

Name _____



From Tea to Tyranny

Directions: Read the historical passage below carefully. Complete the **Cause & Effect Chain Chart** by filling in what happened first, what it led to, and the final outcome. Then, answer the reflection questions to show deeper understanding.

The Boston Tea Party (1773)

Tensions had been growing between the American colonists and the British government for years. The British imposed taxes on imported goods, such as paper, glass, and tea, to raise money after costly wars. Many colonists protested, arguing that it was unfair to be taxed without having representation in Parliament. When the Tea Act was passed in 1773, it gave the struggling British East India Company the right to sell tea directly to the colonies, making it cheaper but still taxed. Colonists viewed this as a trick to make them accept Parliament's power to tax them. In response, a group of colonists in Boston disguised themselves as Native Americans and boarded ships in the harbor. They dumped hundreds of chests of tea into the water. This event, later called the Boston Tea Party, angered the British government. Britain reacted by passing harsh laws, known as the Coercive Acts, which only deepened colonial resistance and pushed the colonies closer to revolution.

Cause (Event/Decision)	Effect (Result/Outcome)
1.	2.
3.	4.
5.	6.

1. Why did colonists see the Tea Act as more than just about the price of tea?
2. How did the British government's response affect the relationship between the colonies and Britain?
3. Do you think the colonists could have taken a different action to protest the Tea Act? Why or why not?