

Name _____



Tea Party Journals

Directions: Read the fictional diary entry below from someone who took part in the Boston Tea Party. Underline the words or phrases that show **emotion** or **bias**—things that express opinion rather than fact.

Diary Entry: December 16, 1773

Tonight will live in history! My heart is pounding as I write these words. We gathered quietly near the harbor, disguised as Mohawk Indians, our faces painted and our minds set on justice. The King's greedy taxes have pushed us too far. Those tea chests on the British ships stood as symbols of unfair rule, and we could not stand idle another day. When the first crate splashed into the cold water, a cheer rose from the crowd—it felt like freedom itself was rising with it. Some men called it destruction, but I call it courage. The harbor waves carried away the tea, and with it, a bit of Britain's power over us.

1. Which sentences or phrases in the diary show the writer's emotions or bias?

2. Which parts tell factual information about what happened?

3. Why is it important for historians to notice the difference between fact and opinion?