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| **Excerpt from Declaration of Independence** | **Rephrased Excerpt into 8th grade terms** | **Simple Sketch** |
| Excerpt 1: “When in the Course of human event it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another… a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation” |  |  |
| Excerpt 2: “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.” |  |  |
| Excerpt 3: “To secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from 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, and institute new Government.” |  |  |
| Excerpt 4: “The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations…In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated petitions have been answered only be repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.” |  |  |
| Excerpt 5: “We, therefore…solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States” |  |  |