

# Road to Independence

Trace causes, events, and effects in the American Revolution.

**SS.5.A.5** "American Revolution and Birth of a New Nation"

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## 1 READ AND MARK \_\_\_\_\_ Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Circle each cause of colonial resistance, put a box around each major event, and underline each effect or result. These marks will help you trace how one action led to another.

### From Protest to Independence

- ① In 1773, Britain kept a tax on tea sold in the colonies. Many colonists believed Parliament should not tax them because they had no elected representatives there. To protest, members of the Sons of Liberty boarded ships in Boston Harbor and dumped tea into the water. This event became known as the Boston Tea Party.
- ② Britain answered with the Intolerable Acts in 1774. These laws closed Boston's port and increased British control of Massachusetts. Instead of ending resistance, the laws angered many colonists and encouraged the colonies to work together. Delegates met at the First Continental Congress to discuss a response, including a boycott of goods shipped from Britain in protest.
- ③ Fighting began in 1775 at Lexington and Concord. In 1776, the Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence, explaining why the colonies wanted to be free. After years of war, American and French forces trapped British troops at Yorktown in 1781. The British surrender helped lead to the Treaty of Paris in 1783, which recognized the United States as independent.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What belief caused many colonists to protest the British tax on tea?

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2 How did the Intolerable Acts affect the colonists' response to Britain?

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3 Put these events in order from earliest to latest: the Declaration of Independence, the Intolerable Acts, and the victory at Yorktown.

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4 How did the British surrender at Yorktown help lead to American independence?

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## 3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write a three-sentence cause, event, and effect chain showing how a colonial boycott could show resistance to Britain. Label your sentences Cause, Event, and Effect.

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**PART 1 • READ AND MARK**

Circle each cause of colonial resistance, put a box around each major event, and underline each effect or result. These marks will help you trace how one action led to another. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

**PART 2 • ANSWERS**

| # | QUESTION                                                                                                                               | ANSWER                                                                                                 |
|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | What belief caused many colonists to protest the British tax on tea?                                                                   | <b>They believed Parliament should not tax them because they had no elected representatives there.</b> |
| 2 | How did the Intolerable Acts affect the colonists' response to Britain?                                                                | <b>The laws angered many colonists and encouraged the colonies to work together.</b>                   |
| 3 | Put these events in order from earliest to latest: the Declaration of Independence, the Intolerable Acts, and the victory at Yorktown. | <b>The Intolerable Acts, the Declaration of Independence, then the victory at Yorktown.</b>            |
| 4 | How did the British surrender at Yorktown help lead to American independence?                                                          | <b>It helped lead to the Treaty of Paris, which recognized the United States as independent.</b>       |

**PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)**

Cause: A shopkeeper is upset because Britain taxes imported cloth. Event: The shopkeeper joins neighbors in refusing to buy British cloth. Effect: British merchants sell less cloth, and colonists show their resistance.

Accept equivalent explanations that accurately connect a British action or colonial belief to a colonial response and result. For the open response, accept a historically reasonable boycott chain with a clear cause, event, and effect.