Top 10 Most Famous Robberies In History

1. Harry Winston
This robbery was carried out in December 2008. Four men, three dressed like women, entered a jewellery store and forced the working staff to rob it. They stole jewellery worth 108 million dollars.

2. Antwerp Diamond Center
Diamonds that are uncut are made to go through a process that is carried out at the Antwerp Diamond Center. Leonardo Notarbartolo headed a gang which managed to empty out 123 deposit boxes out of 189. The gems they stole were worth 100 million dollars and were never found.

3. United California Bank Robbery
A group headed by Amil Dinsio robbed the United California Bank. They cleaned out the safe deposit vault and managed to remove about 30 million dollars. While this may not seem like too much after going through this list, fact is that this robbery took place in 1972 and this money will probably be worth over 100 million dollars today. Even though the details are not clear, one can safely say that it was a great robbery!

4. Schiphol Airport Heist
This diamond robbery is considered to be the largest of its kind as gems worth over 118 million dollars were stolen. While a majority of these robberies involved fantastic plans and remarkable execution, this one didn’t. Their basic plan was to smash, grab and run. Four men carried it out and several have been arrested on the grounds that they were associated with the crime.

5. British Bank of the Middle East
In 1970, a terrorist group called PLO needed money, so they decided to rob a number of banks. The most significant one was the British Bank of the Middle East. They stole gold, current and stocks worth over 25 million pounds which would be worth about 100 million dollars today.
6. Knightsbridge Security Deposit
Valerio Viccei was a well known thief who moved to England from Italy and decided to continue his ‘trade’. He, along with his gang, emptied out safe deposits and left the bank with about 174 million dollars. However, he was arrested because he came back to England to get his Ferrari and was sentenced to over 20 years in prison. Unfortunately, he was killed in the year 2000.

7. Baghdad Bank Robbery
This bank robbery was carried out in 2007 in Iraq by 3 guards who worked at the bank. They managed to empty out about 282 million dollars and it has been speculated that they took the help of some militias. The money was never recovered and the media did not think it necessary to cover this robbery as much as they should have.

8. Boston Museum
Two men disguised themselves as police officers and told the security guards at a particular Boston museum that they were doing a routine check. It took 81 minutes and they stole about 12 paintings, which were worth 300 million dollars 20 years ago.

9. City Bonds Robbery
In May 1990, a messenger was carrying bearer bonds when he was mugged. Since bearer bonds are as good as cash, the person who mugged him was quite lucky. The worth of these bonds has been estimated at 292 million pounds at that time.

10. Central Bank of Iraq
Saddam Hussein felt that the Central Bank of Iraq was his own and that he could withdraw any amount whenever he wanted. He sent his son to withdraw over 1 billion dollars but was soon caught.

1 US Dollar = 7 svenska kronor (2012-01-15)
Which robbery?

Choose from the texts on the previous page. Write the right number in the box.
*Välj bland texterna på föregående sida. Skriv rätt siffra i rutan.*

A. A great diamond robbery with no remarkable plan, it was just smash, grab and run.

B. Uncut diamonds were stolen by Leonardo and were never found.

C. A mugger was lucky stealing bonds worth over 200 million pounds.

D. Three men dressed as women forced the staff to help them steal jewellery.

E. The robber was caught when went home to England to get his sports car.

F. A robbery carried out by a terrorist group.

G. This bank was robbed by its own guards. They stole over 200 million dollars.

H. A great robbery taking place a long time ago.

I. Two police men were doing a routine check. It later turned out they were robbers!

J. These burglars managed to empty out 123 deposit boxes.

K. This was a big robbery but the media didn’t cover it as much as they should have.

L. An enormous cash withdraw of 1 billion dollars was stopped.
1. TAKING A PERSON AGAINST THEIR WILL IS CALLED ______________________.

2. THE ACTION OF TAKING SOMETHING THAT DOESN’T BELONG TO YOU.

3. A __________ IS SOMEONE WHO VIOLENTLY ATTACKS ANOTHER PERSON IN ORDER TO TAKE POSSESSION OF SOMETHING THAT BELONGS TO THAT PERSON.

4. A __________________ IS A PERSON WHO COMMITS HOMICIDE.

5. THE ACTION OF GOING INTO A BANK AND DEMANDING MONEY WHILE HOLDING A WEAPON.

6. THIS PERSON COMES INTO ONE’S HOME AND TAKES THEIR THINGS.

7. THIS PERSON TAKES YOUR MONEY FROM YOUR POCKET WITHOUT YOU NOTICING AT ALL!

8. THIS IS THE ACT OF STEALING.

9. IF YOU SIGN A FALSE NAME ON A DOCUMENT OR A CHEQUE, YOU ARE COMMITTING _______________.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MUGGER</th>
<th>THEFT</th>
<th>PICKPOCKET</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KIDNAPPING</td>
<td>MURDERER</td>
<td>BURGLAR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROB</td>
<td>FORGERY</td>
<td>STEAL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Jenny Collin, Enebyskolan H, Norrköping – www.lektion.se
Three famous bank robbers

John Dillinger
(1903 –1934)

Dillinger was an American bank robber. He was charged with, but never convicted of, the murder of an Chicago police officer during a shoot-out. This was his only alleged homicide. His gang robbed two dozen banks and four police stations. Dillinger escaped from jail twice.

