

Name _____

The Impact of the Boston Tea Party on the American Colonies

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Answer: The Boston Tea Party served as a catalyst for colonial unity by unifying colonists from various regions in support of Massachusetts. It demonstrated the colonies' collective opposition to British oppression and contributed to the convening of the First Continental Congress. This event set the stage for the American Revolution by solidifying colonial resistance, escalating tensions with the British government, and inspiring further acts of protest and defiance.
2. Answer: The Coercive Acts, also known as the Intolerable Acts, were punitive measures imposed by the British government in response to the Boston Tea Party. They intensified colonial resistance by closing Boston Harbor, restricting town meetings, and quartering British troops. These actions antagonized the colonies, leading to greater solidarity and support for Massachusetts. The Coercive Acts played a crucial role in pushing the colonies toward independence by further highlighting British oppression and the need for self-determination.
3. Answer: The Boston Tea Party had long-term consequences by worsening the relationship between the American colonies and the British government. It intensified colonial grievances and led to punitive measures like the Coercive Acts, which further fueled resistance. The event also solidified the colonies' commitment to self-determination and united them against British oppression. Ultimately, the Boston Tea Party played a pivotal role in shaping the course of American history by contributing to the lead-up to the American Revolution and the eventual fight for independence.
4. Answer: As a colonist living after the Boston Tea Party, I would likely feel a sense of increasing tension and frustration with the British government. The punitive Coercive Acts would be seen as unjust and oppressive. I would hope for a peaceful resolution but also recognize the growing need for colonial unity and self-determination. The events following the Boston Tea Party would likely instill a sense of resolve and readiness to stand up for our rights and liberties in the face of British oppression.

