

The Declaration of Independence

Rhetorical Appeals

Directions: Column contains quotations taken directly from the Declaration of Independence. Decide if the quotation is an appeal to ethos, pathos, or logos. Write your explanation of why the phrase is ethos, logos, or pathos in the appropriate column.

Quotation	ETHOS	PATHOS	LOGOS
1. When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve... (entire first sentence)	The writers of the Declaration set their revolution in the context of human history. These men establish their ethical standing – that they are men of good sense, good character, and good will – by acknowledging that they need to explain to the world the reasons for their actions.		
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. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men ... their Safety and Happiness			
3. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience ...they are accustomed.			
4. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States.			

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PHRASE	ETHOS	PATHOS	LOGOS
5.Repetition of "He has..." followed by negative verbs			
6. Repetition of "For" followed by the -ing form of the verb			
7. He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation.		(Note the use of the present tense verb and other diction choices.)	
8. In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury.			
9. (Student Choice)			
10. (Student Choice)			