

The following topics are provided for use/distribution within your state. This suggested list is provided as a service. Feel free to add, delete, or alter items to suit your purposes – especially in light of day-to-day events. Please keep in mind that other states may closely regulate the distribution of these topics. Please refrain from any distribution of the topics outside your state or by means which may be accessed outside your state, including the Internet, during the month of November.

NFHS EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING TOPICS
November 2008

Domestic

1. Who should the President-elect choose as his Secretary of State?
2. What should the President-elect's top priorities be in his first 100 days in office?
3. What steps can be taken to make college more affordable to America's graduates?
4. What steps can be taken to keep the price of gasoline down?
5. Should voting by mail be encouraged in the United States?
6. Should the federal government take steps to cap pay for corporate executives?
7. Can the US economy bounce back from its current crisis?
8. Can the federal government handle its current budget deficit?
9. Is the United States still a Superpower?
10. Should the United States expand the size of its military?
11. Will Senator Ted Stevens' appeal of his conviction for corruption be successful?
12. Who is most responsible for America's financial crisis?
13. Should presidential candidates be required to provide their full medical record to the public?

More Difficult Topics

1. How should the electoral process in the United States be reformed?
2. Was the Bush administration's decision to grant visa waivers to seven more nations a mistake?
3. Is Google recession-proof?

4. How would a merger of General Motors and one of its competitors impact the automotive industry?
5. How big a role has religion played in the 2008 elections?
6. What steps should the government take to protect retirees as the economy plunges?
7. Should public schools eliminate Junior ROTC programs, as San Francisco is considering?
8. Will America's financial crisis make health care reform more urgent?
9. Did this year's Presidential debates make a difference in the race for President?
10. Given the record amount of money spent on campaign advertising in 2008, is there a need for further campaign finance reform?
11. Will the planned fence on the Mexican border help the United States fight illegal immigration?
12. Will declining gas prices reduce the urgency to develop alternative energy sources?

International

Easier Topics

1. Should the United States stop conducting airstrikes in Pakistani territory?
2. Can China restore confidence in its tainted milk supply?
3. Can President Alan Garcia survive the current crisis in Peru?
4. Will recent hostilities between Cambodia and Thailand turn into full-scale war?
5. Is Iran becoming less threatening?
6. Is the threat of religious violence growing in India?
7. Are political freedoms under threat in Nicaragua?
8. Can strained relations between Russia and Europe be healed?
9. Was it wise to remove North Korea from the list of state sponsors of terrorism?
10. Is Sri Lanka's civil war near an end?
11. Should Israel dismantle Jewish settlements in the West Bank?

12. Will Congo and Rwanda go to war?
13. Will Jacob Zuma be South Africa's next President?

More Difficult Topics

1. Should the United States enter into negotiations with the Taliban?
2. Should African powers step-in to enforce Zimbabwe's power sharing agreement?
3. Will Spain's investigation of crimes committed under the Franco dictatorship hurt or heal the Spanish people?
4. Should the United States fear China's assistance to Pakistan in the construction of nuclear power plants?
5. Is there a risk that South Africa's African National Congress will splinter?
6. What can the United States do to help combat global hunger?
7. What steps can be taken to limit the growing threat of piracy in the Indian Ocean?
8. Can the Philippines save its peace agreement with Muslim separatists?
9. Will America's arms deal with Taiwan do serious damage to US-Chinese relations?
10. Should Saudi Arabia take the lead in bringing peace to the Middle East?
11. What steps can European powers take to maintain peace in the Caucasus region?
12. Are European governments doing a better job addressing the world financial crisis?