

### **Question Sheet – *Declaration of Independence***

DIRECTIONS – Use the copy of the Declaration of Independence in its original form on pages 137-140 in your textbook to complete the questions.

1. The Declaration begins with the words, “The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America”. Do you think the 13 colonies could have declared independence if they were not unanimous? Why or why not? (2)
2. How does the Declaration explain the reason for a formal declaration of independence? Why do you think it was necessary for the Declaration to state the “causes which impel them to the separation”? (2)
3. According to the Declaration, what was the purpose of government? (1)
4. What does the Declaration suggest should happen whenever government becomes “destructive of the ends for which it was created?” (1)
5. According to the Declaration, how do governments derive their powers? (1)
6. The Declaration says that “all men are created equal”, suggesting that this was “self-evident”. What do you think this statement means? (1)
7. Look at the list of grievances that lists examples of when the King or Parliament has violated the natural rights of the colonists. List three grievances that you remember learning about AND explain why you believe each to be a violation of rights. (6)