

# DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE ANALYSIS

70PTS

Name:

Period:

**DIRECTIONS:** USE YOUR DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE DOCUMENT SHEET TO ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS. READ THE QUESTION, REFLECT ON IT, LOOK WITHIN THE DECLARATION, ANSWER IN COMPLETE SENTENCES

1. What do you think “unalienable rights” means?
2. What unalienable rights are guaranteed in the Declaration? List them and then DEFINE THEM in your own words.
3. Where do unalienable rights come from according to the Declaration? Do you agree or disagree, why or why not?
4. According to the Declaration from where does government get its power? Is that true today?
5. When should government be changed according to the Declaration? What do you think about that? Agree or disagree, why or why not?
6. What does the phrase “all men are created equal” mean? Equal in what way? Do you agree with this? Why or why not?

7. Many men in the Continental Congress owned slaves. How, do you think, could these same men approve the Declaration of Independence? Are the principles in the Declaration of Independence wrong or less important because many men in the Continental Congress had slaves? Give a thorough response.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. What common features/themes/ideas can you see present in the list of complaints against the King? What do you think motivated the king to act in these ways, based on your reading and your understanding of American and British history?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. How does the author use THE DENUNCIATION section to refine (enhance or improve or strengthen) their ideas about independence & liberty? Cite evidence in your answer.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. How does this document set the groundwork for a "National American Identity"? What values or ideas are present even today in American culture and legislature?