

1 | What is the tone of this text? Which words lead you to that conclusion?

- Objective tone in the text, almost like this is a general fact/principle. Religious tone also adds to this. Words like "Nature's God" and "when in the course" presents it as a fact.

2 | What has "become necessary" ? What does this phrase imply about the actions taken by colonists prior to the declaration?

- To declare the reasons for their separation
 - Implies that it has already become necessary to separate

3 | How are American colonists described in this section? What implications does it have?

- Described as "one people"
 - United

4 | What does Jefferson mean by "Laws of Nature" and of "Nature's God"? What does this reveal about his belief in human nature and government?

- Government tied to God
- Underscores idea of factuality and inevitability

5 | What "entitled" Americans to claim this separation? How does this justification affect their case for independence?

- the separate but equal stations to which God entitled them
 - Idea of freedom as human right

6 | What's the key point in this portion of the text?

- They need to declare points of contention

7 | What questions does this text prompt?

- What reasons for separation?

8 | What are some ideas about government that are implied in the text?

- Government is a "power of the earth"