in
Birmingham in the UK was slashed across his	face as thieves made off with
his jacket. Criminals are targeting coats that	cost as much as \$2,200 each.
As (4) stealing the co	oats off people's backs, thieves
are breaking into people's vehicles.	Professor David Wilson,
(5) Birmingham City	/ University, warned that the
muggings were the start of a new "luxury	y crime trend". He said the
(6)	
Professor Wilson warned those with (7)	jackets to
be careful. He said: "I would tell anyone we	
jackets to be careful and be aware (8)	and who is
around you. You have to (9)	opportunists who
might try to steal them." He added that: "	Thieves used to target Rolex
watches (10) thousa	ands of pounds and then sell
them online." A London Transport spokespers	on said: "Canada Goose coats
are targeted for robbery. It's (11)	to us because it
really impacts the safety of young people on	the network." She added that
this (12) "very o	concerning, intimidating and
frightening".	

## **COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS**

1.	What has there been a spate of worldwide?
2.	Which two cities in the article were said to have coat muggings?
3.	What are muggers using to threaten people and steal coats?
4.	Who much do the coats cost that muggers are stealing?
5.	What kind of trend did a criminologist say we are at the start of?
6.	What is the name of the brand of coats mentioned in the article?
7.	Who did a professor say we needed to be vigilant for?
8.	What did the professor say muggers used to target?
9.	What did London Transport say the robberies impacted the safety of?
10.	What kind of crime did London Transport call the coat thefts?

## **MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ**

- 1) What has there been a spate of worldwide?
- a) cities
- b) muggings / coat thefts
- c) muggers
- d) globes
- 2) Which two cities in the article were said to have coat muggings?
- a) Paris and Rio
- b) New York and London
- c) Washington DC and Paris
- d) London and Washington DC
- 3) What are muggers using to threaten people and steal coats?
- a) knives
- b) the Internet
- c) guns
- d) blackmail
- 4) Who much do the coats cost that muggers are stealing?
- a) exactly \$2,200
- b) more than \$2,200
- c) up to \$2,200
- d) around \$2,200
- 5) What kind of trend did a criminologist say we are at the start of?
- a) a coat-wearing trend
- b) a luxury crime trend
- c) a luxury trend
- d) a criminal trend

- 6) What is the name of the brand of coats mentioned in the article?
- a) Canada Goose
- b) Canada Duck
- c) Cameroon Goose
- d) Cameroon Duck
- 7) Who did a professor say we needed to be vigilant for?
- a) feathers
- b) geese
- c) opportunists
- d) coats
- 8) What did the professor say muggers used to target?
- a) Rolex watches
- b) the rich and famous
- c) bulls eyes
- d) extreme wealth
- 9) What did London Transport say the robberies impacted the safety of?
- a) young people
- b) coat makers
- c) geese
- d) muggers
- 10) What kind of crime did London Transport call the coat thefts?
- a) petty crime
- b) goose-feather crime
- c) network crime
- d) acquisitive crime

#### **ROLE PLAY**

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240108-winter-coat-muggings.html

#### Role A - Louis Vuitton

You think Louis Vuitton is the best brand. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their brands. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): Apple, Mercedes or Disney.

#### Role B - Apple

You think Apple is the best brand. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their brands. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): Louis Vuitton, Mercedes or Disney.

#### Role C - Mercedes

You think Mercedes is the best brand. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their brands. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): Apple, Louis Vuitton or Disney.

### Role D - Disney

You think Disney is the best brand. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their brands. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): Apple, Mercedes or Louis Vuitton.

## AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <a href="https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240108-winter-coat-muggings.html">https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240108-winter-coat-muggings.html</a>

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

luxury	coat

- 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:

• spate	high
• recent	• aware
<ul><li>knifepoint</li></ul>	• vigilant
• much	used to
<ul><li>breaking</li></ul>	• real
• start	<ul><li>frightening</li></ul>

## WINTER COATS SURVEY

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240108-winter-coat-muggings.html

Write five GOOD questions about winter coats 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.

