

How far do you agree that there was little change in crime in the period 1250–1750? Give reasons for your answer.

Answering an 18mark exam question

The first thing you need to do is break down the exam question into **key words** and **topic words**

- **Key words** tell you how to answer
- **Topic words** tell you what to write about

Assess how much changed between 1250 and 1750

How far do you agree that there was **little change** in **crime** in the period **1250–1750**? **Give reasons** for your answer.

State an opinion – try not to completely agree or disagree

Explain your opinion with evidence

Make sure you write about **crime**! Don't mention law enforcement or punishment!

On slide 4, there is some evidence about medieval crime from 1250 -1500

- You need to fill in the rest of the table with evidence you have found from your recent work with case studies
- If you have extra evidence from the medieval era (1250 onwards) you can add it to your table
- You don't just have to write 'change or continuity' in the last column – you could say 'increased' or 'became more serious' or 'new crime', for example
- If you know specific cases, put them in – the more detailed your evidence, the more the examiner likes it! You don't get marks for being vague!

1250-1500	1500-1750	Change or continuity?
Theft was the most common crime	Theft was the most common crime	Continuity
Heresy existed as a crime, but it was rare	Heresy became more common during the Reformation	Change
Homicide seemed common, but included accidental deaths and suicide, self-defence, and murder.		
Crimes increased when harvests were poor, due to anger and hunger		
Vagrancy became a problem after the Black Death but a new law passed in 1388 saying people had to stay in their home village		
Outlaw gangs emerged in the 15th century, attacking and robbing people.		
The Church dealt with moral crimes like adultery and gambling		
Treason became a crime in 1351 (remember there was petty treason for killing the head of household, and high treason for plotting against the King)		

Now you have filled in your table, you are ready to start writing your answer

- You must make sure you have an introduction which states your opinion – how much do you agree that between 1250 and 1750, crime changed little?

'I mostly agree...'

'I largely agree...'

'I agree somewhat...'

'I mostly disagree...'

'I mainly disagree...'

It is important that you don't completely agree or disagree – you must cover both sides of the argument to get more than 13/20

Introduction

- State your opinion in the first sentence
- Give a brief overview of what crime was like in 1250, and what it was like in 1750

'In 1250, most crimes were against property and the person. By 1750, this was still true, but some crimes were taken more seriously, and some new crimes had emerged.' (For example)

You might want to include some FACTORS which led to change, for example religion, technology, warfare, economics

Paragraph 1

- Always start with the opinion in the question – so your first paragraph is going to be about **crimes that didn't really change** between 1250 and 1750
- Make a point
- Back it up with lots of detailed evidence
- Explain **why** things didn't really change – use those big factors we have talked about in lessons
- This might be a long paragraph, so if you wanted to split it into medieval and early modern paragraphs, that would be OK – as long as you assess how much changed during it!

Paragraph 2

- Now you need to argue that there were significant changes to crime between 1250 and 1750
- Make a point – what changed?
- Back it up with lots of detailed evidence
- Explain **WHY** things changed (use your factors again!)

- If you find this paragraph is very long, you might want to split it into different factors – so perhaps one for religion, one for economics, one for war, for example. (You don't have to do these factors – but if you have a paragraph on early modern crime without mentioning religion, I would be very, very annoyed!)

Conclusion

- You need to write a conclusion stating your final opinion and explaining why you think this
- Don't just write 'I think this because there is more evidence for it'
- Make sure your conclusion doesn't contradict your opinion from your introduction
- You should aim to write at least 6 lines for your conclusion
- It's your last chance to show off to the examiner – so punch them on the nose with your opinion! Make it a strong, clear opinion which is justified.



Remember to upload your answer to Teams assignment!

- If you hand write them, can you make sure that your photos are portrait, because it's really hard to read work at a 90-degree neck angle!

On iPhone/iPad app:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oHCCa_mOWMQ

On laptop app:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6OGxofISrjg>