

Name _____

The British East India Company and the Boston Tea Party

Short Answer Key

1. The British East India Company owned the tea that was destroyed in the Boston Tea Party, making it a target of the protest. The colonists believed that the Tea Act was part of a broader attempt by the British government to assert control over the colonies and generate revenue.
2. The Tea Act of 1773 angered the American colonists because it allowed the British East India Company to sell tea directly to the colonies, undercutting local merchants. This led to protests and boycotts, ultimately culminating in the Boston Tea Party.
3. The events leading up to the Boston Tea Party included the passage of the Tea Act, the arrival of British East India Company tea in Boston, protests and boycotts by the colonists, and the eventual destruction of the tea in Boston Harbor.
4. The American colonists believed that the Tea Act was part of a broader pattern of British attempts to control colonial affairs, including taxation without representation. They saw it as an infringement on their rights and an effort to establish British economic dominance in the colonies.
5. The American colonists intended to send a clear message of resistance to British taxation and control by dumping the British East India Company tea into Boston Harbor. They wanted to show that they would not accept unfair taxation without a fight.

