

Main Ideas

As you read Chapter 20, think about the main idea of each section and answer the questions below.

Section 1: Thousands of crimes are committed in the United States each year. The crimes, their causes, and what people think the system should do about them vary widely.

1. Which is the most common crime in our society?

2. Why is there no single cause that can explain the problem of crime today?

Section 2: When an adult is arrested, he or she goes through a specific process. The process includes arraignment, indictment, trial, and sentencing or acquittal.

3. Police officers work at which level of government?

4. What are some major problems with our criminal justice system today?

Section 3: The juvenile justice system was especially designed for troubled youths younger than 18. This system involves a different process and different penalties than the adult criminal justice system.

5. What options does a police officer have once he or she has arrested a juvenile?

6. Why do some people think that we should do away with the juvenile justice system?
