

Name _____

The Boston Tea Party: A Spark Igniting Revolution

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. The events leading up to the Boston Tea Party included the imposition of various taxes on the American colonies by the British government, such as the Stamp Act and the Tea Act of 1773. The colonists opposed these taxes because they felt they were unjust and imposed without their representation in the British Parliament. The Boston Tea Party symbolized their resistance and unity, serving as a significant moment in the lead-up to the American Revolution.
2. The Boston Tea Party served as a symbol of colonial unity and resistance against British oppression because it demonstrated that the colonists, from different backgrounds and regions, could come together to take a stand against British tyranny. By disguising themselves as Mohawk Indians and collectively dumping tea into the harbor, they showed their determination to resist British control.
3. The Coercive Acts, also known as the Intolerable Acts, were a series of punitive measures imposed by the British government in response to the Boston Tea Party. These acts included the closure of the Boston Harbor, the suspension of self-government in Massachusetts, and the quartering of British troops in private homes. The Coercive Acts aimed to punish Massachusetts for the Tea Party and tighten British control over the colonies, further aggravating colonial resentment.
4. Propaganda played a crucial role in the American Revolution, and the Boston Tea Party was no exception. The event was widely publicized, both within the colonies and abroad, as a symbol of colonial resistance against British oppression. It garnered sympathy for the American cause and contributed to the growing anti-British sentiment. This support and awareness were essential in mobilizing resources and international assistance for the colonists during the revolutionary struggle.

