



# AMERICAN GOVERNMENT



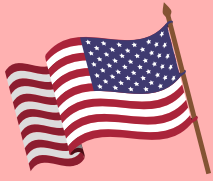
## LESSON 14

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Multiple Choice Questions

- \*\*What was one of the primary reasons the Founding Fathers decided to declare independence from Great Britain?\***
  - A) The lack of economic opportunities in the colonies
  - B) Repeated petitions for redress were met with repeated injuries
  - C) An offer of peace from King George III
  - D) Desire to create a monarchy in the colonies
- \*\*What is the significance of the phrase "enemies in war, in peace, friends" in the Declaration of Independence?\***
  - A) It declares a permanent war with Britain
  - B) It shows a desire to reconcile with Britain after the war
  - C) It signals the colonies' intention to never trade with Britain again
  - D) It emphasizes America's commitment to peace only with its allies
- \*\*What did the Founders remind the British Parliament of in their appeal?\***
  - A) Their loyalty to the British Empire
  - B) Their wealth and contributions to the British economy
  - C) The circumstances of their emigration and settlement in the colonies
  - D) Their rights to establish a new monarchy
- \*\*What is meant by the phrase "supreme judge of the world" in the Declaration of Independence?\***
  - A) The King of England
  - B) A reference to the people of America
  - C) A reference to God
  - D) The British Parliament
- \*\*In the Declaration of Independence, what is the significance of the term "free and independent states"?\***
  - A) The colonies were declaring independence from each other
  - B) The colonies saw themselves as individual countries or states
  - C) The colonies were aiming to become part of another empire
  - D) The colonies were joining together to form one state



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6. **\*\*What does the Declaration say regarding the connection between the colonies and Great Britain?\***

- A) It should be strengthened through new treaties
- B) It is dissolved and no longer exists
- C) It must be re-established through peaceful negotiations
- D) It will remain intact for trade purposes

7. **\*\*Which founding mother's letter was referenced to express the colonists' reluctance to fight against Britain?\***

- A) Abigail Adams
- B) Martha Washington
- C) Mercy Otis Warren
- D) Phillis Wheatley

8. **\*\*Why did the Founders believe they had the authority to declare independence?\***

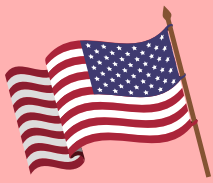
- A) They were appointed by the King of England
- B) They believed the authority came from the people
- C) They were granted independence by France
- D) They were acting under the British Constitution

9. **\*\*What did the Founders pledge to each other in the Declaration of Independence?\***

- A) Their wealth, land, and prosperity
- B) Their allegiance to the King
- C) Their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor
- D) Their military service

10. **\*\*What key difference in terminology is highlighted when referring to the "United States of America" in the Declaration?\***

- A) "United States" is capitalized to reflect a federal government
- B) "United States" refers to one consolidated government
- C) "United" is not capitalized, reflecting individual, independent states
- D) "United" refers to a temporary union until independence is achieved



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### Essay Questions

1. **\*\*Discuss the meaning and significance of the term "free and independent states" in the Declaration of Independence. How did this phrase shape the understanding of American governance and state sovereignty?\***
2. **\*\*Explain how the Declaration of Independence addressed the colonists' relationship with Great Britain. What reasons did the Founding Fathers give for dissolving political ties, and how did they attempt to justify their actions to the global community?\***
3. **\*\*Analyze the role of religion and appeals to divine authority in the Declaration of Independence. How did the Founders use references to God to support their case for independence?\***
4. **\*\*Describe the efforts made by the American colonists to seek reconciliation with Great Britain before declaring independence. Why did these efforts fail, and how did this failure contribute to the decision to separate?\***
5. **\*\*Reflect on the statement, "We mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor." How does this commitment reflect the risks the signers of the Declaration were willing to take, and what does it reveal about their understanding of the stakes involved in declaring independence?\***



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### Answer Key

#### Multiple Choice Questions:

1. \*\*B)\*\* Repeated petitions for redress were met with repeated injuries
2. \*\*B)\*\* It shows a desire to reconcile with Britain after the war
3. \*\*C)\*\* The circumstances of their emigration and settlement in the colonies
4. \*\*C)\*\* A reference to God
5. \*\*B)\*\* The colonies saw themselves as individual countries or states
6. \*\*B)\*\* It is dissolved and no longer exists
7. \*\*C)\*\* Mercy Otis Warren
8. \*\*B)\*\* They believed the authority came from the people
9. \*\*C)\*\* Their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor
10. \*\*C)\*\* "United" is not capitalized, reflecting individual, independent states