

This Judge Really "Sentences" Criminals



Vocabulary Preview

- * committing: doing or performing
- * punishment: penalty; something someone is made to do because of his wrong behavior
- * purse: a small bag for carrying money and small personal items or accessories
- * disobeyed: refused to follow
- * rude: lacking good manners
- * sentencing: convicting or imposing a punishment on somebody

Pre-Listening Questions

1. Who is the judge mentioned in the article?
2. What kind of punishment does he give to people who commit crimes?
3. How many times do the offenders have to write?

Listening Activity

Instruction: Click the link below and listen to the news report by pressing the "Play" button.
<http://frayo.startlogic.com/Rachelle/Files/judge.mp3>

Text Completion Quiz

Instruction: Supply the missing words from the news report.

You had better think twice about _____ a crime in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. In fact, you had better think 5,000 times -- because that is how many times you might have to write about it! Judge Mike Erwin _____ many people to write about something they have done wrong. He believes a writing punish _____ can teach someone a real lesson.

"One woman walked into a pet shop to steal a parrot. She put the parrot in her _____ and tried to walk out with it. "I told her to write 'I will think before I do anything like that again' five thousand times," Erwin said.

Many of the people Judge Erwin punishes have _____ police officers. He may ask them to write, "I will never be _____ to the police again. Since he began his "_____", Erwin has not seen any people repeat their crimes. "It's a way to make people really think about what they did," Judge Erwin said.

Post-Listening Questions

1. What is the news report all about?
2. What do you think about the writing punishment? Is it effective?
3. Do you think the wrongdoers will ever repeat their crimes after the punishment?
4. What can you say about Judge Mike Erwin?