

- A**
- Read about five laws in different countries. **Two** are true and **three** are false.
  - Tell **B** about each law, using your own words. Then discuss each one together and decide whether you think it's true or false.
  - Listen to **B**'s laws and say whether you think they're true or false.

### Things you probably didn't know about the law in...

**1 Singapore** If you are caught dropping litter on three different occasions, you could get a very embarrassing sentence. You could be arrested and sentenced to cleaning the streets on Sundays. While you are cleaning, you have to wear a big sign saying 'I'm a litter bug' (= a person who frequently drops rubbish in the street).



**2 Bolivia** Kidnapping is considered to be a very serious crime in this South American country. However, if you are found guilty of this crime, the length of your prison sentence will vary depending on whether the person you kidnapped was male or female. A kidnapper will get a much longer prison sentence if the victim is a woman.

**3 The USA** The Arizona Desert is the only place on the planet where the Saguaro cactus grows. Cutting down one of these plants without a special permit is considered an act of vandalism under Arizona law, and you could be heavily fined if you're found guilty.

**4 Brazil** If a man is caught wearing a skirt in this country, he can be charged with immoral conduct and fined. However, if this crime is committed at Carnival time – then the police usually turn a blind eye (= pretend they haven't seen you).

**5 The Netherlands** The Dutch are a nation of dog lovers. If you are a dog owner and you commit a crime and are sentenced to go to prison, you do not need to worry about what will happen to your pet in your absence. The dog will be looked after by the state until you are released from prison.

- B**
- Read about five laws in different countries. **Three** are true and **two** are false.
  - Tell **A** about each law, using your own words. Then discuss each one together and decide whether you think it's true or false.
  - Listen to **A**'s laws and say whether you think they're true or false.

### Things you probably didn't know about the law in...

**1 France** The French are well known for being very protective of their language and culture. Under French law 70% of music on the radio must be by French artists between 8.00 a.m. and 8.00 p.m. Any radio station not obeying this law could be investigated, charged, and fined.

**2 Japan** One of the most popular presents for children is a robot pet, for example a robot dog. As these 'pets' have artificial intelligence, and behave like real animals, they are included in the Animal Protection Laws, and it is a crime to damage or mistreat one. If you are caught doing this you may be banned from ever owning a pet again, either real or robot.



**3 Switzerland** Many Swiss people live in blocks of flats and each building has a president who is responsible for the smooth running of this building. If you visit this country and stay in a flat, be careful! If you need to go to the toilet after 10.00 p.m. it's illegal to flush the toilet. If another neighbour hears you flushing, he or she can report you to the president of the building and you may even be fined by the police.

**4 Scotland** In England, if someone has been charged with a crime and has to go to court, he or she is considered innocent until proved guilty. However in Scotland the opposite is true – a suspect is considered guilty until proved innocent.

**5 England** One of the best ways to travel around London is on the Tube (the London Underground). But have you ever noticed that nobody ever whistles? This is because although you can read a book or talk to a friend while you're travelling, it is against the law to whistle. If a London Underground employee hears you, you could be reported to the police and even charged.