

American Government *The Declaration of Independence*

Directions:

1. In your Civics book, turn to p. 95-98 and p. 106-109. Read p. 95-98 to yourself (this should not take long).
2. In your notes, answer the following question using complete sentences:
Explain the clash of views that brought the colonists into open conflict with England.
3. Turn to p. 106-109. With a partner, read aloud the entire *Declaration of Independence* once through. As you read, pay particular attention to what is written in the margin bubbles.
4. After you have read this through, work with your partner to answer the following questions (using complete sentences):

Part I- Preamble

1. According to the paragraph what is the goal of the writers?
2. Why are they writing this document?
3. Make a prediction of what will come next in the document based on what you have read in the "Preamble".

Part II-Beliefs

4. What rights are the writers claiming that they have?
5. According to this paragraph, what is the purpose of government?

Part III- Grievances

***Choose 3 of the grievances in this section to write about.**

6. What is each complaint about? Write a brief description of each complaint in your own words.
7. Who is the "he" that the colonists refer to in their grievances?
8. Who are the colonists blaming for their grievances? Why do you think they are blaming him?

Part IV- Attempts to Address Grievances

9. How did the colonists try to address these grievances earlier?
10. Why did they feel it was necessary to talk about what they had done earlier in their Declaration?

Part V- Declaring Independence

11. What words from this paragraph actually declare the colonists' independence?
12. What rights and powers do they state that they now have?

5. When you are ALL DONE with this, write 2-3 sentences in your notes that you think summarize the *Declaration of Independence*.