## WINTER COATS DISCUSSION

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

- 1. What did you think when you read the headline?
- 2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'mugger'?
- 3. How safe are the streets where you live?
- 4. How can we stop muggings?
- 5. What crimes are you worried about in your town?
- 6. Why do people buy \$2,000 coats?
- 7. What kinds of coats do you like?
- 8. What luxury items do you like?
- 9. What three adjectives best describe this story?
- 10. What advice do you have for people wearing expensive coats?

Muggers now targeting luxury winter coats – 8th January 2024 Thousands more free lessons at breakingnewsenglish.com

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## WINTER COATS DISCUSSION

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

- 11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- 12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'coat'?
- 13. What do you think about what you read?
- 14. What do you do to stay safe on the streets?
- 15. Have you had any bad experiences on the streets in your town?
- 16. What punishment should be given to muggers?
- 17. What is so good about luxury clothes and other items?
- 18. How much better is a \$2,000 coat than a \$200 coat?
- 19. Have you ever stolen anything?
- 20. What questions would you like to ask the police?

## **DISCUSSION** (Write your own questions)

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

L.	
2.	
3.	
<b>!</b> .	
-	
5.	
5.	
	SCUSSION (Write your own questions)  DENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)
<u>STUI</u>	SCUSSION (Write your own questions)
<u>STUI</u> 	SCUSSION (Write your own questions)
	SCUSSION (Write your own questions)
 	SCUSSION (Write your own questions)
6TUI 2. 3.	SCUSSION (Write your own questions)
	SCUSSION (Write your own questions)

## **LANGUAGE - CLOZE**

focu Was knife thiev muc thiev at B	sing of hington the point of th	s been a (1) on a new item on DC and other c. One man in nade (4) \$2,200 each. Te (6) into gham City Univ ime trend". He	to stea er met Birmin with hi As wel peopl versity,	II – luxury co ropolitan are ngham in the s jacket. Crii I as (5) le's vehicles. warned that	ats. In as hav e UK minals steali Profes	recent wee e been (2) _was (3) are targeting the coat sor David Wanggings we	ks, peoperate of acrossing coats of points of the fillson, acrossing to the fillson, across of the fillson, across the fillson the fil	ple in London, their coats at s his face as s that cost as eople's backs, a criminologist
said (8) (9) to ta onlir for r your cond	: "I w a arget   ne." A robber ng per	Wilson warned ould tell anyon ware of your supportunists who Rolex watches London Transtry. It's a real copple on the near, intimidating	ne wear urround no mig which of port sp concern etwork. and (12	ring Canada (dings and what try to stee (10) for cookesperson state (11) us " She added 2)".	Goose of the said: "Goose thousa said: "Goose that that the said: "Goose that the said: "Goose that the said: "Goose that the said: "Goose the	branded jack ound you. You. You. He added nds of pound Canada Goo use it really his "acquisit	kets to low have that:  ds and the coats impacts in the crine crin	be careful and to be vigilant Thieves used then sell them are targeted the safety of the was "very
1.	(a)	spite	(b)	spate	(c)	spat	(d)	spit
2.	(a)	fobbed	(b)	robbed	(c)	dobbed	(d)	mobbed
3.	(a)	slashing	(b)	slasher	(c)	slash	(d)	slashed
4.	(a)	up	(b)	off	(c)	on	(d)	down
5.	(a)	flattery	(b)	lottery	(c)	laterally	(d)	literally
6.	(a)	broken	(b)	breakage	(c)	breaking	(d)	broke
7.	(a)	end	(b)	start	(c)	finish	(d)	limit
8.	(a)	do	(b)	have	(c)	be	(d)	take
9.	(a)	by	(b)	on	(c)	at	(d)	for
10.	(a)	go	(b)	tell	(c)	tick	(d)	amount
11.	(a)	to	(b)	of	(c)	as	(d)	at
12.	(a)	frightening	(b)	frighteners	(c)	frightens	(d)	fright

#### **SPELLING**

From <a href="https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240108-winter-coat-muggings.html">https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240108-winter-coat-muggings.html</a>

