

Name _____

Reviewing the Declaration

Define: Prudence

Usurpations

Despotism

Tyranny

Assent

Hither

Perfidy

Magnanimity

Consanguinity

Providence

Questions

Name six actions that ~~angered~~ *angered* the colonist to break from Great Britain

Which truths in the second paragraph are self-evident?

Name the three unalienable rights listed in the Declaration.

From what source do governments derive their "just powers"?

According to the D of I, what powers belong to the United States "as Free and Independent States"?

What do you think the colonist were unhappy with the fact that their judges' salaries were paid by the king?

Do you think that the words "all men are created equal" were intended to apply to all human beings? Explain your answer.

List the ways Great Britain failed to honor the popular sovereignty of the colonists.

List and explain five ways the King violated their (the colonists) human rights.

Ben Franklin was quoted as saying at the signing at the D of I "we must all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately." What do you think Franklin meant by these words?

In your opinion what are the five most indicting issues the colonist charge King George III?

Student Name: _____ Date: _____



Be a Truth Detective

The Declaration of Independence helped define our rights and liberties as Americans. How much do you know about the document that promises you can pursue happiness on a Saturday night? That says you have the unalienable right to go at a green light and the responsibility to stop when it turns red? That sets the tone that sets bigots on their heels? Because if you don't know your rights and responsibilities, who's to say you've got them?

DIRECTIONS: The following essay contains 13 errors. Check out the D.O.I. FAQ on page 3 of *Created Equal*, find the errors in the text below, and write the corrections in the right-hand column.

Imagine his surprise when Great Britain's King Richard II¹ read the Declaration of Independence for the first time in 1774². NEWS FLASH! "First Continental Congress³ declares Declaration of Independence! Americans go it alone!" Having tried so hard to soothe his colonists—he had caved in on nearly every American demand—the king must have felt like he was dealing with a bunch of ungrateful brats⁴.

Back in Washington, D.C., of course, the Continental Congress didn't see it that way⁵. The delegates applauded Thomas Jefferson's great solo effort in penning the Declaration of Independence⁶ (even though he borrowed many concepts of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights, written years earlier⁷). They figured the document was a great bluff—a way to stare down the British and lock in even more benefits from England. The Founding Fathers had no idea Great Britain would take their independence threat seriously⁸. They even joked about how they might have to do some community service hours if they got caught⁹.

The paper document itself has quite a story behind it. At first, Jefferson just wrote out one copy for the king and one for his buddy, George Washington¹⁰. (The Founding Fathers didn't want news of the Declaration of Independence to leak out before they knew how the British would react. No use getting colonists' hopes up.) But once Congress members knew the British were not happy, they churned out copies as quickly as possible¹¹. Jefferson must have gotten a nasty cramp in his writing hand, considering the printing press hadn't been invented yet and he wrote out thousands of copies by hand¹². The biggest headache must have been getting the signers together to sign all the copies on July 4¹³.

CORRECTIONS	
1.	_____
2.	_____
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