

from The Declaration of Independence

Use your textbook, page 140, to find some answers. The rest will be found in either a Thesaurus or a dictionary.

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...

1. Find the synonym for endow in a Thesaurus
2. Define the word unalienable
3. Rewrite the sentence in 21st-century English

Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and *transient* causes...

4. Use a Thesaurus to find a synonym for prudence
5. Which word in the sentence could be a clue for the definition of transient?
6. Rewrite the sentence in 21st-century English

But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, *evinces* a design to reduce them under absolute *despotism*¹, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government...

7. Define the word, usurpations
8. Use a Thesaurus to find a synonym for evince
9. Define the word, despotism
10. Rewrite the sentence in 21st-century English