

# Declaration of Independence Scavenger Hunt

**Part 1:** Directions: Use the Declaration of Independence to answer the following questions. Let the underlined words be “clues” to help you out through your hunt.

1. What word at the beginning of the document lets you know that ALL the colonies agreed together to write the Declaration?
2. What does the Declaration say is necessary to do?
3. What are the 3 truths that are self-evident in the Declaration?
4. According to the Declaration, where does the government get its power from?
5. Who are the governed?
6. What should the people do if the government becomes destructive?
7. According to the Declaration, how should the government be organized?
8. When should the government be changed?

## Part 2: Main Ideas

**Part 2:** Directions: Find the text that connects to each of the following main ideas.

1 All people are equal.	2 We are born with rights.
3 Government gets its power from the people.	4 The people can change government that is really bad.

### Part 3: Document Based Questions

Directions - Answer the following questions with open responses using complete sentences.

1. *"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."*

When the colonists say that "all men are created equal," what do you think they meant by that statement? Who is not included? Do you think Jefferson meant everyone? (Remember, slavery was a source of labor in the colonies during this time period).

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2. *"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 principle and organizing its power in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness."*

When the people "alter or abolish" their government, what should be the focus of the new government?

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### Part 4: Connecting to Freedom

THE PEOPLE have rights that cannot be taken away

Government gets its power from THE PEOPLE

The purpose of government is to protect THE PEOPLE

In your own words, explain how the role of people in government connects to individual freedom.

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Think about your definition of freedom. Write 2 quotes from the Declaration that connect to the idea of Freedom.

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