

Name _____

Tea Party Journals Answer Key

Examples of emotional or biased language:

- "My heart is pounding"
- "The King's greedy taxes"
- "It felt like freedom itself was rising with it"
- "Some men called it destruction, but I call it courage"

Examples of factual information:

- "We gathered quietly near the harbor, disguised as Mohawk Indians."
- "We dumped the tea chests into the water."
- "The event took place on December 16, 1773."

Purpose of distinction: Historians separate opinion from fact to understand what truly happened versus how people *felt* about the event.

Teacher's Guide

- Review the difference between **fact** (provable) and **opinion** (belief or feeling) before reading.
- Encourage students to read aloud to hear how emotion changes tone.
- **Differentiation:**
 - Provide color-coded highlighters-one for facts, one for opinions-for visual learners.
 - Challenge advanced students to rewrite the entry as a neutral newspaper report.
- **Engagement idea:** Have students role-play as "historical detectives" identifying clues of bias in the text.
- **Extension activity:** Students write a short diary entry from a Loyalist's point of view describing the same event, using both factual and emotional language.