Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**The Declaration of Independence Questions**

As you read and hear The Declaration of Independence , answer the following questions:

1. In the second paragraph, what truths does Jefferson say are “self-evident?”

2. What are the three unalienable rights that are listed in the Declaration of Independence?

3. Where do governments derive their “just powers?”

4. In the series of paragraphs that begin with the word, “He,” to whom does “He” refer?

5. What powers belong to the United States as “Free and Independent States?”

**Assignment:**

**Personal Declaration of Independence**

**Due Friday, February 10, 2017**

**25 points**

Directions: Choose the “tyrant” in your life that is holding you back from being the best that you can be and declare your independence from its abuses once and for all! Follow the structure of the Declaration of Independence written by American colonists when they declared independence from King George III back in 1776. Your declaration should be formatted like this:

**I. Preamble/Statement of Beliefs** - In one well-written paragraph, state your philosophy surrounding the issues this tyrant creates in your life. Do it in general terms. Why does everyone deserve to live their life free of this specific tyrant? Why do you feel this way? What are the fundamental beliefs/values that you have that bring you to this conclusion? (5 points)

**II. List of Grievances** -Make a bullet point list of all the ways this “tyrant” has abused you and your life. (5 points)

**III. Attempted Resolutions** - Make a bullet point list of all the ways you have tried to resolve the differences you have with this “tyrant.” (5 points)

**IV. Declaration Statement** - In one well-written paragraph, declare your independence once and for all, stating the ways in which your life will be better as a result and how you will use your freedom.

(5 points)

Additional 5 points for creativity, grammar, and voice