Listening Guide- Part 2 of the American Document Series

Thomas Jefferson and "The Declaration of Independence"

1.	Since 1776 there have been over declarations of independence all over the world.
2.	He was an admitted anglophile; he loved the British system of government and their idea
	really of rights.
3.	These ideas go back to the Magna Carta, and the English of
	Rights, and the Bill of Rights in 1689 as well as several British and French philosophers.
4.	Mason had said, "All men are born equally free and"
5.	He wrote them in a way that was beautiful and understandable and
	and transformative and these words still inspire.
6.	In fact, if you don't like Jefferson it's probably because the he
	expressed Hein how he lived his life bother you, but if those
	in his life bother you, it's probably because you've internalized the worldview he
	expressed so eloquently in this document.
7.	The basis of the colonists complaints was that they were being taxed by an
	government that wasn't local.
8.	This eventually led to the first to completely leave Great
	Britain on June 7, 1776.
9.	Some people were talking about; others were talking about
	restitution; the simplest way to really think of it is in terms of a divorce.
10.	By June 28th, was coming along in fulfilling his mission in creating a conceptual
	framework for independence, and all but states had gotten permission to leave.
11.	. Witnesses say the atmosphere wasn't at all; Benjamin Rush said
	and I like to quote, "A pensive and awful silence pervaded the house"
12.	This was for the colonies; it was a pamphlet, and that's very
	clear when we read it, not even intended for King George as the primary audience.
13.	These copies were known as the Dunlap Broadsides; there were about of
	them and they were sent to various committees and assemblies.
14.	. He has an introduction, a background, a body, a refutation and a

15. Notice how the is being referenced; he doesn't say Jehovah
or Jesus, he says, "Nature's God."
16. "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created and
are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights."
17. The consent of the governed; that underlies everything. We
agree to surrender some of our rights.
18. We have a right, given by God, to try; not given by a human, it's bigger than the biggest
humans, it's than the richest humans, it's than the
humans with the most guns.
19. It is cleverly divisive while not trying to sound He calls Americans one people
20. Now Jefferson is trying to suddenly how they saw themselves by saying
we are one people.
21. The second paragraph is very dignified; it's; it's concise.
22. King George was so that it was worth giving up your life over
23. Just because you assert something, that in and of itself doesn't make it
24. "He has plundered our seas, our coasts, burned our towns and
destroyed the lives of our people."
25. "Our repeated petitions have been answered only be repeated"
26. In this section, after you get through all the grievances, we're going to see, in rhetorical
language, what we call a or perhaps the counter-arguments.
27. "And for the support of this declaration with a firm reliance on the
of Divine providence, and this is the line that is so famous, we mutually pledge to each
other our lives, our and our sacred honor."
28. This is Brutus calling on the to betray their leader doing so in
the name of honor, justice, protection of Divine right.
29. This document has formed the basis which has helped to define ideas that have done
more to shape human than almost anything.
30. John Adams and Thomas Jefferson both on the same day.
31. He wanted to be remembered for the ideals themselves: for these ideals that he has
highlighted on his