

AP GOVERNMENT Summer Assignment Name _____

1. Read the following documents. And answer the questions that follow. Please hand write your answer in the space provided in complete sentences.
 - a. Declaration of Independence
 - b. Articles of Confederation
 - c. Letter from a Birmingham Jail

Declaration of Independence:

1. What is the purpose of the Declaration of Independence?

2. Consider the text, if there was a contract to exist between the people and government, what is the government responsibility in that contract?

3. What is the responsibility of the citizenry in that contract?

4. According to the Declaration of Independence, where does a government get its power?

5. What are the three natural rights listed? Does the government assure the protection of those rights today? Explain.

Articles of Confederation

1. Read Articles I-III of the document. What is a confederation? Describe this form of government in your own words.

2. How many branches of the national government existed and what were those different branches?

3. How many states had to vote to pass a law? How many states had to agree to amend, or change the Articles of Confederation? How could or did this prove problematic?

4. What powers did the Articles of Confederation deny to the national government?

5. The Articles of Confederation did not allow the government the power to tax. How or why could this be problematic for the new government?

6. Why do you think the government established by the Articles of Confederation did not have an executive, such as a president?

Letter from A Birmingham Jail:

Write a one-page analysis that is at least three paragraphs and one page length which documents your research and understanding of the arguments made by the Dr King on the following answer sheet. In your analysis include the following:

- Paragraph 1: A thesis summarizing the main arguments (The authors claim and a summary of the line of reasoning)
- Paragraph 2: Various Reasons and evidence from the document used to support the main arguments
- Paragraph 3: Your opinion on the arguments of the writer with reasoning and current examples that support or refute Dr. King's ideas.

