



# PRIMARY SOURCE QUESTIONS



Use the excerpts on the page before to answer.

## ♦ HARD WORDS ♦

**dissolve the political bands** break the ties of government

**impel** push, force

**endowed by their Creator** given at birth by God

**instituted** set up, created

**alter or to abolish** change or get rid of

**Quartering** giving soldiers a place to live

**depriving** taking away from

**in all cases whatsoever** about everything

**station** place, position

**self-evident** plainly true; needs no proof

**unalienable** cannot be taken away

**consent of the governed** the agreement of the people

**Standing Armies** armies kept ready all the time, even in peace

**mock Trial** a fake trial

**legislate** make laws

**Absolved from all Allegiance** freed from all loyalty

## ♦ QUESTIONS ♦

1. Read "The big ideas." Name the three rights the Declaration lists. Where does it say a government gets its power? Which writer in the Big Ideas reading said something similar?

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2. Pick two grievances from the excerpts. For each one, name the British act or event from the readings that it complains about.

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3. The Declaration says "all men are created equal." Use the readings to explain why these words did not match life in 1776 for many people.

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4. What does the ending declare the colonies to be? Why were the men who signed it taking a great risk?

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