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Activity: Research and discussion

The Thirsk rail crash

Learning objective

At the end of this activity you should be able to:

- determine the facts of a case and consider whether you would deliver the same sentence.

A. Using the link below, complete questions 1 to 4 that follow. Work in small groups.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1892_Thirsk_rail_crash

The link gives details of the Thirsk Rail Crash in 1892.

1. Using the 'Events' section of the article, briefly explain what happened.
 2. What happened to James Holmes in the aftermath?
 3. Who else was found to be at fault in relation to the crash?
 4. How could the crash have been prevented?
- C. Use your group responses to take part in a whole class discussion on whether you would have given Holmes an absolute discharge. In your discussion, consider Holmes' situation and also the impact of the crash.