

Name _____

Warning Signs and Attempts to Prevent the Boston Tea Party

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Answer: The British government's attempts, such as repealing some taxes and passing the Tea Act, failed because they did not address the core issue of colonial discontent: taxation without representation. Colonists believed that they should have a say in decisions affecting their taxes, and these attempts did not grant them that representation. Additionally, the continued presence of British troops and perceived British interference in colonial affairs contributed to ongoing tensions.
2. Answer: Answers will vary but may include concerns about unfair taxation, frustration with British interference in colonial affairs, and a desire for representation in decision-making. Support for protests and boycotts might stem from a belief in the principles of self-determination and opposition to what was seen as unjust British policies.
3. Answer: Governor Hutchinson's warning highlighted the potential for unrest in Boston if British tea were landed. His warning was not heeded because the British government may have underestimated the depth of colonial resentment. The impact was significant as it showed that the British government was aware of the potential for conflict and may have contributed to the decision to send the tea ships to Boston, resulting in the Boston Tea Party.
4. Answer: The Boston Tea Party marked a turning point in colonial resistance. It demonstrated the colonists' determination to assert their rights and oppose British taxation without representation. This event, along with other factors, eventually led to the American Revolution and the separation of the American colonies from British rule. The Boston Tea Party remains a symbol of colonial defiance and the fight for independence.

