In Your Own Words

With your partner, discuss the key ideas in the paragraph below. It comes from the Declaration of Independence. The important terms are in bold:

> We hold these truths to be **self-evident**, that **all men are created equal**, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain **unalienable Rights**, that among these are **Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness**. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the **consent of the governed**, That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the **Right of the People to alter or to abolish** it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their **Safety and Happiness**. . . .

Rewrite the paragraph in your own words, as if you were going to explain it to your friends and family today. Be sure to explain all the important terms.

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