



History with Mr. E

A Social Studies Professional

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& World History for late
elementary, middle, & high school.

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- an individual, not a big-box textbook company, who strives to create authentic, hands-on, and engaging Social Studies resources.
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Instructions:

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1.) This activity is self-explanatory but can be done in a variety of ways.

2.) This can be used as a sole lesson to teach the Declaration of Independence, as the entire document can be rather wordy and confusing for even the best readers.

3.) You have students complete sections individually, in pairs, or even in groups of three. The most important thing is that students are discussing the meaning of each excerpt and that they are not “flying through it.” I do not like jigsawing something like this as I feel it is important to have each student attempt (or work with others) to analyze this text.

4.) There are three versions included, but the only difference is the background image and how well it shows up. This may be easier to print for some.

5.) A key is included!

6.) Enjoy!

The Declaration of Independence

July 4, 1776

<i>From the Declaration...</i>	IN YOUR WORDS...	NOW, PASTE A PICTURE!
#1 "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."		
#2 "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."		
#3 "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."		

<i>From the Declaration...</i>	IN YOUR WORDS...	<i>NOW, PASTE A PICTURE!</i>
<p>#4 "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."</p>		
<p>#5 "He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislatures...For Quartering large bodies of armed troops among us..."</p>		
<p>#6 "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."</p>		
<p>#7 "We...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."</p>		
<p>#8 "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."</p>		

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