

Tea Party Debate Answer Key

Student responses will vary, but strong answers should include:

- Clear stance (**for** or **against**) the Boston Tea Party.
- Historical evidence such as "taxation without representation," "the Tea Act," or "British retaliation through the Intolerable Acts."
- Logical reasoning that connects cause and effect (e.g., "The protest showed unity" or "It hurt trade and angered Britain").

Examples:

- **For:** "The colonists had no voice in Parliament, so the Boston Tea Party was a powerful stand for freedom."
- **Against:** "Destroying property made the British government less willing to listen and led to stricter laws."

Teacher's Guide

- Begin with a short review of what happened during the Boston Tea Party and why it mattered.
- Model one sentence starter aloud for each side to help students understand tone and evidence-based reasoning.
- **Differentiation:**
 - For support, provide a short fact sheet or vocabulary list (e.g., "tax," "protest," "representation").
 - Challenge advanced students to include counterarguments in their summaries.
- **Engagement idea:** Divide the class into two groups for a structured mini-debate using their completed worksheets as notes.
- **Extension activity:** Students write a brief "editorial" paragraph from the point of view of a 1773 Boston newspaper reflecting their chosen side.