Three Ways to Resist

Compare how colonial groups responded to British actions

5.C.3.3.A "Compare the role of the Sons of Liberty, the Committees of Correspondence, and the Minutemen."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline actions of the Sons of Liberty, circle actions of the Committees of Correspondence, and box actions of the Minutemen. Use your marks to compare their roles.

Protests, Letters, and Ready Militia

1. In the 1760s, new British taxes angered many colonists. The Sons of Liberty helped turn that anger into public action. Members organized protests and urged neighbors not to buy British goods. Some took part in the Boston Tea Party in 1773, when colonists dumped taxed tea into the harbor. This group tried to make British leaders notice colonial objections by putting pressure on trade and officials.

2. A protest in one town could fade if other towns never heard about it. Committees of Correspondence solved that problem by sending letters between colonies. Their letters shared news about British actions and helped colonial leaders plan a united response. Unlike the Sons of Liberty, whose public protests were easy to see, these committees worked mainly by moving information. Both groups helped colonists act together instead of alone.

3. The Minutemen had a different job. They were colonial militia members who trained to be ready to fight on short notice. In April 1775, Minutemen faced British troops at Lexington and Concord in Massachusetts. They did not mainly organize boycotts or carry letters between colonies. The Sons of Liberty rallied people through protest, the committees linked communities through news, and the Minutemen prepared to defend them with weapons.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did the Sons of Liberty and the Committees of Correspondence use different methods to help colonists act together?

2. How was the Minutemen's response to British actions different from the Sons of Liberty's response?

3. How did the Committees of Correspondence and the Minutemen each help colonists prepare for possible conflict?

4. What goal did all three groups share, and what different method did each use?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine you are planning a colonial town meeting after hearing about a new British tax and a possible march by British troops. Write three or four sentences giving each group a different job and explaining how the jobs work together.

ANSWER KEY

Three Ways to Resist

GRADE 5 · 5.C.3.3.A

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline actions of the Sons of Liberty, circle actions of the Committees of Correspondence, and box actions of the Minutemen. Use your marks to compare their roles. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the Sons of Liberty and the Committees of Correspondence use different methods to help colonists act together?	**The Sons of Liberty organized public protests and urged boycotts. The committees sent letters that shared news and helped leaders plan a united response.**
2	How was the Minutemen's response to British actions different from the Sons of Liberty's response?	**The Minutemen trained to fight on short notice, while the Sons of Liberty organized protests and urged people not to buy British goods.**
3	How did the Committees of Correspondence and the Minutemen each help colonists prepare for possible conflict?	**The committees shared news and helped leaders plan together. The Minutemen trained so they could fight if needed.**
4	What goal did all three groups share, and what different method did each use?	**All three helped colonists respond to British actions. The Sons of Liberty protested, the committees shared news by letter, and the Minutemen prepared to fight.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I would ask the Sons of Liberty to protest the tax and urge neighbors not to buy British goods. I would ask the Committees of Correspondence to send letters so nearby towns hear about the tax and the possible troop march. I would ask the Minutemen to train and be ready if troops arrive. These jobs work together because protests draw attention, letters spread news, and trained militia members can respond quickly.

Accept responses that distinguish public protest, sharing news between colonies, and readiness to fight. Students may describe other reasonable ways these roles could work together.