Drafting the Declaration of Independence

Directions: For this WebQuest, you will use the Library of Congress' online exhibit on Thomas Jefferson here: http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/jefferson/jeffdec.html Use the information under each subheading to answer the following.

1. Who appointed Jefferson to the committee for drafting a declaration of independence?

2. What was one change to the Declaration that Jefferson was critical of?
   a. Adding a Bill of Rights
   b. Removing a section condemning the slave trade
   c. All members of the committee signing the bottom
   d. Adding a bibliography to the back page of it

INFLUENTIAL PRECEDENTS
Match each document to how it influenced Jefferson.

_____ 1. A fountain from which flowed the principles embodied in the Declaration of Independence.
_____ 2. A list of governmental abuses by King George III.
_____ 3. Call for a halt to trade with Great Britain, including an end to the importation of slaves.
_____ 4. His smooth, eloquent language.

A. Instructions to delegates of the 1st Continental Congress
B. Fairfax County Resolves
C. Mason's Virginia Declaration of Rights
D. Jefferson's Draft of a Constitution for Virginia

THE FRAGMENT & ROUGH DRAFT

5. Both the fragment and rough draft are examples of:
   a. Primary sources
   b. Secondary sources
   c. Tertiary sources
   d. Research papers.

6. Click on the image of Original Rough Draft - what is the full title?

7. Who helped Thomas Jefferson make changes to the Declaration?

8. When did Congress formally adopt the final text of the Declaration?

9. Finish this sketch of the Graff House and indicate where Thomas Jefferson lived.
10. What is significant about Edward Savage's painting "Submitting the Declaration of Independence to the Continental Congress"?

11. Label each person in the painting:

12. The 5 men above were members of the:
   a. Committee of Correspondence
   b. Virginia Delegation
   c. Declaration Committee
   d. Voting Committee
THE FINAL DOCUMENT

13. Who was president of the Continental Congress?
   a. George Washington
   b. Thomas Jefferson
   c. Benjamin Franklin
   d. John Hancock

14. Click on the image of the Final Document – complete the missing words from the 1st line:

   *When, in the course of________________________, it becomes necessary for one people....*

15. Complete this drawing of Independence Hall in Philadelphia

   ![Indepedence Hall Drawing]

16. After hearing the Declaration read on July 9, what did American troops do in New York City?

17. In another window, do a Google image search for “Saddam Hussein statue” – find a similar image and describe what is happening.

THE AFTERMATH

18. How did Richard Henry Lee describe the changes Congress made?
   a. They improved the Declaration.
   b. They mangled it.
   c. They were fair to all.
   d. It made the new document pitiful.

19. How is Jefferson shown in the “Goddess of Liberty” portrait?

20. On what did Jefferson compose the Declaration and who did he give it to?