IN CONGRESS, July 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America,

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

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.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --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 principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.--Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

[Note: The original document lists 27 abuses by King George toward the Colonists. Listed below are the eleven explained in George v George, p.36.]

He has refused his Assent to Laws, ....

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly …

He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; … refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, …

For Quartering large bodies of armed troops among us: For protecting them, … from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:
For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world:

For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:

For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury:

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun …

He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, … or to fall themselves by their Hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, …

[End of facts.]

In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved: and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.
Democratic Principles and Ideals of the Declaration of Independence

Below are quotes from the Declaration of Independence that explain the beliefs and ideas it states. Read the quotes then explain the idea in your own words.

<table>
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That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed,

--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,

We, ..., the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, ... do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States;

that they [the Colonies] are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved;

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Answer this question using information you read in the book, George vs George.

There were two reasons why the Colonists wrote the Declaration of Independence. How would announcing the Declaration help with fighting the Revolutionary War?
Use this chart to take notes as you listen to *George vs George*. You must have **three** ideas for each section.

**Impact of George Washington on the Revolutionary War**

**Contribution of George Washington to the Creation of the American Government**

**Physical Features and Processes and How They Influenced the Revolutionary War**

*Example*: The Atlantic Ocean was between the two countries and made it more difficult for England to transport supplies and soldiers to the war.
Chart Directions

1. Create a chart illustrating the physical features and processes that influenced the Revolutionary War.

2. Use the notes from the last section of your Student Notes worksheet.

3. Decide how to arrange the information on your paper.

4. Draw pictures that illustrate three physical features or processes and that show how each affected the Revolutionary War.

5. Include a descriptive title that follows the rules for writing titles.

6. Include a descriptive label for each drawing.

Scoring Guide

1. Your chart illustrates the physical features and processes that influenced the Revolutionary War. – 1 point

2. You used the notes from the last section of your Student Notes worksheet. – 2 points

3. Your chart is arranged neatly on your paper. – 1 point

4. You have drawn a picture that correctly illustrates three physical features or processes – 3 points

5. Your pictures also show how the Revolutionary War was affected. – 3 points

6. You have a descriptive title, correctly written. – 2 points

7. You have a descriptive label for each drawing. – 3 points

Total of 15 points possible
Democratic Principles and Ideals of the Declaration of Independence -

**Answer Key**

Answers will vary:

1 point for each correct interpretation  
2 points for the last question  
Total - 10 points

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| **IN CONGRESS, July 4, 1776.**  
The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America, | The Declaration was made in Congress on July 4, 1776 and everyone voted for it. |
| When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, … they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation. | When it becomes necessary for a group of people to break their ties to another country, they should explain why they’re doing it. |
| 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. | We believe that all men are created equal.  
Their God gave them the right to life, liberty and to search for happiness. |
| That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, | Governments are made to protect men’s right to life, liberty and happiness. The government gets their power from the people. |
| --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, | Whenever a government doesn’t protect the rights, the people can change or get rid of that government and create a new one. |
| We, …., the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, … do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; | The Representatives in Congress declare that the United Colonies are free from England and are independent states. |
| that they [the colonies] are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; | The Colonies no longer have to be loyal to the British King and there is no longer a political connection to them. |

**How would announcing the Declaration help with fighting the Revolutionary War?**  
**Answer must include both concepts for full credit.**

The Declaration of Independence helped in fighting the war by (1) uniting the Americans to support the war and by (2) getting help from European countries.
Notes should have any three of the ideas below for each section. Wording may vary. Accept appropriate answers.

Impact of George Washington on the Revolutionary War - History

- Was elected to be the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army
- Won 3 battles in 10 days that turned the war around
- Won the Battle of Trenton
- Won the 2nd Battle of Trenton
- He was so respected and loved that many soldiers stayed through the bitter cold winter
- Won the final battle at Yorktown

Contribution of George Washington to the Creation of the American Government - Civics

- Chosen president of the Constitutional Convention
- Elected the first President of the United States in 1789
- Serve two terms as President
- Became the role model for all future American Presidents
- Kept the US out of a war between Great Britain and France

Physical Features and Processes and How They Influenced the Revolutionary War - Geography

Example: The Atlantic Ocean was between the two countries and made it more difficult for England to transport supplies and soldiers to the war.

- Rebels built a fort on top of Breed’s Hill (Battle of Bunker Hill)
- Rebels in bitter cold in Trenton
- Rebels crossed ice-choked Delaware River in blinding sleet and snow to make a surprise attack
- The winter of 1777-1778 was too cold to fight in America –
- Many rebel soldiers froze to death at Valley Forge
- Clark and 170 men marched 18 days through a flooded river of ice water to surprise and capture a fort
The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America.

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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.

That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, 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 Principles and Organizings as their Experience shall direct.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the World for therect of Right, do in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all Political Connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be totally dissolved: And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the Protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our Sacred Honor.