

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Cause And Effect Sources

**Directions:** Read the passage below. Notice how the characters use different types of sources to learn about the same event. After reading, answer the questions that follow by showing how **the type of source (primary or secondary) caused different effects on their conclusions.**

When researching the Boston Tea Party, Alex found an old letter written in 1773 by a man who had participated in the protest. The letter described the chaos at the harbor, the disguises worn by the colonists, and the tension in the crowd. Reading it gave Alex a vivid picture of what it felt like to be there that night.

Meanwhile, his classmate Maya read a modern history book that explained the Boston Tea Party as part of the larger chain of events leading to the American Revolution. The book emphasized economic struggles, political decisions, and how the protest symbolized unity among the colonies. Maya came away understanding its historical importance but not the personal emotions of the people who were present.

Both students used valid sources, but their conclusions were shaped by whether the source gave them a direct personal experience or a broad interpretation.

1. What kind of source did Alex use, and how did it affect his conclusion?
2. What kind of source did Maya use, and how did it affect her conclusion?
3. How might combining both Alex's and Maya's sources lead to a stronger overall understanding of the Boston Tea Party?
4. In your own words, explain one advantage of using a primary source and one advantage of using a secondary source.