Acts and Action

How two British laws led colonists to work together

5.C.3.2.A "Describe the impact of the Stamp Act and Quartering Act which prompted formation of the Stamp Act Congress."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one effect of the Stamp Act and circle one effect of the Quartering Act. Number the sentences that explain why delegates met and what they did.

Why the Colonies Met

1. In 1765, a printer in Boston reached for a sheet of paper. Under Britain's new Stamp Act, many paper items, including newspapers and legal documents, had to carry a paid stamp. The stamp showed that a British tax had been paid. Printers and readers faced higher costs. Colonists objected because Parliament had passed the tax without a vote by their own elected representatives.

2. That same year, Parliament passed the Quartering Act. It required colonial governments to provide supplies and places to stay for British troops. These places included barracks and public buildings, not a general order to house soldiers in private homes. Paying for food, candles, and other needs placed costs on the colonies. Many colonists felt that Britain was making decisions about their money without their consent.

3. Anger over British policies pushed colonies to work together. In October 1765, delegates from nine colonies met in New York City at the Stamp Act Congress. They argued that colonists should be taxed only with the consent of their own elected representatives. They sent petitions to the king and Parliament calling for the Stamp Act to be repealed. The Quartering Act added to colonial complaints, while the Stamp Act was the congress's main target.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did the Stamp Act affect people who printed or read newspapers?

2. How did the Quartering Act affect colonial governments?

3. Why did colonists object to Parliament's Stamp Act tax?

4. How did the delegates respond to the Stamp Act, and how did the Quartering Act fit into their complaints?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a four-sentence note to a neighbor who missed the Stamp Act Congress. Explain one effect of each act, why delegates met, and one peaceful action your neighbor could take.

ANSWER KEY

Acts and Action

GRADE 5 · 5.C.3.2.A

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one effect of the Stamp Act and circle one effect of the Quartering Act. Number the sentences that explain why delegates met and what they did. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the Stamp Act affect people who printed or read newspapers?	**Newspapers needed paid stamps, which raised costs for printers and readers.**
2	How did the Quartering Act affect colonial governments?	**It required them to provide places and supplies for British troops, adding costs.**
3	Why did colonists object to Parliament's Stamp Act tax?	**Their own elected representatives had not voted on the tax.**
4	How did the delegates respond to the Stamp Act, and how did the Quartering Act fit into their complaints?	**They sent petitions asking the king and Parliament to repeal the Stamp Act. The Quartering Act added to colonial complaints, but the Stamp Act was their main target.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The Stamp Act raised the cost of newspapers because they needed paid stamps. The Quartering Act made colonial governments pay to supply British troops and provide places for them to stay. Delegates met to challenge a tax passed without the consent of colonists' elected representatives. You could write to your assembly and ask it to support a petition for repeal.

Accept accurate descriptions in students' own words. For Part 3, the peaceful action may be an original idea, but it should fit the situation in 1765.