

Declaration of Independence Activity

Using the D of I on pages 38 - 40, read through parts 1, 2, 3, & 4 of the D of I carefully and match the actual phrases listed below with the appropriate translations listed at the bottom. Write the correct letter on the first line provided. Each letter will be used only once.

_____... to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with one another

_____... they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

_____... deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed

_____... it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it

_____... but when a long train of abuses

_____... and to provide new guards for their future security

_____...all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these states

_____...For imposing taxes on us without our consent:

_____...For quartering large bodies of troops among us:

_____... the representatives of the United States of America

_____... that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown

_____... we mutually pledge to each other our lives

- a) the British king and Parliament's intentions were to rule the colonies like bullies
- b) the colonies need to state the reasons why they want to be independent & separated
- c) a list of unfair treatments
- d) breaking the political connections which have connected the colonies with Britain
- e) the colonies have now labeled themselves by another name
- f) government should get its ability to rule based upon the approval of its citizens
- g) the colonists wish to create some forms of protection against further abuses
- h) the colonists' loyalty towards Britain no longer exists
- i) the colonists view many of the taxes as being unfair since they never approved of them
- j) citizens should be able to fix problems with their govt. or get rid of individuals if the need arises
- k) the colonists feel it is unfair having to provide lodging to British soldiers
- l) the colonists are united together

Answer these questions neatly based upon the additional information provided in the margins. Some questions require a little thought or common sense.

- 1) "He" in Part 3 refers to who? _____
- 2) Who was the primary author of the D of I? _____
- 3) Why is Part 3 the longest? _____
- 4) What does the word tyrant mean? _____
- 5) Why was a certain passage left out of the D of I? _____
- 6) How long did it take to write the first draft of the D of I? _____
- 7) Why didn't George Washington sign the D of I? _____