## Paragraph 1

- 1. There has been a stape of muggings
- 2. other teiaonptrmlo areas
- 3. Idshaes across his face
- 4. breaking into people's hsvelcie
- 5. a gimnioilcotrs at Birmingham City University
- 6. He said the <u>tesfth</u> were worrying

## Paragraph 2

- 7. be aware of your <u>odsrgunsnuri</u>
- 8. You have to be iivntlag
- 9. <u>noptsptiuors</u> who might try to steal them
- 10. it really <u>ctamips</u> the safety of young people
- 11. tuisqiiacve crime
- 12. very concerning, <u>iimgniittnda</u> and frightening

## **PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER**

From <a href="https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240108-winter-coat-muggings.html">https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240108-winter-coat-muggings.html</a>

#### Number these lines in the correct order.

(	)	wearing Canada Goose branded jackets to be careful and be aware of your surroundings and who is
(	)	across his face as thieves made off with his jacket. Criminals are targeting coats that cost as
(	)	areas have been robbed of their coats at knifepoint. One man in Birmingham in the UK was slashed
(	)	Rolex watches which go for thousands of pounds and then sell them online." A London Transport
(	)	much as \$2,200 each. As well as literally stealing the coats off people's backs, thieves are breaking into people's
(	)	on a new item to steal – luxury coats. In recent weeks, people in London, Washington DC and other metropolitan
(	)	start of a new "luxury crime trend". He said the thefts were "worrying".
(	)	vehicles. Professor David Wilson, a criminologist at Birmingham City University, warned that the muggings were the
(	)	the safety of young people on the network." She added that this "acquisitive crime"
(	)	spokesperson said: "Canada Goose coats are targeted for robbery. It's a real concern to us because it really impacts
(	)	Professor Wilson warned those with high-end winter jackets to be careful. He said: "I would tell anyone
(	)	around you. You have to be vigilant for opportunists who might try to steal them." He added that: "Thieves used to target
(	<b>1</b> )	There has been a spate of muggings in cities across the globe as muggers are focusing
(	)	was "very, concerning, intimidating and frightening".

## PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

- 1. been of cities . spate in a muggings There's
- 2. on to are new focusing items steal. Muggers
- 3. knifepoint . coats their at of People were robbed
- 4. was slashed his man across face . One
- 5. crime a The of trend . new start luxury
- 6. warned of their surroundings . be people He aware
- 7. to have for really be opportunists . You vigilant
- 8. which Target of watches for thousands go pounds .
- 9. young really impacts safety people . of the It
- 10. very crime this concerning . acquisitive was added She

## **CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)**

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240108-winter-coat-muggings.html

There has been a *spite / spate* of muggings in cities across the globe as muggers are focusing *in / on* a new item to steal – luxury coats. In recent weeks, people in London, Washington DC and *other / another* metropolitan areas have been robbed of their coats *on / at* knifepoint. One man in Birmingham in the UK was slashed across his face as thieves made *on / off* with his jacket. Criminals are targeting coats that cost as much as \$2,200 *each / piece*. As well as *laterally / literally* stealing the coats off people's backs, thieves are *breeching / breaking* into people's vehicles. Professor David Wilson, a *criminologist / criminology* at Birmingham City University, warned that the muggings were the start of a new "luxury crime trend". He said the thefts were "worried / worrying".

Professor Wilson warned them / those with high-end winter jackets to be careful. He said: "I would tell anyone wearing Canada Goose blended / branded jackets to be careful and be beware / aware of your surroundings and who is around you. You have to be vigilant / vigilance for opportunists who might try to stole / steal them." He added that: "Thieves used to target Rolex watches which go at / for thousands of pounds and then sold / sell them online." A London Transport spokesperson said: "Canada Goose coats are targeted for robbery. It's a really / real concern to us because it really impacts the safety of young / youth people on the network." She added that this "acquisitive crime" was "very concerning, intimidation / intimidating and frightening".

