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## **Level 2**

### **Three-quarters of British people commit micro crimes**

**26th October, 2016**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime-2.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime-2.html>

A new report says there is a "wave of micro crime" in Great Britain. Researchers from a research organisation were shocked by their findings. Matthew Smith, a data analyst, said: "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 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 the British public say they have done is paying someone cash when they know that the person will not pay tax on it.

The researchers say men and middle-class people were the most likely to commit micro crimes. About 80 per cent of middle-class people admitted to micro crimes, while the figure was closer to 70 per cent for working-class people. The second-most common micro crime was illegally downloading or streaming TV shows, movies or music. Slightly fewer than 30 per cent of people said they did this. Other micro crimes include not paying for 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>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. shocked           | a. every four people |
| 2. a data            | b. or 'micro' crime  |
| 3. three in          | c. past              |
| 4. hiding a criminal | d. cash              |
| 5. at                | e. tax on it         |
| 6. very minor        | f. by their findings |
| 7. paying someone    | g. least one         |
| 8. pay               | h. analyst           |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                      |                              |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. middle-                           | a. said they did this        |
| 2. the most likely                   | b. your age                  |
| 3. the figure                        | c. class people              |
| 4. illegally downloading or          | d. without paying            |
| 5. Slightly fewer than 30% of people | e. was closer to 70 per cent |
| 6. lying about                       | f. deal                      |
| 7. get a better                      | g. to commit micro crimes    |
| 8. eating things in a supermarket    | h. streaming TV shows        |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime-2.html>

A new report says there (1) \_\_\_\_\_ "micro-crime" in Great Britain. Researchers from a research organisation were (2) \_\_\_\_\_ findings. Matthew Smith, a data analyst, said: "You probably wouldn't expect that (3) \_\_\_\_\_ four people you see are [hiding] (4) \_\_\_\_\_. Yet that's exactly what is happening....As many as 74 per cent of British people are 'micro-criminals' – having [done] at least one very minor or 'micro' crime." The (5) \_\_\_\_\_ the British public say they have done is paying someone cash when they know that the person will (6) \_\_\_\_\_ it.

The researchers say (7) \_\_\_\_\_-class people were the most likely to commit micro crimes. About 80 per cent of middle-class (8) \_\_\_\_\_ micro crimes, while the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ 70 per cent for working-class people. The second-most common micro (10) \_\_\_\_\_ downloading or streaming TV shows, movies or music. Slightly fewer than 30 per cent of people said they did this. Other micro crimes include not (11) \_\_\_\_\_ in supermarkets, lying about your age to get a better deal, and (12) \_\_\_\_\_ supermarket without paying.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime-2.html>

A new report says there is a "wave of micro-crime" in Great Britain. Researchers from a research organisation were shocked by their findings. Matthew Smith, a data analyst, said: "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 many as 74 percent of British people are 'micro-criminals' – having [done] at least one very minor or 'micro' crime." The most common crime the British public say they have done is paying someone cash when they know that the person will not pay tax on it. The researchers say men and middle-class people were the most likely to commit micro-crimes. About 80 percent of middle-class people admitted to micro-crimes, while the figure was close to 70 percent for working-class people. The second-most common micro-crime was illegally downloading or streaming TV shows, movies or music. Slightly fewer than 30 percent of people said they did this. Other micro-crimes include not paying for bags in supermarkets, lying about your age to get a better deal, and eating things in a supermarket without paying.

# CRIME SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime-4.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.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

*Three-quarters of British people commit micro crimes – 26th October, 2016*  
More free lessons at [www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com)

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

# WRITING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1610/161026-micro-crime-2.html>

Write about **crime** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner’s paper.

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