

The Patriots Declare Independence

RETEACHING ACTIVITY **Chapter 5, Section 2**

Directions: Study the charts below and refer to them to complete the statements that follow. Then you will better understand the main ideas of the Declaration of Independence.

PATRIOTS DECLARE INDEPENDENCE

The Patriots put forth their views in the Declaration of Independence:

- main points developed by a committee made up of John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Robert Livingston, and Roger Sherman
- written by Thomas Jefferson
- consists of a preamble (introduction) and list of accusations against the King
- protects inalienable rights, rights that cannot be taken away
- lists the inalienable rights as life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness
- says people have the right to rebel against unjust government
- states that the powers of government come from the people
- declares that "all men are created equal" (despite urging by Abigail Adams to include statements on status of women)

LOYALISTS OPPOSE INDEPENDENCE

The Loyalists, who opposed independence but had no formal document, had the following characteristics:

- about a fifth of the white population
- Quakers and other groups whose commitment to peace forbade them to support a war
- had held royal posts
- wealthy people who feared mob rule
- remained loyal to Britain because it seemed likely that Britain would win
- could leave the colonies to return to their homeland, Britain

1. Two groups with opposing beliefs about relationships to Britain were

2. Three of the five people who developed the main points of the Declaration of Independence were

3. The main author of the Declaration of Independence was

4. *Inalienable rights* means those rights that

5. According to the Declaration of Independence, the three basic inalienable rights are

6. Loyalists were colonists who remained loyal to

7. Quakers stayed faithful to Britain because

8. One reason besides religion that some colonists took the British side was

9. Some Loyalists fled the colonies to return to
