

1. jurisdiction	the area over which a court has authority, which can be geographical or subject-based	17. parole period	a time when an offender no longer must be imprisoned, but is freed into the community under supervision
2. jury	a group of ordinary citizens brought to court to decide on the guilt or innocence of an offender	18. partial defence	a criminal defence which, if successfully proved, reduces the defendant's liability, for example from murder to manslaughter
3. legal aid	the provision of inexpensive legal services to people on limited incomes	19. parties	people who have participated in committing a criminal offence, either before, during or after the offence
4. majority verdict	a verdict in which the guilt of an accused person is decided by eleven out of the twelve people on a jury	20. penalty unit	an amount of money used to impose fines; in July 2008, one penalty unit equalled \$110
5. mandatory sentencing	the practice of some parliaments of legislating for a particular sentence to be given for a particular crime or series of crimes	21. periodic detention	a punishment for which the offender is required to serve his or her prison sentence on consecutive weekends
6. maximum penalty	the most severe sentence that can be given for a particular crime	22. plea bargaining	an agreement between the prosecution and defence, having met before the trial, with the defence agreeing that the accused will plead guilty if the prosecution reduces the charge; also known as charge negotiation
7. mens rea	the 'guilty mind', including the intention to commit the crime, recklessness or gross negligence	23. possession	having enough illegal drugs for personal use
8. mental illness	a complete criminal defence which proves that, at the time the defendant committed the crime, he or she was of unsound mind (that is, suffering from a mental illness which either prevented him or her from knowing that it was wrong)	24. preliminary crimes	attempting to commit a criminal act or omission, or planning to do so
9. mitigating factors	matters that persuade the judge in a sentencing hearing that the maximum penalty should not be imposed	25. presumption of innocence	the presumption in a criminal trial that an accused person is innocent until proven guilty
10. necessity	a complete criminal defence in which the defendant claims that the act or omission committed was necessary to avert serious danger		
11. negligence	failing to exercise the degree of care, skill or foresight that a reasonable person would have exercised in the same circumstances		
12. no conviction recorded	an accused person is found guilty of a criminal offence, but the charge is dismissed and no record is made of conviction		
13. non-parole period	the minimum time an offender must actually spend in prison		
14. offences against the person	acts or omissions which harm other people, such as murder, assault and sexual assault		
15. offences against the sovereign	acts or omissions which aim to disrupt or harm the governing bodies of a country, such as spying, treason and illegal demonstrations		
16. opinion evidence	a witness cannot give his or her opinion in court about another person's words or actions, unless the witness is an expert in that field		