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English 11 AMA

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Rhetorical Appeals in *The Declaration of Independence*

As a former president, Thomas Jefferson and his fellow writers in this document “The Declaration of Independence,” argue that the United States must separate from England. Jefferson’s purpose is to provide justification in order to garner support for this patriotic endeavor. He adopts a firm and assertive tone for George III. He supports his claim by first explaining the need for the separation, then listing his grievances against George III, and finally absolving allegiance to the British crown.

As an outspoken defender of human rights and a champion for education and independence, Jefferson proves himself as an authority on civil and unalienable rights. Jefferson writes that Americans must “dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another [Britain]” (112) because “the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God entitle them” (112). He dictates that independence is necessary because it is reasonable and natural for human beings to be free and independent in the natural world. In the document’s conclusion, Jefferson writes that the colonies are therefore “absolved from allegiance to the British crown” (115) because the free and independent states “mutually pledge to each other [their] lives, [their] fortunes, and [their] sacred Honor” (115). Once again, as a credible source for governmental and societal relations, Jefferson employs ethos to exhibit sound reasoning for the separation.

III-TOPIC SENTENCE EXPLAINING LOGOS IN THE DECLARATION.

1-2 EMBEDDED QUOTES THAT PROVE THAT WHAT HE’S SAYING MAKES SENSE.

1-2 COMMENTARY SENTENCES

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CONCLUSION SENTENCE THAT TIES IT ALL TOGETHER AND RELIES IT BACK TO LOGOS

IV-TOPIC SENTENCE EXPLAINING PATHOS IN THE DECLARATION.

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1-2 COMMENTARY SENTENCES

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1-2 COMMENTARY SENTENCES

CONCLUSION SENTENCE THAT TIES IT ALL TOGETHER AND RELIES IT BACK TO PATHOS

CONCLUSION PARAGRPAH THAT RECYCLES THE FIRST PARAGRAPH>