**Hook – Mock “Break-up” Letter for Declaration of Independence**

Dear John –

I hope you are sitting down because what I’m about to say will take your breath away! I never really thought this day would come, but I simply can’t keep going down this path with you. I use to think the sun rose and set on you, but now those days have come to an end baby.

As your girlfriend, I believe it’s your responsibility to treat me with the respect I deserve. When I want to go out with my girlfriends, you should give me the space I need and not always blow up my phone and constantly harass me. You should trust me and God forbid show me a good time every now and again!

You’re just too controlling and I just can’t cope with all that! I’ve tried tolerating your stupid friends! I put up with all the times you dab in public and I’ve even put up with your mom’s problems for far too long! I’ve tried being patient. I’ve tried to see the good side in all things. I even purchased a year subscription on Xbox Live to get you to love me again but it’s never good enough! A change must be made now!

I guess what I’m trying to say is that the candle that represented my love for you has gone out! I just think we would do better going our separate ways. This will no doubt be hard, so I’ve already blocked you on Facebook and Snapchat! I only wish the best for you, but just stay out of my way!

Your Ex,

Susie

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

**Declaring Independence: A Response from Great Britain**

*“The Declaration of America’s Immense Offense” BirdBrain History 2015*

**Simile:**

*Definition: A comparison between two things that uses like or as.*

*Example: As quiet as a mouse*

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| Identify two (2) similes you find most compelling (remember to write the line numbers) | Why do you think these are most compelling?  (think about the author’s main argument, purpose, and audience) |
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**Allusion:**

*Definition: A reference to an outside person, place, event, or literary text.*

*Example: “If it doesn’t stop raining, I’m going to build an ark.” OR “He hammered the ball like Babe Ruth.”*

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| Identify one (1) allusion you find most compelling | Explain the role of this allusion to the author’s main argument, purpose, and audience. |
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**Satire:**

*Definition: Humor, irony, exaggeration and/or ridicule used to make an argument.*

*Example: “Amerka is perfect.” (Spelled wrong to indicate America is not perfect.)*

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| Identify two (2) uses of satire you find most compelling (remember to write the line numbers) | Why do you think the author chose to ridicule this person, idea, event, or part of the document? | How does this satire advance the author’s argument? |
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**Rubric for Declaration of Independence “Break-up” Letter to King George III**

You and your group are going to write a letter where you “break it off” with King George III. Below is a list of complains for you to work from. Remember, you and the King have a history so be polite but firm. Write this letter in your own words and be creative, funny, and/or serious.

**Follow this structure:**

* **Preamble:** Tell what you are about to do (1-2 sentence(s))
* **Beliefs:** Tell what rights you should have (3-4 sentences)
* **Complaints:** Pick four (4) complaints that you think are the most harmful (4 sentences)
* **Declaring Independence:** Tell him in your own words that you and our group is leaving him. (1-2 sentence(s))

**Complaints: Circle Four (4) (which seem most harmful)**

1. Unfair taxation
2. Cutting off trade
3. Getting rid of good and helpful laws
4. Creating government departments that harass the people
5. Depriving colonists of a trial by a jury
6. Protecting officials who are murderers
7. Attempting to establish military rule
8. Hiring mercenaries (people who are paid to kill and harm colonists)
9. Forcing colonists to fight against one another
10. Fostering (allowing) uprisings to occur that work against the colonials’ rights as Englishmen
11. Disallowing or not hearing appeals for justice

**Rubric for Satirical Response to Declaration of Independence “Break-up” Letter**

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| --- | --- |
| Satire: / 62 pts.  /5 Correct formatting and length  /8 Diction appropriate to frame  /15 Clarity of writing to communicate ideas  /8 Have a clear goal (What should be changed?)  /6 Identifiable audience is appropriate for goal  /8 Uses satirical and rhetorical devices  /12 Originality and creativity | Explanation: / 38 pts.  /6 Explains goal/desired change  /6 Explains target audience/reader  /6 Explains satirical/rhetorical techniques  /6 Proper punctuation and other mechanics  /6 Correct formatting and length  /8 Clarity of writing |