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

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

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240108-winter-coat-muggings.html

Th\_r\_ h\_s b\_\_n \_ sp\_t\_ \_f m\_gg\_ngs \_n c\_t\_\_s \_cr\_ss th\_ gl\_b\_ \_s m\_gg\_rs \_r\_ f\_c\_s\_ng \_n \_ n\_w \_t\_m t\_ st\_\_l - l\_x\_ry c\_\_ts. \_n r\_c\_nt w\_\_ks p\_\_pl\_ \_n L\_nd\_n, W\_sh\_ngt\_n DC \_nd \_th\_r m\_tr\_p\_l\_t\_n \_r\_\_s h\_v\_ b\_\_n r\_bb\_d \_f th\_\_r c\_\_ts \_t kn\_f\_p\_\_nt. \_n\_ m\_n \_n B\_rm\_ngh\_m \_n th\_ \_K w\_s sl\_sh\_d \_cr\_ss  $h_s$   $f_c_s$   $th_v_s$   $m_d_s$   $f_s$   $w_th$   $h_s$   $j_ck_t$ . Cr\_m\_n\_ls \_r\_ t\_rg\_t\_ng c\_\_ts th\_t c\_st \_s m\_ch \_s \$2,200 \_\_ch. \_s w\_II \_s I\_t\_r\_IIy st\_\_I\_ng th\_ c\_\_ts \_ff p\_\_pl\_'s b\_cks, th\_\_v\_s \_r\_ br\_\_k\_ng \_nt\_ p\_\_pl\_'s v\_h\_cl\_s. Pr\_f\_ss\_r D\_v\_d W\_ls\_n, \_ cr\_m\_n\_l\_g\_st \_t B\_rm\_ngh\_m C\_ty \_n\_v\_rs\_ty, w\_rn\_d th\_t th\_ m\_gg\_ngs w\_r\_ th\_ st\_rt \_f \_ n\_w "I\_x\_ry cr\_m\_ tr nd". H s d th th fts w r "w rry ng". Pr\_f\_ss\_r W\_ls\_n w\_rn\_d th\_s\_ w\_th h\_gh-\_nd w\_nt\_r j\_ck\_ts t\_ b\_ c\_r\_f\_l. H\_ s\_\_d: "\_ w\_\_ld t\_ll \_ny\_n\_ w\_\_r\_ng C\_n\_d\_ G\_\_s\_ br\_nd\_d j\_ck\_ts t\_ b\_ c\_r\_f\_l \_nd b\_ \_w\_r\_ \_f y\_\_r s\_rr\_\_nd\_ngs \_nd wh\_ \_s \_r\_\_nd y\_\_. Y\_\_ h\_v\_ t\_ b\_ v\_g\_l\_nt f\_r \_pp\_rt\_n\_sts wh\_ m\_ght try t\_ st\_\_I th\_m." H\_ \_dd\_d th\_t: "Th\_\_v\_s \_s\_d t\_ t\_rg\_t R\_I\_x w\_tch\_s wh\_ch g\_ f\_r th\_\_s\_nds \_f p\_\_nds \_nd th\_n s\_II th\_m \_nl\_n\_." \_ L\_nd\_n Tr\_nsp\_rt sp\_k\_sp\_rs\_n s\_\_d: "C\_n\_d\_ G\_\_s\_ c\_\_ts \_r\_ t\_rg\_t\_d f\_r r\_bb\_ry. \_t's \_ r\_\_l c\_nc\_rn t\_ \_s  $b_c_s_t r_lly_mp_cts_th_s_f_ty_f_y_ng_p_pl_$ \_n th\_ n\_tw\_rk." Sh\_ \_dd\_d th\_t th\_s "\_cq\_\_s\_t\_v\_ cr\_m\_" w\_s "v\_ry c\_nc\_rn\_ng, \_nt\_m\_d\_t\_ng \_nd fr aht n na".

