

London police given 1,000 acid attack kits

27th July, 2017



Police officers in London have been given 1,000 special kits to deal with acid attacks. This is because the number of crimes using acid on London's streets has been increasing. Two weeks ago, criminals sprayed acid in the faces of

people to rob them of their motorbikes. There were five different acid attacks on just one night. The number of crimes involving acid or other dangerous substances has more than doubled in London over the past three years. A leading plastic surgeon today said the number of patients he treats for acid attacks has reached "epidemic" levels in London. Professor Peter Dziewulski said there had been an "explosion" of cases involving acid since the start of last year.

Rapid response police cars will now carry the 1,000 acid attack response kits. The kits include protective clothing and five-litre bottles of water. This allows police officers to give immediate treatment to victims sprayed with acid. Experts have said the rise in acid attacks could be because of a crackdown on knives and guns. Street gangs are now using acid instead because it is easy to buy and easy to hide in soda bottles. Police spokesman Mike West spoke about acid attacks. He said: "These are life-changing injuries." He added: "I am confident that we are stepping up our response to this crime and we are looking for a safer way to identify some of the substances on the streets."

Sources: *the guardian.com* / *standard.c.uk* / *thetimes.co.uk*

Writing

City streets are becoming more dangerous. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

police / London / crimes / acid / dangerous / plastic surgeon / epidemic / explosion / response / protective clothing / treatment / knives / guns / injuries / confident

True / False

- The number of acid attacks on London's streets has been decreasing. T / F
- Two weeks ago, there were five acid attacks in one night. T / F
- A plastic surgeon said he hadn't treated any acid attack victims. T / F
- The article said gangs are using acid to create explosions. T / F
- The acid attack kits contain clothes that can protect people. T / F
- The article says the rise in acid attacks is because gangs don't like knives. T / F
- Street gangs are hiding acid in soda bottles. T / F
- A police spokesman was confident the police would make the streets safer. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| 1. deal with | a. hazardous |
| 2. increasing | b. conceal |
| 3. dangerous | c. widespread |
| 4. leading | d. sure |
| 5. epidemic | e. top |
| 6. protective | f. handle |
| 7. allows | g. recognize |
| 8. hide | h. safety |
| 9. confident | i. rising |
| 10. identify | j. lets |

Discussion – Student A

- How much crime is there in your town?
- What punishment should people get for acid attacks?
- Why might crimes be increasing?
- How safe are the streets in your country?
- Are there any areas in your town you would never walk at night?
- Should the government ban acid?
- How can the government reduce these crimes?
- What do you think about London?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1. the number | a. substances |
| 2. acid or other dangerous | b. involving acid |
| 3. A leading plastic | c. response to this crime |
| 4. reached "epidemic" | d. clothing |
| 5. there had been an "explosion" of cases | e. surgeon |
| 6. protective | f. treatment to victims |
| 7. give immediate | g. injuries |
| 8. a crackdown | h. levels in London |
| 9. life-changing | i. of crimes using acid |
| 10. we are stepping up our | j. on knives and guns |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- How much good do you think the kits will do?
- Why are so many young people turning to crime?
- Are cities more dangerous today than in the past?
- What do you think of gangs?
- What has brought the rise of gang culture?
- What advice do you have for the police?
- What questions would you like to ask the police officers?

Spelling

- pesialc kits to deal with acid attacks
- the number of ecsimr using acid
- apresdy acid in the faces
- other naurgeods substances
- A leading plastic oesgrun
- an seixlpono of cases
- The kits include itcvpeetor clothing
- give ammtiidee treatment
- a aodcrkcwn on knives and guns
- These are life-changing isjrnuei
- I am nitfodecn
- ndeytifi some of the substances

Answers – Synonym Match

1. i	2. c	3. a	4. e	5. c
6. h	7. j	8. b	9. d	10. g

Role Play

Role A – Parks

You think parks are the most dangerous places in or around a city. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their places are safe. Also, tell the others which is the safest of these (and why): city centers, shopping malls or the countryside.

Role B – City Centers

You think city centers are the most dangerous places in or around a city. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their places are safe. Also, tell the others which is the safest of these (and why): parks, shopping malls or the countryside.

Role C – Shopping Malls

You think shopping malls are the most dangerous places in or around a city. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their places are safe. Also, tell the others which is the safest of these (and why): city centers, parks or the countryside.

Role D – The Countryside

You think the countryside is the most dangerous place in or around a city. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their places are safe. Also, tell the others which is the safest of these (and why): city centers, shopping malls or parks.

Speaking – Dangerous

Rank these with your partner. Put the most dangerous places at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| • shopping malls | • parks |
| • suburban streets | • bars |
| • the countryside | • city centers |
| • apartment buildings | • parking lots |

Answers – True False

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

Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.