

A Robbery

Robbery in broad daylight leaves shop owner stunned

Police **are on the lookout for** two men who **held up** a shop in Weston yesterday and stole £2,000. The two **were lying in wait for** the owner, Rob Hadley, when he returned to the shop shortly after 2 p.m. Mr Hadley was held **at gunpoint** while the men took money from the till and the flat above the shop. They **made off with** the money along Ship Street and escaped across the common. Mr Hadley said he was stunned by the attack. A police spokesperson, Ann Tandy, said they **were stepping up** their campaign to get guns off the streets **in the wake of** the robbery. 'We **will crack down hard on** anyone caught **in possession of** firearms,' said Tandy. 'We need to **nip this in the bud**.'

Glossary

in broad daylight	at a time of day when it is not dark or beginning to get dark (often used when you are surprised to see sth at this time of day).
be on the lookout for sb/sth	INF be looking carefully for sb/sth in order to find them.
hold sth up	use violence to steal from a shop, bank, etc.
lie in wait (for sb)	hide while waiting to surprise, attack, or catch sb.
at gunpoint	while being threatened with a gun.
make off with sth	steal sth and hurry away with it in order to escape.
step sth up	increase the amount or speed of sth.
in the wake of sth	coming soon after or following sth.
crack down (on sth/sb)	INF try harder to prevent an illegal activity and deal severely with those caught doing the activity. crackdown N.
in possession of sth	FML having or owning sth, often sth that is illegal or important.
nip sth in the bud	INF stop a bad situation from becoming worse by taking action at an early stage of its development.

1 Circle the logical answer(s). Sometimes both answers may be logical.

- 1 The police were lying in wait for *the robbers* | *their colleagues*.
- 2 We want to nip *roller skating* | *under-age drinking* in the bud.
- 3 They made off with the *money* | *jewels*.
- 4 She was in possession of *her clothes* | *secret information*.
- 5 They're having a crackdown on *shopping* | *gambling*.
- 6 The company want to step up their *idea* | *production*.

2 Write in the missing prepositions.

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|-------|----------------|----------|---|---------------|-----------|
| 1 lie | wait | somebody | 5 | the wake | something |
| 2 be | the lookout | somebody | 6 | make off | something |
| 3 | broad daylight | | 7 | possession | something |
| 4 | gunpoint | | 8 | nip something | the bud |

3 Complete the text. Then circle the full idioms and phrasal verbs.

Early yesterday morning the police received a tip-off about a robbery at the post office in Denton. They were (1) _____ in wait for the robbers when they arrived on the scene, and caught them as they attempted to (2) _____ off with the money. Both men were charged with robbery and being in (3) _____ of an illegal firearm. One of the police officers said that in the (4) _____ of several robberies in the area, they had been on the (5) _____ for these two men, and their arrest was a further success in their campaign to (6) _____ down on armed robbery in the area.