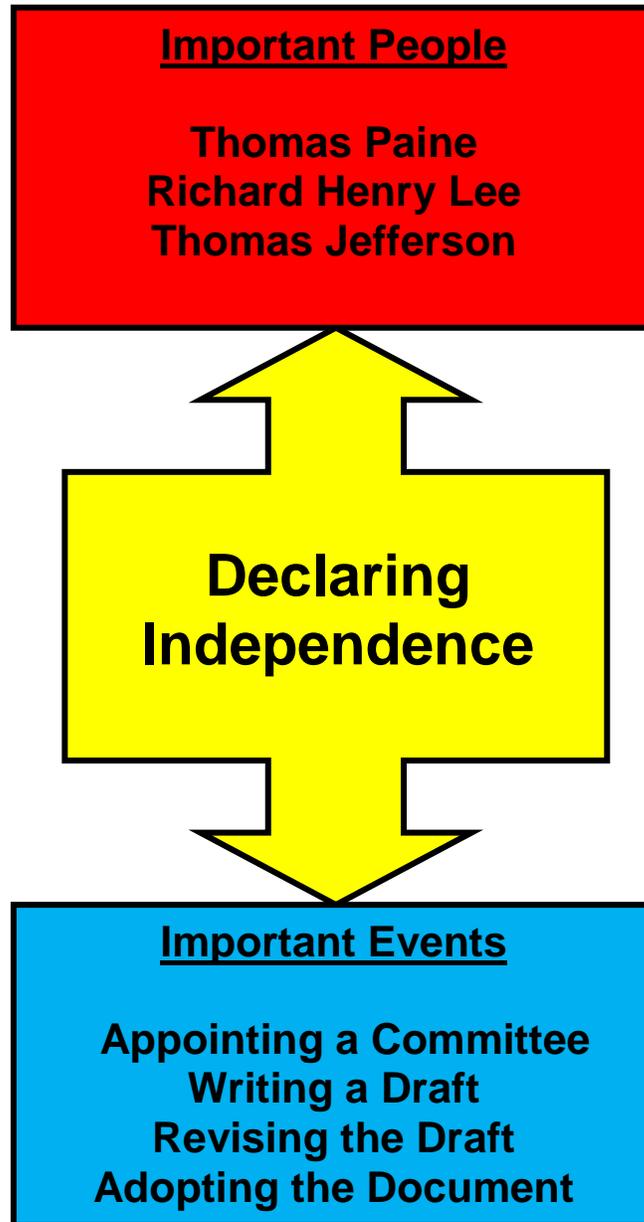


## Graphic Organizer



## Big Ideas Card

### Big Ideas of Lesson 2, Unit 6

- In 1776, Thomas Paine published a booklet called *Common Sense*. It urged the colonists to seek independence.
- In June of 1776, the Second Continental Congress appointed a committee to draft a Declaration of Independence.
- Thomas Jefferson became the main author of the document.
- The Declaration included a list of grievances the colonists had against the King and Parliament.
- On July 4, 1776, the Second Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence.

## Word Cards

### Word Cards from previous lessons needed for this lesson:

- Revolution – Word Card #1 from Lesson 1
- Independence – Word Card #3 from Lesson 1
- Mercenary – Word Card #5 from Lesson 1

### 6 public opinion

the point of view  
held by most  
people



**Example:** Public opinion in the colonies began to change in favor of declaring independence from Britain.

(SS050602)

### 7 Declaration of Independence

the document in which the colonists officially declared their independence from Britain.



