## American gov.: the declaration of independence

History, American History



Part 1 Use Site 1 to answer the following questions. 1. Who helped Thomas Jefferson draft the original declaration? 2. When did delegates actually begin to sign the completed document? 3. What did General George Washington order done with his copy? 4. Why do you think he gave this order? 1). Ben Franklin, John Adams, Robert Sherman, and Robert Livingston 2). They began signing the document on August 2nd, 1776. 3). George Washington ordered his copy to be read before the Revolutionary War. 4). I think he gave this order, to show beforehand that there was proof of independence and that we were winning this war. Part 2 In the Declaration of Independence Thomas Jefferson listed twenty-seven abuses committed by Great Britain's King George III against the colonies. These alleged abuses formed the main justification for independence. Read the entire list beginning with "He has refused his Assent to Laws..." and ending with "He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us,..." Decide which ten accusations against the king offer the strongest evidence to back up the colonists' justification for independence. Rewrite them in your own words on the following chart. 1). Equipping large bodies of armed troops among us. 2). Removing our trade with all parts of the world. 3). Setting taxes without our permission. 4). Striping us in many cases, of trial and jury. 5). Moving us beyond seas to be accused for pretended offences. 6). Held legislation meetings at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the access of their public records. 7). Kept armies near us without the permission from our legislations. 8). Sent swarms of Officers to harass our people. 9). Abolishing the free System of English Laws in a near by province. 10) With holding our own legislation.