

# Declaration of Independence

Thomas Jefferson and the Continental Congress

## How does the Declaration move from universal principles to a case against a particular government?

| TOTAL TIME | TUMBLETA PASSAGE LOCATION                       |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 30 minutes | Opening principles and transition to grievances |

### TEACHER SETUP

Open the work in the Enhanced Reader and cue the span using the START and END anchors below.

|            |                                                                                                                                                 |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| START      | When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, |
| END        | To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.                                                                                        |
| PASSAGE ID | sec-doi-01                                                                                                                                      |

### THE MOVE

Map how an argument establishes a general rule before applying it to a specific dispute

### WHY THIS PASSAGE

The Declaration does not begin with a list of complaints. It first claims a duty to explain separation, then states principles about equality, rights, government, and consent. Only after that framework does it announce that facts will prove the present government has violated those principles.

### MARK

Underline the reason the document says separation must be explained. Circle each general principle about rights or government. Box the sentence that shifts from principle to evidence.

### NOTICE

- Why begin with a general duty to explain rather than a complaint?
- What standard for legitimate government is established before Britain is discussed?

- What does “To prove this” signal about the structure that follows?

### THINK

Answer provisionally: How does the Declaration move from universal principles to a case against a particular government? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

### WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response. Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

### CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and say why.

### STRONG ANSWER

The Declaration builds its case by establishing a general political standard before presenting evidence. Rights and consent define what legitimate government should be; the transition to “Facts” then promises to judge a particular government against that standard.

### EVIDENCE

Use one general principle and the sentence that announces the move to facts.

### WATCH FOR

Do not summarize all the grievances. This passage’s instructional value is the argument architecture that comes before them.

### SOLO

Read independently.

### SUPPORTED

Narration + highlighting.

### LISTENING

Listen; same evidence task.

## STUDENT PAGE · GRADE 11 · LESSON 311

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**How does the Declaration move from universal principles to a case against a particular government?**

|      |                             |
|------|-----------------------------|
| WORK | Declaration of Independence |
|------|-----------------------------|

|                           |                                                 |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| TUMBLETA PASSAGE LOCATION | Opening principles and transition to grievances |
| PASSAGE ID                | sec-doi-01                                      |

Your teacher will open or cue the work in the Enhanced Reader. Use the location and verbatim anchors below to confirm the assigned span.

### START

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another,

### END

To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

READ / LISTEN TO THE ASSIGNED PASSAGE SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration and highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the assigned passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. MARK Underline the reason the document says separation must be explained. Circle each general principle about rights or government. Box the sentence that shifts from principle to evidence.
2. NOTICE Why begin with a general duty to explain rather than a complaint? What standard for legitimate government is established before Britain is discussed? What does “To prove this” signal about the structure that follows?
3. THINK Answer provisionally: How does the Declaration move from universal principles to a case against a particular government?
4. WRITE Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.
5. CLOSE Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and say why.