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| Vocabulary | Original Text of the Declaration of Independence | Outline |
| **Unanimous:** Agreeing, having the agreement of all.**Declaration:** the act of stating, announcement**Course:** The path or progress of an action being taken.**Dissolve:** To destroy or bring to an end, to separate into parts**Station:** The position or rank of a person or group of people.**Entitle:** to give (to a person or a thing) a right or claim to something**Impel:** To urge or force a person into action. | In Congress, July 4, 1776.The **unanimous** **Declaration** of the thirteen United States of America. When in the **course** of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to **dissolve** the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal **station** to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God **entitle** them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which **impel** them to the separation. | **I. Introduction**In history, when one group leaves another, to become a new and equal country, it is right that they declare to the world why! |
| **Self-evident:** not needing to be demonstrated or explained; obvious.**Endowed:** to freely or naturally provide (someone or something) with something**Unalienable:** unable to be taken away from or given away by the possessor.**Instituted:** set in motion or establish (something, especially a program, system, or inquiry).**Deriving:** to trace from a source or origin. **Consent:** give permission for something to happen**Prudence**: wisdom, good judgement **Transient**: lasting only for a short time**Usurpations:** wrongful or illegal encroachment, infringement, or seizure.**Evinces**: be evidence of **Tyranny:** cruel and oppressive government or rule.**Submit:** To present or put forward for review. | We hold these truths to be **self-evident**, that all men are created equal, that they are **endowed** by their Creator with certain **unalienable** Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are **instituted** among Men, **deriving** their just powers from the **consent** of the governed, --That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. **Prudence**, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and **transient** causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and **usurpations**, pursuing invariably the same Object **evinces** a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.--Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and **usurpations**, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute **Tyranny** over these States. To prove this, let Facts be **submitted** to a candid world. | **II. Body***A. Basic Rights*Thomas Jefferson explains we all have rights and governments are created to ensure these rights and that when governments are abusive, it is the duty of the people to change them.1. God given natural rights: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. (All people are created equal.)
2. Governments are formed to secure these rights (for the governed).
3. When governments take these rights away it is the right of the people to change that government and form a new government that ensures these rights.
4. Wisdom says that long standing Governments should not be changed often for small reasons. Men would rather suffer than take the trouble to change.
5. However, when one government takes away the natural rights of its citizens, it is the right, and the duty, of the citizens to over throw that government, and establish a new one that WILL protect these rights.
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|  | Simplified Text of the Declaration of Independence |  |
|  | The King has gone a little crazy. He has refused to sign laws that our leaders have written. These are pretty important laws.The King has taken control of the Judges in our court system. Judges cannot be fair if someone else is controlling their jobs and how much money they make.The King has also ignored the laws of our American government. He has created his own set of laws and now feels that he has a right to force us to give food and shelter to British soldiers, stop us from trading with the rest of the world, and has set up too many taxes for us that we have no choice in paying. He also wants to punish people without a fair trial and jury.The King took our ships, and has burned our villages and killed many people.The King has carried out several acts of war.The King has also caused a rift between slaves and their owners and has made the slaves angry and violent. He is also trying to convince the Indians to go to war against the colonists.The King is not a fair man. | *B. Charges Against the King*1. 1. He wrongly prosecutes innocent citizens, and finds them guilty.
2. He holds local legislative meetings at remote areas, to prevent their meeting.
3. He protects soldiers from prosecution by finding them innocent in secret trials.
4. He has cut off our trade from the rest of the world.
5. He imposes taxes without our approval.
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|  | Through all of these unfair acts that have been placed upon us we have made a great effort to tell the King how we feel. We wanted to resolve this peacefully but it has only escalated. A King that does not rule fairly should not be able to rule. We have continued to warn our friends and family still living in England and still, it has done nothing. | *C. Responses to the King*We sent the Olive Branch Petition (1774); we tried to talk, but he would not listen. |
|  | We, as representatives of the United States of America want God to judge our acts. We declare today that Great Britain will no longer be a ruler over us and that we should be free and independent states. We will have the power to build our own government and all the powers that come with government. We will put our trust in God and will be united in this Declaration of Independence. | **III. Conclusion**The American Colonies formally break away from England, and form a new and separate country: The Independent States of America. |

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|  | **Preamble**  | **Grievances** |
| **Natural Rights** |  |  |
| **The Social Contract** |  |  |
| **The Right to Revolt** |  |  |
| **Popular Sovereignty** |  |  |

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|  | **Preamble**  | **Grievances** |
| **Natural Rights** | * “the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God entitle them”
* “we hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”
 | * He also wants to punish people without a fair trial and jury.
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| **The Social Contract** | * “the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation”
* “to secure these rights, governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.”
 | * has refused to sign laws that our leaders have written
* The King has taken control of the Judges in our court system. Judges cannot be fair if someone else is controlling their jobs and how much money they make.
* we have made a great effort to tell the King how we feel. We wanted to resolve this peacefully but it has only escalated. A King that does not rule fairly should not be able to rule.
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| **The Right to Revolt** | * “it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another.”
* “whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government.”
* “when a long train of abuses…reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government,
 | * The King took our ships, and has burned our villages and killed many people.
* The King has carried out several acts of war.
* A King that does not rule fairly should not be able to rule.
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| **Popular Sovereignty** | * “assume among the powers of the earth”
* “governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed”
* “Government…as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.”
 | * The King has also ignored the laws of our American government.
* as representatives of the United States of America want God to judge our acts. We declare today that Great Britain will no longer be a ruler over us and that we should be free and independent states.
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