**Declaration of Independence: Understanding Vocabulary in Context**

**ANSWER KEY**

| **Term** | **Definition as it appears in context.** |
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| **abolish** | to end |
| **assent** | to agree |
| **consent of the governed** | an agreement made by the people to establish a government and abide by its laws |
| **deprive** | to take something away |
| **derive** | to take |
| **despotism** | a system of government where the ruler has unlimited power |
| **dissolve** | to bring to an end |
| **endow** | to be given something naturally |
| **impel** | a complaint |
| **institute** | to establish |
| **oppression** | the use of authority or power in a cruel or unjust manner |
| **quarter** | to house |
| **rectitude** | the quality or state of being correct |
| **self-evident** | obvious, having no need of proof |
| **tyranny** | a government that abuses its power |
| **tyrant** | a single ruler that possesses and abuses absolute government power |
| **unalienable (inalienable) rights** | basic rights of the people that may not be taken away |
| **usurpation** | the act of exercising power by force |