**Example:** The Declaration of Independence explained why the colonists wanted to break away from Britain.

(SS050602)

## QUOTATION

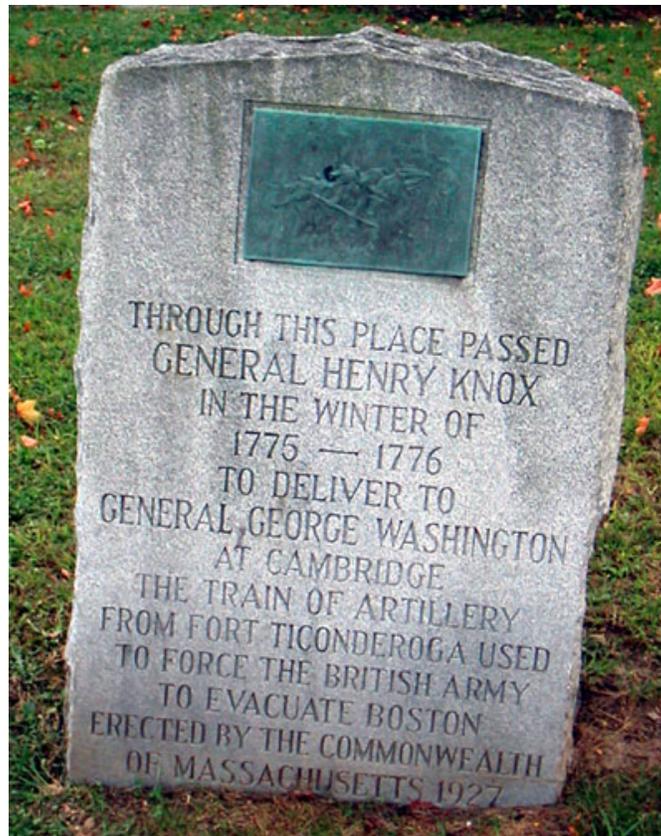
There is something absurd  
in supposing a continent to  
be perpetually governed by  
an island.

-Thomas Paine

## Artifacts



Source: <http://www.army.mil/cmh/books/RevWar/risch/chpt-12.htm>.



Source: <http://www.hmdb.org/marker.asp?marker=24017>

### Analyzing a Primary Source

<b>From <i>Common Sense</i></b>	<b>What does it mean?</b>
<p><b>GROUP 1</b></p> <p>A government of our own is our natural right.</p>	
<p><b>GROUP 2</b></p> <p>Everything that is right or reasonable pleads for separation. The blood of the slain, the weeping voice of nature cries, "TIS TIME TO PART."</p>	
<p><b>GROUP 3</b></p> <p>Even the distance at which the Almighty hath placed England and America is a strong and natural proof that the authority of the one over the other, was never the design of Heaven... To be always running three or four thousand miles with a tale or a petition...will in a few years be looked upon as folly and childishness.</p>	
<p><b>GROUP 4</b></p> <p>Small islands not capable of protecting themselves are the proper objects for government to take under their care; but there is something absurd in supposing a continent to be perpetually governed by an island.</p>	
<p><b>GROUP 5</b></p> <p>Until an independence is declared the continent will feel itself like a man who continues putting off some unpleasant business from day to day, yet knows it must be done, hates to set about it, wishes it over, and is continually haunted with the thoughts of its necessity.</p>	

## Analyzing a Primary Source – Sample Answers

<b>From <i>Common Sense</i></b>	<b>What does it mean?</b>
<p><b>GROUP 1</b></p> <p>A government of our own is our natural right.</p>	<p><b><i>We have the right to have our own government in the same way that we have the right to life and liberty.</i></b></p>
<p><b>GROUP 2</b></p> <p>Everything that is right or reasonable pleads for separation. The blood of the slain, the weeping voice of nature cries, "TIS TIME TO PART."</p>	<p><b><i>It is reasonable and right for us to separate from Britain. The killings and crying voices all give us the same message: It is time to go our own way.</i></b></p>
<p><b>GROUP 3</b></p> <p>Even the distance at which the Almighty hath placed England and America is a strong and natural proof that the authority of the one over the other, was never the design of Heaven... To be always running three or four thousand miles with a tale or a petition...will in a few years be looked upon as folly and childishness.</p>	<p><b><i>American and England are far apart. This is a good reason that England should not have authority over us. It does not make sense to be going over three thousand miles to take a petition or talk about problems. A few years from now this will look ridiculous.</i></b></p>
<p><b>GROUP 4</b></p> <p>Small islands not capable of protecting themselves are the proper objects for government to take under their care; but there is something absurd in supposing a continent to be perpetually governed by an island.</p>	<p><b><i>Why should an island rule over a continent. Only small islands that cannot protect themselves should be ruled by another government... not an entire continent.</i></b></p>
<p><b>GROUP 5</b></p> <p>Until an independence is declared the continent will feel itself like a man who continues putting off some unpleasant business from day to day, yet knows it must be done, hates to set about it, wishes it over, and is continually haunted with the thoughts of its necessity.</p>	<p><b><i>Independence will have to eventually be declared so there is no sense in putting it off. This is like a person who keeps putting off something they know they have to do.</i></b></p>

