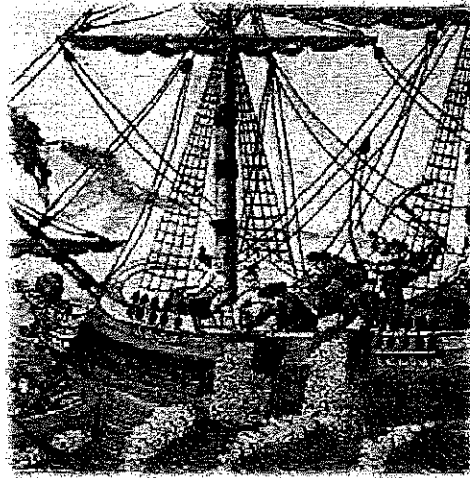


Some Laws Are Intolerable

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Have you ever heard the expression about the straw that broke the camel's back? This is used to talk about a big negative consequence of a seemingly innocuous act. Well, in 1774, during the buildup to the American Revolution, the British government decided to pile on more straw. Four laws were passed that year limiting the freedom of colonists in Massachusetts. The colonists hated them so much that they called them "The Intolerable Acts."

The laws came in response to the night of December 16, 1773, when a colonial group called the Sons of Liberty tossed 342 chests of British tea into Boston Harbor. This was a protest against the Tea Act, a tax on tea that the colonists considered unlawful. The cost was huge—around \$1 million in today's money—and the British government responded angrily.

From the perspective of the British, the time had come to stamp out the colonies' rebellious spirit. As far as they could tell, this rebelliousness was rooted in Massachusetts. They thought that if they crushed the spirit of that colony, the rebellion would die before it even began. Parliament planned a series of four acts, or laws, intended to stifle opposition in Massachusetts. They hoped that when the one colony was punished, the other 12 colonies would turn against it and remain loyal to the crown. The lawmakers in Parliament got more than they bargained for.

The first act passed on June 1, 1774. Called "The Boston Port Act," it closed Boston Harbor to all commerce—a disastrous blow to a waterfront city. This had a crippling effect on Boston's economy, punishing every person in the city in response to the act of the Sons of Liberty.

The port would remain closed, the law said, until the East India Company was compensated for all of the tea that had been destroyed. Many in the colony strongly considered paying for the tea. Even among those who supported the colonial cause, some were upset by the destruction of property. But despite the debate, the tea was never paid for, and the port's closure went on.

The next two acts were passed later that summer and upset the colonists even more. The first was the "Massachusetts Government Act," which had profound effects on everyone in the colony. Since the founding of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, citizens in the region had been allowed to vote for their elected officials in Massachusetts's own system of government—a right not given to all the colonies. This act took that right away, allowing the king to make appointments as he pleased. Suddenly, the people of the colony had no say in who was running their government.

This enraged many of the colonists, but not quite as much as the "Administration of Justice Act," which upset George Washington so much that he renamed it the "Murder Act." What could a law do to upset people so much? The Administration of Justice Act allowed for British officials accused of a crime in Massachusetts to stand trial in Great Britain. In those days, it could take as long as six hard months to cross the Atlantic, meaning it would be excruciating for any colonial witnesses to go and testify in London. A British official could harass colonists however he pleased and then return home to avoid justice. In theory, an employee of the crown could actually get away with murder!

The fourth act was known as the "Quartering Act." While the other three affected only Massachusetts, this applied to all 13 colonies. It required colonies to provide housing to British soldiers. If they could not build barracks for the soldiers, they had to allow the soldiers to sleep in abandoned houses or on public land. Although this did not upset people quite as much as the first three acts, it certainly didn't help.

If Parliament's goal had been to isolate Massachusetts, passing a law affecting all the colonies was not the way to do it. Colonists considered all of these laws unreasonable. They felt that the acts were designed to force colonists in Massachusetts to give in to the crown. (This force is known as "coercion," and this is why the Intolerable Acts are also sometimes known as the "Coercive Acts.") Despite Parliament's hope, the other colonies did not turn on Massachusetts. Instead, colonists in other colonies pledged support, sending food and supplies to the people of Boston and pledging to find a way to reverse these intolerable laws.

On September 5, 1774, colonists from 12 colonies came together in Philadelphia to form the First Continental Congress. This was the first step on the road to the Declaration of Independence, and it wouldn't have happened if it weren't for the Intolerable Acts—the straw that broke the camel's back.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Why did Parliament decide to pass four new laws in the Massachusetts colonies in 1774?

- A to cripple Boston's economy
- B to get more money in taxes
- C to stifle opposition in Massachusetts and maintain the loyalty of the other colonies to the crown
- D to maintain the loyalty of Massachusetts to the crown and stifle opposition in the other colonies

2. The author describes the effects of different laws in the text. What was one effect of the "Massachusetts Government Act"?

- A The people of the Massachusetts Bay Colony considered paying for the tea the Sons of Liberty tossed into the Boston Harbor.
- B The people of the Massachusetts Bay Colony could not elect their officials.
- C The people of the Massachusetts Bay Colony had to house British soldiers.
- D The people of the Massachusetts Bay Colony became more loyal to the crown.

3. Parliament did not succeed in isolating Massachusetts from the other colonies. What evidence from the text supports this conclusion?

