

Name: _____

Troops Landing in Boston: Document Analysis

Date: _____

Background Information: Paul Revere was an American silversmith, engraver, and a Patriot in the American Revolution. He is best known for his midnight ride to alert the colonial militia in April 1775 to the approach of British forces before the battles of Lexington and Concord. Paul Revere engraved this view of the 1768 landing of the British troops in Boston sent to suppress the disorder following the passing of the Townshend Acts.

Document 1: Paul Revere's depiction of the landing of British troops in Boston, 1768

"A VIEW OF PART * OF THE TOWN OF * BOSTON IN NEW * ENGLAND * AND BRITISH SHIPS * OF WAR LANDING * THEIR TROOPS 1768"



Observations about the engraving:

Name: _____
Boston Massacre DBQ: Document 2
Period: _____

- Things Captain Preston did
Read through the document.
Highlight the information indicated Things the soldiers did
Add color to the boxes to match.
 Things the colonists did

Document 2: Thomas Preston, Captain British of the army, account of the Boston Massacre, 1770

"On Monday night about 8 o'clock two [British] soldiers were attacked and beat. The guard informed me the town inhabitants were assembling to attack the troops. I saw the people in great commotion, and heard them use the most cruel and horrid threats against the troops... So far was I from intending the death of any person that I suffered the troops to go to the spot where the unhappy affair took place without any loading in their pieces (weapons); nor did I ever give orders for loading them.

The mob still increased and were more outrageous, striking their clubs or bludgeons one against another, and calling out, 'come on you rascals, you bloody backs, you lobster scoundrels, fire if you dare, G-d damn you, fire and be damned, we know you dare not,' and much more such language was used. At this time I was between the soldiers and the mob. They advanced to the points of the bayonets, struck some of them and even the muzzles of the pieces, and seemed to be endeavouring to close with the soldiers... While I was thus speaking, one of the soldiers having received a severe blow with a stick, stepped a little on one side and instantly fired, and [while] asking him why he fired without orders, I was struck with a club on my arm...

On this a general attack was made on the men by a great number of heavy clubs and snowballs being thrown at them, by which all our lives were in imminent danger, some persons at the same time from behind calling out, 'damn your bloods-why don't you fire.' Instantly three or four of the soldiers fired, one after another, and directly after three more in the same confusion and hurry. The whole of this melancholy affair was transacted in almost 20 minutes. I assured the men that my words were "don't fire, stop your firing." In short, it was scarcely possible for the soldiers to know who said fire, or don't fire, or stop your firing. I am, though perfectly innocent, to expect but the loss of life in a very ignominious [disgraceful] manner."