**We the People**

**“The Declaration of Independence - Study Questions”**

**Mr. Fernandez**

1. Define the following terms:
   1. Unalienable
   2. Redress
   3. Abdicated
   4. Rectitude
   5. Consanguinity
   6. Prudence
   7. Tyranny
   8. Usurpation
   9. Despotism
2. Explain the general purpose of each of the sections of the Declaration:
   1. The Preamble (P):
   2. Declaration of Rights (D):
   3. Bill of Indictment (i):
   4. Statement of Rights (S):
3. Describe the historical context in which Jefferson wrote this document.
4. According to the first paragraph, why do the writers of the Declaration feel obliged to declare the causes for the revolution?
5. How are the rights of the people to be “secured?”
6. What political philosophies or philosopher influenced Jefferson’s political philosophy concerning natural rights?
7. According to the Declaration, what is the purpose of government?
8. What had the colonists already done to try to avoid this revolution?
9. How many abuses, or indictments, are listed against King George III?
10. List and explain the historical context behind five of the indictments (i) listed.
    1. Indictment One:
    2. Indictment Two:
    3. Indictment Three:
    4. Indictment Four:
    5. Indictment Five: