

BOSTON MASSACRE

On March 5, 1770, British soldiers fired into a crowd of American colonists, killing five men. This event is known as the Boston Massacre.

After the French and Indian War (1754-1763), where the colonies and Britain fought against New France for control of America, Britain began taxing the colonists to pay off the debt (money owed) of the war. The British felt justified in taxing the colonies to pay for the expensive war because the colonies benefitted the most. The colonists did not think the taxes were fair. They began the rebellious motto "no taxation without representation", which meant the colonists should not be taxed without having a say in the British Parliament (government).

Taxes Britain imposed included a tax on tea (Tea Act), and printed goods (Stamp Act). New taxes were also introduced on glass, paint, and lead. Those taxes on imported goods were part of the laws called the Townshend Acts. Tensions were already high between the colonists and the Redcoats (British soldiers). When many colonists began to protest the taxes, Britain sent troops to Boston to maintain order. There were more than 2,000 soldiers stationed in Boston who were there to ensure that laws were obeyed. One day before the Boston Massacre, some residents of Boston had an encounter with British soldiers at John Gray's Paper Walk. Private Matthew Kilroy (British soldier) argued with Samuel Gray (American colonist).

On March 5, 1770, in Boston Massachusetts, the fight escalated in front of the Customs House on King Street. It started when a British Private (a soldier) named Hugh White and a few colonists began to argue. Slowly, a crowd of colonists formed, and they began to throw sticks, stones, and snowballs at Private White. Eventually, the number of colonists reached more than 50.

Captain Thomas Preston, the local British officer in Boston, sent soldiers to the location of Private White to try to keep the situation under control. When the soldiers arrived, the colonists became enraged after

3

What act included a tax on glass, paint, and lead?



Stamp Act



Quartering Act



Townshend Act



Tea Act

4

What was the British government also known as?



Parliament



Senate



Supreme Court



Magna Carta

5

How many soldiers were found not guilty?



3



8



4



6

6

What is debt?



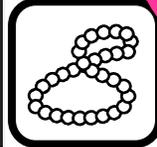
Money saved



Money owed



Money returned



Stock and bonds

7

How many people were killed in the Boston Massacre?



2



1



1



5

8

Who were the colonists fighting in the French and Indian War?



Ireland



Great Britain



Spain



New France

9

One fight escalated in front of the _____ on King Street?



Mayors Office



Customs House



Parliament



Supreme Court

10

What act placed a tax on all printed goods?



