

GCE

LAW: PROPERTY OFFENCES, INCLUDING THEFT AND ROBBERY

BURGLARY SUGGESTED IDEAS FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING



SUGGESTED IDEAS FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING

Teacher /Lecturer:	
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Course:	A Level LAW
Topic:	Burglary
Session:	

Component:	A Level components 2 and 3
Ref. to specification:	Criminal Law
Suggested time allocation:	6-8 hours

Aims & Objectives: At the end of these sessions the student will be able to:

- **CLEARLY EXPLAIN** the actus reus and mens rea of burglary and what distinguishes this property offence
- **APPLY** the law of burglary to given scenarios
- **DISCUSS** reform of the law on burglary

Main Teaching and Learning Activities

Teacher/Lecturer Activities:

- Clearly outline the aims and objectives of the session as detailed above.
- Discuss the difference between theft, robbery and burglary.
- Review the two elements that are required to be proved for burglary, i.e. actus reus and mens rea, with questions to the students – refer to Theft Act 1968 s.9(1)(a) and s.9(1)(b).
- Explain the elements of the offence of burglary with reference to the Theft Act – actus reus and mens rea.
- Using the power point presentation, ask and answer any questions that come up throughout.
- Get the group to think and discuss the points/questions referred to in the power point.
- Using the power point presentation, go through the details relating to the case law cited.
- Set homework for students to research reform of the law to present next lesson.
- Provide case studies for the students to start to apply the elements of the law of burglary.

Student Activities:

- Answer revision questions at the start of the session.
- Ask and answer questions throughout presentation, taking comprehensive notes throughout.
- Participate in whole group discussion relating to property offences.

Suggested links / resources:

- IWB/Whiteboard
- Any good A Level Criminal Law textbook
- Handouts
- Internet use

Assessment

During the lesson	Students will be continually assessed as they participate in the session – asking and answering questions, involvement in small group work, whole group discussions or feedback. They will also be assessed on note taking to ensure they have sufficient details for revision purposes.
Subsequent to lesson	Homework requires the students to conduct a short piece of research on the internet and write up what they find. Students to be provided with case studies and to start to apply the law on robbery.

TOPIC: Theft

Questions:		Expected answers:
1.	Name the two types of burglary	s.9(1)(a) and s.9(1)(b) Theft Act 1968. There is also the offence of aggravated burglary under s.10 Theft Act 1968.
2.	What is burglary under s.9(1)(a)?	<p>person is guilty of burglary under s.9(1)(a) if he enters a building, or any part of a building, as a trespasser, with intent to either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • steal anything in the building, • inflict GBH on any person in the building • or doing unlawful damage to the building or anything in it.
3.	What is burglary under s.9(1)(b)?	A person is guilty of burglary under s.9(1)(b) if, having entered a building or part of a building as a trespasser, he steals, attempts to steal anything in the building or inflict or attempts to inflict GBH on any person therein.
4.	What is the maximum penalty for robbery?	14 years if the burglar has entered a dwelling or 10 years for any other building. Aggravated burglary carries max life imprisonment.
5.	What are the main differences between the two offences?	The main difference of the two offences of burglary is that under s.9(1)(a) the intention must be formed by the defendant at the time of entry whereas under s.9(1)(b) the intent to commit the ulterior offence can come later. What he intends on entry is not relevant. Also (a) covers unlawful damage whereas (b) does not.