- A Colonists in other colonies sent food and supplies to the people of Boston.
- B Colonists in other colonies were angered by the "Quartering Act."
- C Colonists in other colonies were forced to give in to the crown.
- D George Washington spoke out against the "Murder Act."

4. How can the "Administration of Justice Act" best be described?

- A an act that allowed British officials to commit murder
- B an act that didn't ensure British officials stood a fair trial for crimes
- C an act that prohibited colonists from testifying in trials in London
- D an act that required colonists to house British soldiers

5. What is the main idea of this text?

- A Passing laws against all of the colonies was not smart of Parliament.
- B The "Administration of Justice Act" angered the colonists the most.
- C The Intolerable Acts paved the way for the colonists' road to independence.
- D If the spirit of the Massachusetts Bay colony had been crushed, Parliament would have been successful.

6. Read these sentences from the text.

"They thought that if they crushed the spirit of [Massachusetts], the rebellion would die before it even began. Parliament planned a series of four acts, or laws, intended to stifle opposition in Massachusetts. They hoped that when the one colony was punished, the other 12 colonies would turn against it and remain loyal to the crown."

As used in the text, what does the word "stifle" most nearly mean?

- A to put down
- B increase
- C encourage
- D leave alone

7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence.

The Sons of Liberty protested the Tea Act by tossing 342 chests of British tea into the Boston Harbor; _____, the lawmakers in Parliament planned a series of four acts to stop opposition in Massachusetts.

- A on the other hand
- B for instance
- C meanwhile
- D as a result

8. Describe the "Boston Port Act" and its effect on Boston.

9. The British Parliament had hoped the other colonies would turn on Massachusetts and remain loyal to the British crown. Instead, what did the other colonies pledge?

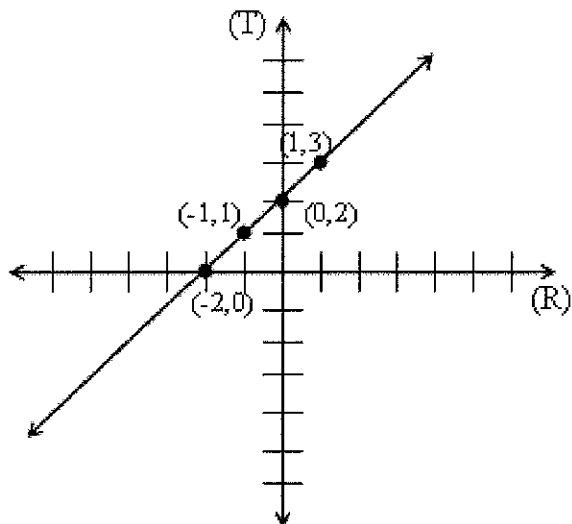
10. Explain how the Intolerable Acts "broke the camel's back." Use information from the passage to support your answer.

Name: _____ Date: _____

NTI-Snow Day 9 Assessment

Question 1 of 8

Given the following graph, what would you predict to be the value of T when R is 4?



- A. 0
- B. 4
- C. 5
- D. 6

Question 2 of 8

Which table represents the relation: $\{(-1,6), (2,5), (3,1), (-7,-3)\}$.

A.

x	y
6	5
-1	2
3	-3
1	-7

B.

x	y
-1	6
2	5
3	1
-7	-3

C.

x	y
6	-1
5	2
1	3
-3	-7

D.

x	y
6	-1
2	5
1	3
-7	-3

Question 3 of 8

x	y
-4	0
-1	-2
0	1
4	6

Which is the correct set notation for the table above?

- A. $\{(-4, 0), (-1, -2), (0, 1), (4, 6)\}$
- B. $\{(4, 0), (1, 2), (0, -1), (-4, -6)\}$
- C. $\{(0, -4), (-2, -1), (1, 0), (6, 4)\}$
- D. $\{(0, 4), (2, 1), (-1, 0), (-6, -4)\}$

Question 4 of 8

Which of the following relations is considered a function?

- A. $(2, -3), (4, 6), (3, -1), (6, 6), (2, 3)$
- B. $(-1, 2), (-4, 51), (1, 2), (8, -51)$
- C. $(13, 14), (13, 5), (16, 7), (18, 13)$
- D. $(3, 4), (4, 5), (6, 7), (3, 9)$

Question 5 of 8

$(8, 11), (34, 5), (6, 17), (q, 22)$

For the relation above to be a function, q can be any number EXCEPT _____.

- A. 11, 5, or 17
- B. -8, -34, or -6
- C. 8, 34, or 6
- D. 1, 3, or 5

Question 6 of 8

What is the domain for the following function: $\{(5,3), (6,4), (7,5)\}$?

- A. $\{3, 4, 5\}$
- B. $\{3, 5, 7\}$
- C. $\{2, 2, 3\}$
- D. $\{5, 6, 7\}$

Question 7 of 8

Which of the following rules describe the best input-output relationship from the following points: $(5,3)$, $(10,8)$, $(14,12)$, $(8,6)$?

- A. $y = x + 2$
- B. $y = x + 4$
- C. $y = 2 - x$
- D. $y = x - 2$

Question 8 of 8

Which function represents the relation $\{(4, 5), (-1, -5), (2, 1), (0, -3)\}$?

- A. $f(x) = 2x - 3$
- B. $f(x) = 4x - 2$
- C. $f(x) = 2x - 2$
- D. $f(x) = -4x + 1$