

National Extemp – Round One Politics and Government

1. Have debates among presidential candidates helped elevate voter awareness of candidates?
2. How has the Obama administration responded to the Flint, Michigan water crisis?
3. Why was Nikki Haley selected to deliver the Republican response to the State of the Union Address?
4. Is political polarization increasing at an alarming rate in the United States today?
5. In what ways is the United States currently relaxing trade restrictions with Cuba?
6. Why is Democratic National Committee chair Debbie Wasserman Schultz attracting criticism from members of her own party?
7. Will looming legal challenges pose a threat to Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign?
8. Has Vice President Joseph Biden played a major role in Barack Obama's presidency?
9. What were the highlights of President Obama's most recent State of the Union Address?
10. Will women's rights be a major campaign issue during the 2016 presidential election?
11. Do citizenship concerns threaten the presidential campaign of Ted Cruz?
12. Is the Obama administration devoting sufficient attention and resources to homeland security?
13. Should the U.S. federal government attempt to stem the steadily rising U.S. prison population?
14. Are U.S. voters becoming increasingly more supportive of populist style candidates?
15. Why are voter participation levels in the United States relatively low?

National Extemp – Prelims Round Two

The Economy

1. Are lower gasoline prices having a positive effect on U.S. economic strength?
2. Has Janet Yellen achieved success as leader of the U.S. Federal Reserve?
3. Are rising health care costs posing hardships on middle class American households?
4. Should wealth inequality be considered a potential problem in the United States?
5. Why does the rising value of the dollar internationally affect the U.S. stock market?
6. Is the homeless population in U.S. metropolitan areas increasing?
7. Will minimum wage increases help close the income inequality gap in the United States?
8. Is consumer credit card debt on the decline in the United States?
9. Should Congress seriously consider Social Security reform?
10. Does the influence of money determine election outcomes in the United States today?
11. Has the United States entered a period of extended economic growth?
12. Does the U.S. federal government have an obligation to promote income equality?
13. Is Treasury Secretary Jack Lew's optimism regarding the U.S. economy warranted?
14. Should the Federal Reserve initiate another interest rate increase in the near future?
15. Have rising costs of college tuition placed a major economic burden on middle class families?

National Extemp – Round Three Science and Technology

1. Are U.S. public health officials adequately responding to the Zika virus threat?
2. In what ways will use of standardized testing in U.S. classrooms change in the near future?
3. What role does the Internet play in U.S. public school classrooms?
4. Should the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission impose a ban on hover board sales?
5. Should U.S. public schools increase their commitment to art-related education?
6. Do environmental concerns mean that the future of the U.S. coal industry is in question today?
7. Do social networking websites promote improved communication skills?
8. Should community service become a U.S. high school graduation requirement?
9. What factors contributed to the Flint, Michigan water crisis?
10. Should the United States increase its commitment to space exploration?
11. Will federal core curriculum standards elevate performance levels in U.S. public schools?
12. Will dropping oil prices hinder business investments in renewable energy projects?
13. Is freedom of speech being threatened on U.S. college campuses?
14. Is U.S. student loan debt increasing at an alarming rate nationwide?
15. Are improvements in computer technology reducing the risk of identity theft in the United States?

National Extemp – Finals

Foreign Policy

1. Has Internet commerce substantially changed the nature of U.S. commerce?
2. Is the United States experiencing meaningful economic growth today?
3. Should the U.S. federal government strengthen current bank regulations?
4. Why is President Obama calling on Congress to authorize the use of force against ISIS?
5. Why are U.S. organized labor organizations opposed to the Tran-Pacific Partnership agreement?
6. Should the United States play a greater role in helping resolve Syria's civil war?
7. Should the United States embrace a protectionist international trade policy?
8. Will the U.S. agreement with Iran ultimately lead to increased Middle East stability?
9. Are U.S. government regulations causing business organizations to relocate abroad?
10. Has debate related to U.S. policy toward Syrian refugees become divisive?
11. Should the United States increase its troop strength in Afghanistan?
12. Are relations between the United States and Russia becoming more favorable?
13. Is Defense Secretary Ashton Carter seeking to expand the U.S. role in assisting Iraq?
14. Is U.S. action responsible for a significant reduction in the international strength of ISIS?
15. Should the United States attempt to improve diplomatic relations with Israel?

