

Virtual History Teacher
Boston Massacre Test

Name: _____

Instructions: You are playing the role of a history teacher who is grading the test below. See the questions and your “student’s” answers. Grade the quality of the answers on a scale of 1-4, “1” being a poor answer and “4” being a great answer. For each answer you grade, use your knowledge of the Boston Massacre, or, reference the mrnussbaum.com narrative, to add the missing pieces.

Question 1: Why did the Boston Massacre happen?	Score:
Student Answer: People were really mad!	
Your Response:	

Question 2: What was the effect of the Boston Massacre?	Score:
Student Answer: Peace.	
Your Response:	

Question 3: Who do you think was to blame for the Boston Massacre?	Score:
Student Answer: I think it was the Redcoats.	
Your Response:	

Answers:

Question 1: Why did the Boston Massacre happen?	Score:
Student Answer: People were really mad!	
Your Response: People were definitely mad! British Redcoats had been patrolling the streets of Boston for two years and the people of Boston did not want them there. The Massacre itself, however started when a drunk citizen started harassing a Redcoat. The Redcoat assaulted him, which drew a mob of angry, drunk, Boston men. Soon, a chaotic and dangerous situation formed and the Redcoats fired into the crowd.	

Question 2: What was the effect of the Boston Massacre?	Score:
Student Answer: Peace.	
Your Response: Following the trial, a surprising period of peace reigned in Boston. Parliament repealed the Townshend Act and the people lifted their boycott of British goods. The push for independence, which seemed so strong before the "massacre", fizzled.	

Question 3: Who do you think was to blame for the Boston Massacre?	Score:
Student Answer: I think it was the Redcoats.	
Your Response: Answers vary here. Some students may write that they blame the British because it seemed like the soldiers patrolling the streets were infringing upon the freedom of the citizens. Others may blame the Bostonians for forming a mob and seemingly provoking the British soldiers into firing. Clearly, the Redcoats who fired into the crowd were doing so out of self-defense.	