

# Tea to Tension

Trace how actions and reactions increased conflict between Britain and the colonies.

**S.USII.f** "determining and explaining cause-and-effect relationships;"

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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

**YOUR JOB** Underline each cause in the passage and circle the effect that followed it. Number the cause-and-effect chains in the order they happened.

### From Tea Protest to Conflict

- ① In 1773, Britain kept a tax on tea sold in the American colonies. Parliament also passed the Tea Act, which let the East India Company sell tea at a low price. Many colonists believed buying this tea would show that they accepted Parliament's right to tax them. In Boston, protesters prevented ships from unloading tea. On December 16, a group boarded three ships and dumped 342 chests of tea into Boston Harbor. Their action became known as the Boston Tea Party.
- ② British leaders were angry because tea had been destroyed and the company lost money. In 1774, Parliament passed the Coercive Acts. To pressure Boston, one law closed the harbor until the tea was paid for. Other laws limited Massachusetts's self-government and allowed some royal officials accused of serious crimes to be tried outside Massachusetts. The closed harbor hurt workers, merchants, and families who depended on ships and trade. Many colonists saw these laws as unfair punishment and began supporting Boston.
- ③ Support for Boston led delegates from twelve colonies to meet in Philadelphia in 1774. This meeting, called the First Continental Congress, coordinated a response. Delegates asked colonists to stop buying many British goods. They hoped a boycott would pressure Britain to change its policies. Instead, tensions continued. In 1775, fighting began between British soldiers and colonial militia at Lexington and Concord. The Tea Party did not cause the Revolution by itself, but it helped start a chain of events that deepened the conflict.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Why did many colonists oppose buying the low-priced tea from the East India Company?

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2 What British action followed the Boston Tea Party, and why did Parliament take that action?

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3 How did the closing of Boston Harbor affect people in Boston and colonists in other places?

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4 Explain how support for Boston led to a colonial response in 1774.

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## 3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write three sentences that trace a cause-and-effect chain from a British action to a colonial response and then to a later result. Use because, so, or as a result in each sentence.

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**PART 1 • READ AND MARK**

Underline each cause in the passage and circle the effect that followed it. Number the cause-and-effect chains in the order they happened. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

**PART 2 • ANSWERS**

| # | QUESTION                                                                                    | ANSWER                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Why did many colonists oppose buying the low-priced tea from the East India Company?        | <b>They believed buying the tea would show that they accepted Parliament's right to tax them.</b>                                                                                         |
| 2 | What British action followed the Boston Tea Party, and why did Parliament take that action? | <b>Parliament passed the Coercive Acts because British leaders were angry that tea had been destroyed and the company had lost money.</b>                                                 |
| 3 | How did the closing of Boston Harbor affect people in Boston and colonists in other places? | <b>It hurt workers, merchants, and families who depended on trade. Many colonists also viewed the laws as unfair punishment and began supporting Boston.</b>                              |
| 4 | Explain how support for Boston led to a colonial response in 1774.                          | <b>Support for Boston led delegates from twelve colonies to meet at the First Continental Congress, where they coordinated a response and called for a boycott of many British goods.</b> |

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

Parliament kept a tax on tea, so many colonists believed Britain was claiming the right to tax them. Because protesters dumped tea into Boston Harbor, Parliament passed laws to pressure Boston. As a result of those laws, colonists supported Boston and delegates met at the First Continental Congress. Accept accurate cause-and-effect chains drawn from the passage, even when students use different linking words. For Part 3, the response should include a British action, a colonial response, and a later result in a logical sequence.