**DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE**

**PART 1 – Marking the Text**

**Directions**: Answer the following questions using the literature piece.

**Step 1:** Number the paragraphs.

**Step 2:** Circle key terms, names of people, names of places, and/or dates. (*Hint: look for repeated words, words used in a new way, and words relevant to purpose*)

**Step 3:** Highlight or box the vocabulary terms or phrases you do not know and replace the term/phrase with a synonym. (*Hint: define these words in context*)

**Step 4:** Underline relevant information. (*Hint: look for a process, data, evidence, explanations, etc*.)

**Step 5:** Jot down (2) notes per page as you read. (*Hint: What is the author saying? What is the author doing?*)

**Step 6:** According to pg. 237, what are the “unalienable” rights of people?

**[*BRACKET*]***each of the rights*

**Step 7:** According to pgs. 238-239, what are (3) main issues/problems Thomas Jefferson accused King George III of in ruling the colonies?

***DOUBLE UNDERLINE*** *the (3) main issues/problems within the text*

**Step 8:** According to pg. 240, what powers of government do they claim for their independent state?

**\**STAR*** *the powers of government*

**PART 2 – Guided Questions**

**Directions:** Answer the following questions using the literature piece.

1. What rights do people have if the government is destructive of the unalienable rights of people? (lines 10-15)
2. What did King George do with the laws that were for the public good or were of utmost importance to the colonists? (line 29-32)
3. What would the large districts of people have to do to be recognized? (lines 35)
4. Whenever a representative house opposed King George’s invasion of rights of the colonists, what would he do? Would he allow others to be elected? (line 39-43)
5. Who was the judges dependant on for their job security and pay? (line 51)
6. Even in times of peace, who would King George leave without the legislatures consent? (line 56-57)
7. What were at least 3 of the legislations that King George imposed on the colonists? (lines 62-68)
8. What else did Jefferson accuse King George of doing to the colonists? (lines 79-80)
9. What did King George encourage the slaves to do? (line 88)
10. How were all of the petitions for redress against oppression answered by the King? (lines 91-92)
11. What did the colonists warn their British brethren of doing? How would the colonists hold the British people if they did? (lines 95-104)
12. What did the Representatives of the United States of America declare? (lines 105-116)

**Follow Up**: Respond to the following with a minimum of 5 sentences and use at least two pieces of textual evidence to support your claim.

***Describe the significance of the writing and ratification of the Declaration of Independence.***

***Why was it such an important document?***