In 1933–34 Dillinger was the most notorious of all, standing out even among more violent criminals such as Baby Face Nelson, Pretty Boy Floyd, and Bonnie and Clyde. Media reports were spiced with exaggerated accounts of Dillinger's bravado and daring and his colourful personality. The government demanded federal action and J. Edgar Hoover developed a more sophisticated Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) as a weapon against organized crime. Hoover used Dillinger and his gang as his campaign platform to launch the FBI.

After evading police in four states for almost a year, Dillinger was wounded and returned to his father's home to recover. He returned to Chicago in July 1934 and met his end at the hands of police and federal agents who had been informed of his whereabouts. Federal agents moved to arrest him as he left the theater. He pulled a weapon and attempted to flee but was shot three times and killed.

Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow
(1910 –1934) (1909 –1934)

Bonnie and Clyde were well-known outlaws, robbers, and criminals who travelled the Central United States with their gang during the Great Depression. Though known today for his dozen-or-so bank robberies, Barrow in fact preferred to rob small stores or gas stations. The gang is believed to have killed at least nine police officers and committed several civilian murders. The couple themselves were eventually ambushed and killed in Louisiana by law officers. Their reputation was cemented in America by Arthur Penn's film Bonnie and Clyde from 1967.

Bonnie was present at a hundred or more felonies during her two years as Clyde's companion, but she was not the machine gun-wielding killer portrayed in the newspapers of the day. Gang member W. D. Jones was unsure whether he had ever seen her fire at officers.

Clyde Barrow and Bonnie Parker were young and unmarried. They undoubtedly slept together—after all, the girl smoked cigars... Without Bonnie, the media outside Texas might have dismissed Clyde as a gun-crazy punk.
Questions for "Three famous bank robbers"

1. Dillinger was accused of murder. Was he ever convicted? And who was the man they believe he killed?

___________________________________________________________________________

2. How many banks did Dillinger rob with his gang?

___________________________________________________________________________

3. Who is Baby Face Nelson?

___________________________________________________________________________

4. What did J. Edgar Hoover develop?

___________________________________________________________________________

5. How did Dillinger die?

___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________

6. Bonnie and Clyde were accused of murder. How many people did they kill?

___________________________________________________________________________

7. How did Bonnie and Clyde die?

___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________

8. What does “felonies” mean?

___________________________________________________________________________

9. In what way is Bonnie not a “machine gun-wielding killer”?

___________________________________________________________________________
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>WORDLIST</th>
<th>Top 10 Most Famous Robberies In History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1. | Harry Winston | carried out utfördes  
jewellery store smyckesaffär  
force tvinga  
staff personal  
worth värt |
| 2. | Antwerp Diamond Center | uncut oslipade  
carried out utförs  
headed ledde  
manage hår: lyckas  
empty hår: tömma  
deposit box kassaskåp  
gems ädelstenar |
| 3. | United California Bank Robbery | vault valv  
remove ta bort/ta  
probably förmodligen |
| 4. | Schiphol Airport Heist | heist stöt  
remarkable anmärkningsvårt  
execution hår: genomförande  
smash krossa  
grab ta tag i/ta  
several flera  
on the grounds of på grund av  
asssociated förknippad |
| 5. | British Bank of the Middle East | decide besluta sig  
significant betyande  
current valuta (pengar)  
stocks börsäter |
along with tillsammans med  
however dock/emellertid  
sentenced dömdes  
unfortunately olyckligtvis |
| 7. | Baghdad Bank Robbery | guard vakt  
managed hår: lyckades  
speculated spekulerats  
militias milis (militärer)  
recovered återfunna  
necessary nödvändigt  
cover hår: övervaka |
| 8. | Boston Museum | disguised as förklädd till  
particular särskilt  
routine check rutinkontroll |
| 9. | City Bonds Robbery | city bonds statsobligationer  
messenger budhärare  
bearer bonds skuldbrev  
mugged rånad  
since hår: eftersom  
cash kontanter  
quite ganska  
estimated uppskattade |
| 10. | Central Bank of Iraq | withdraw ta ut  
amount summa  
whenever när som helst  
caught fångad/påkommen |
Three famous bank robbers

**John Dillinger**

charged with
convicted
shoot-out
alleged
homicide
a dozen
escape
jail
twice
notorious
violent
such as
spiced
exaggerated
accounts
bravado
daring
government
demand
federal
develop
investigation
campaign platform
launch
evade
recover
whereabouts
attempt
flee

**Bonnie and Clyde**

out-laws
the Great Depression
though
prefer
gas station
committed
several
couple
ambushed
law-officers
reputation
cemented
present
felonies
during
machine gun-wielding
portrayed
unmarried
undoubtedly
dismissed
gun-crazy
punk

Jenny Collin, Enebyskolan H, Norrköping – www.lektion.se