## Gathering Information from a Textbook

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>

## Thomas Jefferson's Writing Desk



Source: <http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/jefferson/images/vc30.jpg>



## Rough Draft of the Declaration

A Declaration by the Representatives of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in General Congress assembled.

When in the course of human events it becomes necessary for <sup>one</sup> people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth the <sup>separation and equal</sup> station to which the laws of nature & of nature's god entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to ~~break~~ <sup>the</sup> separation.

We hold these truths to be <sup>self-evident</sup>, that all men are created equal & independent, that <sup>they are endowed by their creator with</sup> certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, & the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these <sup>rights</sup>, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, & to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles & organizing it in such form, as to them it shall seem most likely to effect their safety & happiness. prudence indeed will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light & transient causes: and accordingly all experience hath shewn that mankind are more disposed to suffer while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. but when a long train of abuses & usurpations [beginning at a distinguished period] & pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them <sup>under absolute Despotism</sup> to ~~absolute Despotism~~, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, & to provide new guards for their future security, such has been the patient sufferance of these colonies; & such is now the necessity which constrains them to <sup>alter</sup> ~~change~~ their former systems of government, the history of <sup>the</sup> present <sup>King of Great Britain</sup> is a history of <sup>repeated</sup> ~~repeated~~ injuries and usurpations, [among which, <sup>appears no solitary fact</sup> ~~appears no solitary fact~~ to contradict the uniform tenor of the rest] <sup>in fact</sup> ~~in fact~~ have in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these states, to prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world, for the truth of which we pledge a faith not equalled by falsehood.

Source: <http://www.ushistory.org/declaration/document/transcription#transcription>

## Declaration of Independence Timeline

<b>June 7, 1776</b>	Richard Henry Lee suggests a resolution for independence.
<b>June 11, 1776</b>	A committee was appointed to draft a statement declaring independence from Britain.
<b>June 11 – July 1, 1776</b>	The Declaration of Independence was drafted, mainly by Thomas Jefferson.
<b>July 2, 1776</b>	The Lee Resolution was adopted and Congress began to consider the draft of the Declaration.
<b>July 4, 1776</b>	The Declaration of Independence was adopted and printed.
<b>July 5, 1776</b>	Copies of the Declaration were sent from members of Congress to colonial assemblies, committees and commanders of the Continental troops including George Washington.
<b>July 8, 1776</b>	First public reading of the Declaration took place in Philadelphia. The reading was followed by fireworks.
<b>July 9, 1776</b>	Washington had the Declaration read to his assembled troops. Later that night Continental soldiers destroyed a bronze statue of King George.
<b>July 19, 1776</b>	Congress ordered the Declaration to engrossed, or clearly printed, and signed.
<b>August 2, 1776</b>	The Declaration was signed by most of the members of Congress.

## Newspaper Article Writing Plan

### Lesson Assessment

**Directions:** Write a Newspaper Article reporting the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. Use the chart below to list ideas for your article.

<b>Headline</b>	
<b>What?</b>	
<b>Who?</b>	
<b>When?</b>	
<b>Where?</b>	
<b>Why?</b>	