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240108-winter-coat-muggings.html

there has been a spate of muggings in cities across the globe as muggers

are focusing on a new item to steal luxury coats in recent weeks people in

london washington dc and other metropolitan areas have been robbed of

their coats at knifepoint one man in birmingham in the uk was slashed

across his face as thieves made off with his jacket criminals are targeting

coats that cost as much as 2200 each as well as literally stealing the coats

off peoples backs thieves are breaking into peoples vehicles professor david

wilson a criminologist at birmingham city university warned that the

muggings were the start of a new luxury crime trend he said the thefts were

worrying

professor wilson warned those with highend winter jackets to be careful he

said i would tell anyone wearing canada goose branded jackets to be careful

and be aware of your surroundings and who is around you you have to be

vigilant for opportunists who might try to steal them he added that thieves

used to target rolex watches which go for thousands of pounds and then sell

them online a london transport spokesperson said canada goose coats are

targeted for robbery its a real concern to us because it really impacts the

safety of young people on the network she added that this acquisitive crime

was very concerning intimidating and frightening

Level 6

Muggers now targeting luxury winter coats – 8th January 2024 More free lessons at breakingnewsenglish.com - Copyright Sean Banville 2024

## PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <a href="https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240108-winter-coat-muggings.html">https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240108-winter-coat-muggings.html</a>

Therehasbeenaspateofmuggingsincitiesacrosstheglobeasmuggersa refocusingonanewitemtosteal-luxurycoats. In recentweeks, people einLondon, Washington DC and other metropolitanare as have been rob bedoftheircoatsatknifepoint.OnemaninBirminghamintheUKwasslas hedacrosshisfaceasthievesmadeoffwithhisjacket.Criminalsaretarge tingcoatsthatcostasmuchas\$2,200each.Aswellasliterallystealingthe coatsoffpeople'sbacks, thie vesare breaking into people's vehicles. Prof essorDavidWilson,acriminologistatBirminghamCityUniversity,warn edthatthemuggingswerethestartofanew"luxurycrimetrend".Hesaidt hetheftswere"worrying".ProfessorWilsonwarnedthosewithhig h-endwinterjacketstobecareful.Hesaid:"IwouldtellanyonewearingC anadaGoosebrandedjacketstobecarefulandbeawareofyoursurround ingsandwhoisaroundyou. Youhavetobevigilantforopportunists whom ighttrytostealthem."Headdedthat:"ThievesusedtotargetRolexwatc heswhichgoforthousandsofpoundsandthensellthemonline."ALondo nTransportspokespersonsaid: "CanadaGoosecoatsaretargetedforro bbery.It'sarealconcerntousbecauseitreallyimpactsthesafetyofyoun gpeopleonthenetwork."Sheaddedthatthis"acquisitivecrime"was"ve ryconcerning, intimidating and frightening".

## **FREE WRITING**

Write about winter coats for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.								

## **ACADEMIC WRITING**

Muggers should get at least 20 years in prison. Discuss.								

#### **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 this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.
- **3. WINTER COATS:** Make a poster about winter coats. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?
- **4. STREET SAFETY:** Write a magazine article about spending more money to keep our streets safe. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

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 mugging. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to stop muggings. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

## **ANSWERS**

## **VOCABULARY (p.4)**

2. f 3. 1. d 4. q 5. C 6. е 7. а 8. n 9. k 10. 11. h 12. i 13. 1 14. m i

### TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

1 T 2 T 3 F 4 T 5 F 6 F 7 F 8 T

## **SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)**

1. f		2.	d	3.	j	4.	h	5.	b
6. 9	3	7.	i	8.	е	9.	С	10.	a

#### **COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)**

#### WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- Muggings / coat thefts
   London and Washington DC
   Muggers are focusing on new items to steal.
- 3. Knives 3. People were robbed of their coats at knifepoint.
- 4. Up to \$2,200 4. One man was slashed across his face.
- 5. A luxury crime trend 5. The start of a new luxury crime trend.
- 6. Canada Goose 6. He warned people be aware of their surroundings.
- Opportunists
   You have to be really vigilant for opportunists.
   Rolex watches
   Target watches which go for thousands of
  - 8. Target watches which go for thousands of pounds.
  - 9. It really impacts the safety of young people.
  - 10. She added this acquisitive crime was very concerning.

## **MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)**

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

#### **ALL OTHER EXERCISES**

9.

Young people

10. Acquisitive crime

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