5.7 Aims of Punishment: Retribution, Deterrence, Rehabilitation and Reparation: 10-minute Pack

AQA 8192 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. For short answer questions a single word or short phrase may gain full marks; for extended answers write in full sentences. The whole paper is worth 43 marks and should take about 60 minutes.

1 Which one of the following BEST describes the aim of retribution in the context of punishment in criminal justice?

- ☐ A) Preventing crime by making an example of the offender
- ☐ B) Reforming the offender through training and education
- ☐ C) Making the offender suffer in proportion to the wrong done, just deserts
- ☐ D) Requiring the offender to repair harm to victims or the local community

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

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2 State one criticism often made of deterrence as an aim of punishment, and briefly explain the basis of that criticism.

(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)

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3 Item A: Research summary. A police report summarises two recent sentences for similar low-level criminal damage in the same town. Case 1: The offender received a fine equal to the damage plus public mention in court to warn others. Case 2: The offender received a requirement to pay compensation to the victim and attend an education course about community impact. Using Item A and your own knowledge, explain two different aims of punishment shown by these two sentences and link each aim to the correct case. (Context: short local sentencing examples.)

(Total for Question 3 is 4 marks)

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4 Define what is meant by 'proportionate punishment' in the context of retribution and give one short reason why proportionality matters for justice.

(Total for Question 4 is 2 marks)

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Mark scheme · 5.7 Aims of Punishment: Retribution, Deterrence, Rehabilitation and Reparation: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

C (retribution is just deserts, proportionate punishment) **B1**

Answer: C

Question 2

identifies a recognised criticism, e.g. deterrence assumes rational calculation of consequences which may not apply to impulsive or addicted offenders **B1**

brief development, e.g. so heavy penalties may not actually prevent those who offend without thinking about consequences **B1**

Answer: Criticism: deterrence assumes people weigh consequences rationally, but many offences involve impulsivity, emotion or addiction, so harsher penalties may not stop such offenders.

Question 3

identifies case 1 as showing general deterrence or retribution (one aim named correctly) **B1**

explains how case 1 links to that aim using Item A, e.g. fine and public mention warn others or show deserved punishment **B1**

identifies case 2 as showing reparation or rehabilitation (one aim named correctly) **B1**

explains how case 2 links to that aim using Item A, e.g. compensation repairs harm or education course aims to reform offender **B1**

Answer: Case 1 shows general deterrence because the fine plus public mention warns others not to offend; it can also be seen as retribution if the fine reflects deserved punishment. Case 2 shows reparation because the offender must compensate the victim, and rehabilitation because the education course aims to change the offender's understanding and reduce reoffending.

Question 4

defines proportionate punishment as a sentence fitting the seriousness of the offence **B1**

gives a reason why it matters, e.g. it maintains fairness and public confidence in the justice system **B1**

Answer: Proportionate punishment is a sentence that fits the seriousness of the offence. It matters because it maintains fairness and public confidence in the justice system by ensuring punishments are not arbitrary or excessive.

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