

## Purpose for Writing the Declaration of Independence

**Objective:** Identify the author's purpose in writing the Declaration of Independence and the words that support that purpose.

### Concept

1. **Why did the colonists feel the need to write the Declaration of Independence?**

The colonists wanted to write the declaration because

2. **Why would the colonists care if the world agreed with their decision to leave England?**

The colonists cared if the world agreed with them because

3. **Which of the principles in the Declaration is the most important for the colonists?**

The most important principle is \_\_\_\_\_ because

### Skill Steps:

1. Read the text
2. Highlight words that describe the author's purpose.
3. Explain why those words show the purpose.

### Skill - I Do

"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.**"

4. **Which of the author's words describe his purpose in writing the Declaration of Independence?**

I underlined **a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.** because **it states that they felt the need to tell the world what pushed them to leave England.**

### Skill - We Do

...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.

**5. Which of the author's words describe his purpose in writing the Declaration of Independence?**

I underlined \_\_\_\_\_

because \_\_\_\_\_

**Skill - Independent Practice**

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.

**6. Which of the author's words describe his purpose in writing the Declaration of Independence?**

I underlined \_\_\_\_\_

because \_\_\_\_\_

**Closure**

**7. What was the author's purpose in writing the Declaration of Independence?**

**8. What are some of the words in the Declaration that demonstrate this was the author's purpose?**