Townshend Acts



Stamp Act



Tea Act

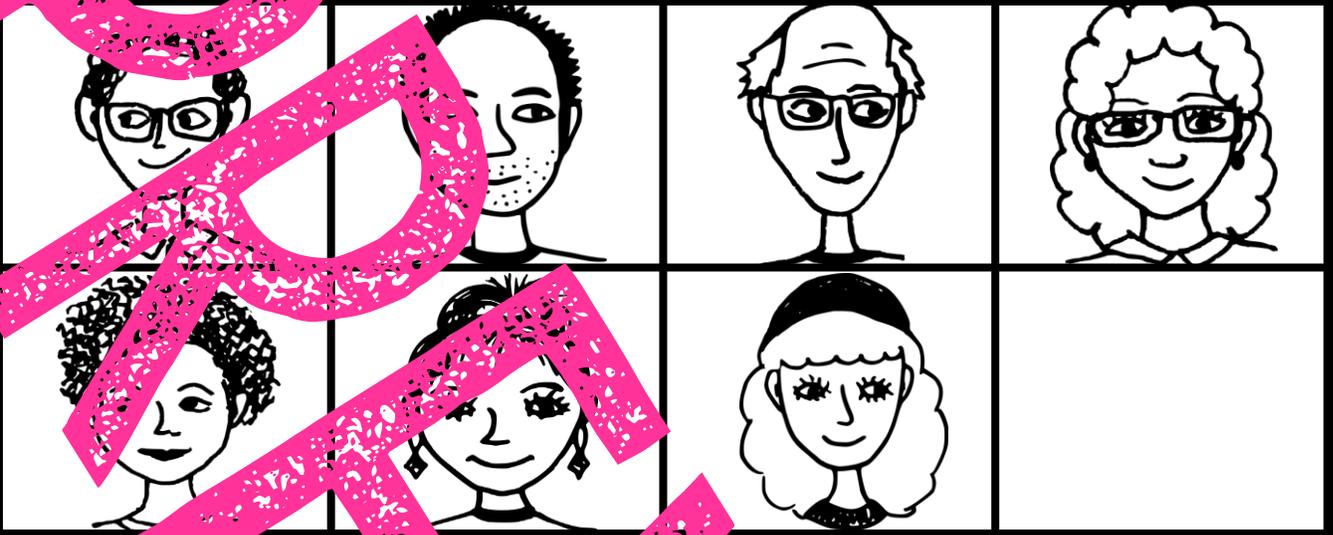


Intolerable Acts

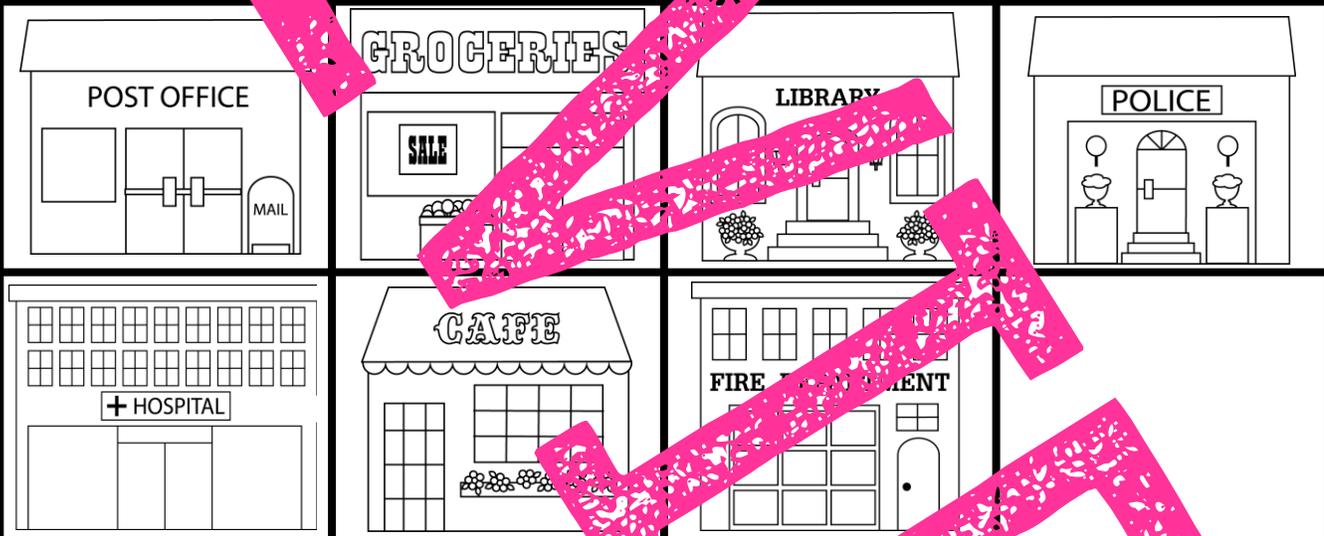
CASE FILE

Cross out the images you use as an answer. What remains will solve the case!

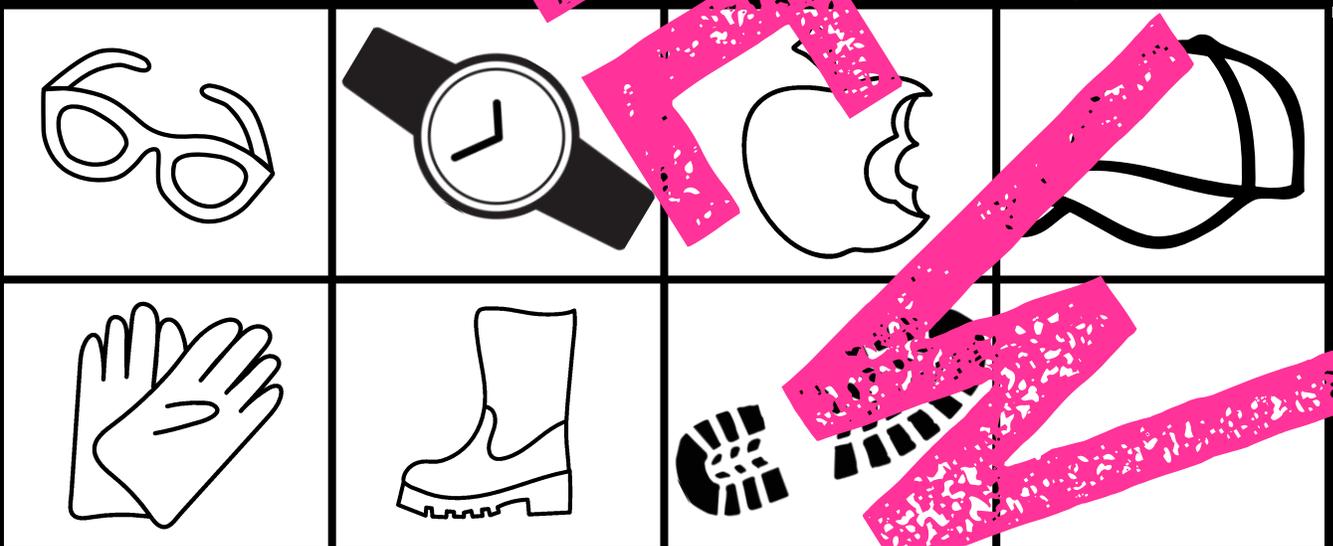
SUSPECTS



LOCATION



EVIDENCE



CONGRATULATIONS

YOU SOLVED
THE CASE!



LEAD DETECTIVE NAME:

CONGRATULATIONS

YOU SOLVED
THE CASE!



LEAD DETECTIVE NAME:

MORE RESOURCES

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