

Name _____

The British Response to the Boston Tea Party

Short Answer Key

1. Answer: The Coercive Acts were punitive measures imposed by the British government in response to the Boston Tea Party. They included the Boston Port Act, which closed Boston Harbor; the Massachusetts Government Act, which annulled the colony's charter; the Administration of Justice Act, which allowed trials of British officials in England; and the Quartering Act, which required colonists to provide housing and supplies for British troops. Their purpose was to punish Massachusetts and assert British control.
2. Answer: The British response, including the closure of Boston Harbor under the Boston Port Act, severely impacted trade and commerce in Boston. The port closure halted trade activities, causing economic hardship for the city and its residents.
3. Answer: The Quartering Act required colonists to provide housing and supplies for British troops. This placed a burden on colonists and infringed on their privacy and property rights. It was one of the punitive measures imposed on the colonies as a result of the Boston Tea Party.
4. Answer: The British government's response, including the Coercive Acts, reinforcement of troops, and increased taxes, escalated tensions by further infringing on colonial rights and self-governance. These actions fueled colonial resentment and resistance, pushing the colonies closer to armed conflict and eventual independence.
5. Answer: In response to the British government's actions, including the Coercive Acts and military presence, a significant shift in public opinion occurred in the American colonies. Many who had previously been loyal to the British Crown began to question its authority and legitimacy. This shift led to a growing call for greater colonial autonomy and self-determination.

