

CRIMINOLOGY UNIT 1: LO1 Understand social constructions of criminality**AC1.1 COMPARE CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR AND DEVIANCE**

Content	Key Term	Explanation/Definition	Example(s)
CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR (Define)	Social Definition		
	Legal Definition		
	Formal Sanctions Against Criminals		
	Variety Of Criminal Acts		
DEVIANCE	Forms Of Deviance		
(Define)	Norms, Moral Codes & Values		
	Informal & Formal Sanctions Against Deviance		

UNIT/YEAR	YOUR RESPONSE
<p>MAY 2017</p> <p>Compare criminality and deviance with reference to relevant examples. – [5 Marks]</p>	<p>Criminality and deviance are similar because both show society's disapproval of certain actions and often result in consequences (sanctions). For example, stealing or assaulting someone is both criminal—it breaks the law—and deviant because it goes against social norms. However, there's a difference: criminal acts are usually deviant, but not all deviant acts are crimes. For instance, wearing bright clothes at a funeral or swearing loudly in public might be seen as deviant, but they're not illegal. The consequences, or sanctions, are different too. Criminal acts are punished with official penalties, like prison, fines, or community service, as set out in law. Deviant acts usually face informal consequences, like being judged, ignored, or criticised by others.</p>
<p>MAY 2018 - QUESTION 1A</p> <p>SCENARIO: Edna and Sidney are neighbours. Edna is obsessed with cats and has 40 of them in her house. She has lived in poverty for many years. Sidney is a wealthy; elderly punk rocker who always dresses in punk rocker clothes and styles his hair in a spiked multi-coloured mohawk. He also regularly illegally downloads music and plays it at high volume late at night. Edna and Sidney intensely dislike each other and regularly argue. Edna complains about the music and Sidney calls Edna 'a crazy old woman.' Many of their neighbours' shout abuse at Edna saying she is mad and needs locking up. Edna has never complained to the police about this. One night she found graffiti on her door saying, 'mad woman.' When she heard Sidney's music, she went to his house armed with a kitchen knife and stabbed him in the heart. He died shortly after the attack.</p>	
<p>Q: Describe what is meant by the term 'deviance'.] [3 Marks]</p>	<p>Deviance is breaking society's norms, whether minor, like not standing in a queue, or major, like murder. It's any behaviour that goes against what most people expect and causes disapproval or criticism. There are clear examples in the scenario, such as keeping 40 cats or dressing as an elderly punk rocker; this might not be illegal but is still considered deviant because they challenge social norms.</p>
<p>Q: Using examples from the scenario, explain behaviour that could be described as criminal, deviant, or both. [5]</p>	<p>In the scenario, some behaviours are criminal, some are deviant, and some are both. For example, Edna stabbing Sidney is both criminal and deviant because it breaks the law and goes against social norms. Sidney illegally downloading music is criminal because it violates copyright laws and, given Sidney's age, is probably deviant too. Deviant behaviours include Edna keeping 40 cats and Sidney dressing as a punk rocker with a spiked mohawk—these actions aren't illegal but challenge societal norms. The neighbours shouting abuse at Edna is also deviant because it's socially unacceptable, and the graffiti on her door is deviant and criminal. Sidney playing loud music late at night is both criminal and deviant since it likely breaks noise laws and disturbs others. This shows how some acts can be just deviant, just criminal, or a combination of both.</p>
<p>OCT 2020 - QUESTION 1A</p> <p>SCENARIO: Daniel and Arnold, 24, are identical twins who were separated at birth. Arnold remained with his birth parents while Daniel was adopted by a respectable and wealthy couple who have provided him with an affluent standard of living. Arnold's parents have pursued a life of crime, and Arnold has followed their example: he has been to prison twice for dishonesty offences including theft and fraud. Daniel also has a criminal record: he has been caught stealing to fund his unusual hobby of collecting exotic animals such as snakes, lizards and scorpions.</p>	
<p>Q: Compare the deviant behaviour of collecting exotic pets with the criminal behaviour of theft. [6]</p>	<p>In the scenario, Daniel's hobby of collecting exotic pets, such as snakes, lizards, and scorpions, is an example of deviant behaviour because it goes against societal norms. Most people don't engage in this activity, and some might find it odd, even though it's not necessarily illegal. In contrast, Arnold's involvement in theft is both criminal and deviant—it breaks the law and is punishable by legal consequences like fines or imprisonment, while also violating social expectations of honesty. Both behaviours challenge what society considers acceptable, but theft carries formal legal penalties, whereas keeping exotic pets typically only attracts social disapproval unless it involves illegal species or neglect</p>