



Name _____ Date _____

BOSTON TEA PARTY

In the year 1773, there was a lot of tension between the American colonies and Britain. Britain was trying to control the colonies, but the people of the colonies were trying to fight British control. The British passed a tea act, which they felt would force the people of the colonies to buy their tea. The British sold the tea at a very cheap price. This way, they could also tax them for the tea. The British sent ships with tea to America.

As three ships filled with tea came into Boston Harbor, the colonists demanded that the leader of the colony make the ships leave. But the leader of the colony refused to do this. The people who lived there decided to take care of the boats themselves. In the middle of the night, a group of men dressed as Indians went aboard the ships. They threw all 342 chests of tea overboard into the water. People gathered along the shore. They cheered the men on. This famous event became known as the Boston Tea Party.

The King of England was upset. He did not like what the people in Boston had done. He helped pass a law to punish the men who dumped the tea into the water. This law only made the feelings between the two groups more tense. The British kept trying to control the colonies, and the colonies kept refusing. This was one of the significant events that led up to the Revolutionary War.

STORY QUESTIONS

- Which statement best explains the reason for the Boston Tea Party?
 - The colonists were celebrating their taxes.
 - The colonists were starting a new tradition.
 - The colonists were exercising and demonstrating their independence from England.
 - The colonists were upset with the leader of the colony.
- Where in the passage does it explain the response of the King of England?

a. first paragraph	c. second paragraph
b. end of the second paragraph	d. beginning of the third paragraph
- Which statement explains the reason behind the name *Boston Tea Party*?
 - The refreshment at the party was tea.
 - The tea party took place in Boston.
 - The name is a way to show defiance to England.
 - All the colonists were delivered free tea from the King of England.
- What is the author's opinion of the Boston Tea Party?

a. unbiased and disinterested	c. you can't tell from reading the passage
b. impressed and appreciative	d. supportive and encouraging