

Declaration of Independence

Doc. Analysis #2 - Ideas & Themes

30pts

Name: _____

Period: _____

Directions: In this activity we will be looking at the major political/philosophical themes and ideas of the Declaration. As you read the Declaration circle key words, ideas and concepts and begin thinking about them as you try and answer the following questions.

MAJOR IDEA	Where does the Declaration state this? Give exact wording (look in the Preamble & the List of Grievances)	Put this idea into your own words. Show me you know it!
<p><i>Natural Rights</i> <i>Rights which all persons possess by nature, not being created by man-made laws or institutions. Natural rights are therefore attributable to individuals without distinction of time or place.</i></p>		
<p><i>Social Contract</i> <i>An agreement among the members of an organized society or between the governed and the government defining and limiting the rights and duties of each.</i></p>		
<p><i>The Right to Revolt</i> <i>The right or duty of the people of a nation to justly overthrow a government that acts against their common interests.</i></p>		
<p><i>Popular Sovereignty</i> <i>A political condition in which the people are sovereign, that is, the people exercise the final decision-making power.</i></p>		

<i>“All Men Are Created Equal”</i>	<i>What does “self-evident” mean?</i>			
	<i>What does the phrase “all men are created equal” mean? Equal in what way?</i>			

<i>Unalienable Rights</i>	<i>What does “unalienable” rights mean?</i>			
	<i>What do each of them mean? Define them.</i>	LIFE	LIBERTY	PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS

Where does the Declaration say unalienable rights come from?

What is your opinion on this?

What is the purpose of government?

*Where does the government get its power?
How is this true? Is it true?*

When should the government be changed?

Purpose of Government