

Declaration of Independence

Doc. Analysis #1 - Structure

Directions: The Declaration of Independence is made up of roughly 5 sections plus the signatures. Skim over the declaration and take note of what kinds of words, phrases and ideas are contained in each section. Jot down those words, phrases and ideas under the contents section below & summarize what each section is about by pointing out key terminology & ideas from each section. Then answer the questions that follow

<i>Section Title</i>	<i>Contents</i>
1 Introduction <i>When, in the course of human events...</i>	
2 Preamble <i>We hold these truths to be self-evident...</i>	
3 Indictment <i>He has refused...</i>	
4 Denunciation <i>Nor have We been wanting...</i>	
5 Official Declaration <i>We, therefore, the Representatives...</i>	

1. What is the purpose of each section?
2. Why include a long list of grievances?
3. What was the reason for pointing out that the colonists had tried to get the King to change the way he treated them?
4. Which do you believe is the most important section? Why?