

## Witness To Rebellion Answer Key

Student responses will vary, but strong answers should include:

- Historical accuracy: mention of Boston Harbor, tea being thrown into the water, British ships, or disguise as Mohawk Indians.
- Emotional insight: feelings of excitement, fear, pride, or anger.
- Personal choice: explanation of what the student would have done and why.

Example response: "If I were there, I would have joined the crowd watching from the docks. The night air would have smelled of salt and tea as the men threw chest after chest into the water. I would have felt proud that the colonists stood up for our rights but worried about how Britain might punish us later."

### Teacher's Guide

- Review the Boston Tea Party's key facts before writing: date, cause (Tea Act), and result (Intolerable Acts).
- Encourage use of sensory details-what students might *see*, *hear*, or *feel*.
- **Differentiation strategies:**
  - Offer sentence starters such as "I would have felt... because..." or "From the shore, I saw..."
  - Challenge advanced students to write from a specific perspective (a merchant, a sailor, or a Loyalist observer).
- **Engagement idea:** Have students share their paragraphs aloud, forming a "living timeline" of perspectives around the classroom.
- **Extension activity:** Ask students to rewrite their response as a letter to a friend in another colony, describing what happened that night and predicting how Britain might react.