International Extemp – Round One Middle East / Africa

1. How is Iran benefitting economically from removal of sanctions?
2. Are Saudi Arabia and Iran on the verge of a major conflict?
4. Is Saudi Arabia playing a significant role in promoting stability in Yemen?
5. Is Zimbabwe experiencing modernization under the leadership of President Robert Mugabe?
6. Is Iraq's military achieving success in its battle against ISIS?
7. Will talks between President Bashar Assad rebel leaders help bring an end to the Syrian conflict?
8. What are the causes of the growing violence levels in Tunisia?
9. Is Nigeria likely to remain a target for Boko Haram attacks indefinitely?
10. Has international trade contributed to South Africa's economic strength?
11. Will Russia's military engagement in Syria help resolve the nation's ongoing conflict?
12. What factors are contributing to increased levels of violence in Israel's West Bank area?
13. Are divisions and conflict with Sudan threatening the future stability of neighboring South Sudan?
14. Should the United Nations take steps to resolve the Palestinian settlement issue in Israel?
15. Why is Saudi Arabia reluctant to curtail its current level of oil production?

International Extemp – Round Two Europe (includes Russia)

1. Are Belgium's leaders concerned about the presence of radical militant groups in their nation?
2. What are the latest details about possible involvement of the Russian government in the death of Alexander Litvinenko?
3. Is Germany's Defense Minister Ursula von der Leyen becoming a significant political leader?
4. Are leaders of major European nations fearing a pending global economic meltdown?
5. What has Vladimir Putin achieved as Russia's president?
6. Are major changes likely for the Roman Catholic Church under the leadership of Pope Francis?
7. Will diplomatic relations between Turkey and Russia improve in the near future?
8. Based on the latest election results, is France moving in a politically more conservative direction?
9. Do current levels of violence in Turkey reflect on the popularity of the nation's President Recep Erdogan?
10. Is Germany taking the lead, among European nations, in addressing the Syrian refugee issue?
11. Spain: Are leaders of the Catalonia separatist movement achieving success?
12. Did Germany's Angela Merkel deserve the *Time* person of the year designation?
13. As Britain's prime minister, what are David Cameron's most pressing challenges?
14. As Turkey seeks European Union membership, what obstacles does the nation face?
15. As president of the European Council, has Donald Tusk achieved success?

International Extemp – Round Three

The Americas

1. Is Cuba reaping economic benefits from improved diplomatic relations with the United States?
2. How is Brazil's President Dilma Rousseff responding to her critics?
3. Should the World Health Organization lead efforts to eradicate the Zika virus in South America?
4. Has political corruption significantly affected Brazil's economic growth rate?
5. Is declining petroleum revenue leading to an economic catastrophe for Venezuela?
6. Should the United Nations investigate human rights violations in El Salvador?
7. Will Colombia's President Juan Manuel Santos successfully resolve his nation's differences with FARC rebel groups?
8. Has a major political shift occurred in Venezuela?
9. Should Brazil's President Dilma Rousseff be impeached?
10. What challenges are Brazil's leaders facing in terms of preparing for the 2016 Olympic Games?
11. As members of the Pacific Alliance, what trade objectives are shared by Chile, Colombia, Mexico, and Peru?
12. In what ways have improvements of the Panama Canal affected the nation of Panama?
13. Why is economic recovery in Latin America moving at a slow pace in 2016?
14. Has Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro failed to address his nation's economic concerns?
15. Is development in Brazil's Amazon region resulting in environmental devastation?

International Extemp – Finals

Asia

1. Should India's political leaders be concerned about their nation's carbon footprint?
2. Is China's beginning to lose its strength in the arena of international trade?
3. Are Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and India's Narendra Modi committed to improved trade relations between their nations?
4. Is China in the midst of a long-term currency crisis?
5. Has increased manufacturing capacity enhanced the strength of India's economy?
6. Is China risking war in its efforts to maintain control of islands in the South China Sea?
7. Is North Korea committed to building a nuclear arsenal?
8. What are the objectives of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Free Trade Agreement?
9. With political transition under way, will Aung San Suu Kyi become Myanmar's national leader?
10. What are Malala Yousafzai's objectives in launching the Malala Fund?
11. Which Asian nations will reap the greatest benefits from the Trans-Pacific Partnership?
12. What are the most pressing concerns facing Indonesia's President Joko Widodo?
13. What is the connection between the terrorist attack in Jakarta and Syrian-based ISIS groups?
14. Is Japan's current recession the result of weak political leadership?
15. What factors are causing lingering political instability and uncertainty in Thailand?