**Grievances in the Texas Declaration of Independence**

**Directions:** Look at the images from the grievances at your table, and find the matching grievance from the original Texas Declaration of Independence. Write the letter of the original grievance next to the matching number in the activity box. Then take the grievances and put them in your OWN WORDS. Finally, decide if the grievance is a political, economic, religious, or social issue (it can be more than one!).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Original Grievances in the Texas D.O.I.** | **Activity: Match the pictures to the grievance, and put the grievance in your own words.** | **Reflection: Is the grievance a political, economic, religious or social issue?** |
| A. It has sacrificed our welfare to the state of Coahuila… we have petitioned in the humblest terms for the establishment of a separate state government... | **1. G****Own Words:** Our citizens are being needlessly arrested by the Mexican government for breaking unfair rules. |  |
| B. It incarcerated in a dungeon, for a long time, one of our citizens, for no other cause but a zealous endeavor to procure the acceptance of our constitution, and the establishment of a state government. | **2. \_\_\_\_\_****Own Words:** |  |
| C. It has failed and refused to secure, on a firm basis, the right of trial by jury, that palladium of civil liberty, and only safe guarantee for the life, liberty, and property of the citizen. | **3. \_\_\_\_\_****Own Words:** |  |
| D. It has failed to establish any public system of education, and… unless a people are educated and enlightened, it is idle to expect the continuance of civil liberty, or the capacity for self government. | **4. \_\_\_\_\_****Own Words:** |  |
| E. It has suffered the military commandants, stationed among us, to exercise arbitrary acts of oppression and tyrrany, thus trampling upon the most sacred rights of the citizens, and rendering the military superior to the civil power. | **5. \_\_\_\_\_****Own Words:** |  |
| F. It has dissolved, by force of arms, the state Congress of Coahuila and Texas, and obliged our representatives to fly for their lives from the seat of government, thus depriving us of the fundamental political right of representation. | **6. \_\_\_\_\_****Own Words:** |  |
| **Warm-up: My Grievances with Mexico** | **Activity: Grievances in the Texas D.O.I.** | **Reflection: Is the grievance a political, economic, religious or social issue?** |
| G. It has demanded the surrender of a number of our citizens, and ordered military detachments to seize and carry them into the Interior for trial, in contempt of the civil authorities, and in defiance of the laws and the constitution. | **7. \_\_\_\_\_****Own Words:** |  |
| H. It has made piratical attacks upon our commerce, by commissioning foreign desperadoes, and authorizing them to seize our vessels, and convey the property of our citizens to far distant ports for confiscation. | **8. \_\_\_\_\_****Own Words:** |  |
| I. It denies us the right of worshipping the Almighty according to the dictates of our own conscience, by the support of a national religion, calculated to promote the temporal interest of its human functionaries, rather than the glory of the true and living God. | **9. \_\_\_\_\_****Own Words:** |  |
| J. It has demanded us to deliver up our arms, which are essential to our defence, the rightful property of freemen, and formidable only to tyrannical governments. | **10. \_\_\_\_\_****Own Words:** |  |
| K. It has invaded our country both by sea and by land, with intent to lay waste our territory, and drive us from our homes; and has now a large mercenary army advancing, to carry on against us a war of extermination. | **11. \_\_\_\_\_****Own Words:** |  |
| L. It has, through its emissaries, incited the merciless savage, with the tomahawk and scalping knife, to massacre the inhabitants of our defenseless frontiers. | **12. \_\_\_\_\_****Own Words:** |  |
| M. It hath been, during the whole time of our connection with it, the contemptible sport and victim of successive military revolutions, and hath continually exhibited every characteristic of a weak, corrupt, and tyrranical government. | **13. \_\_\_\_\_****Own Words:** |  |