

United States Extemp – Round One

Politics / Government

1. Are major divisions occurring in both the Democratic and Republican parties?
2. Does President Trump appear to be seeking political allies in Congress from the Democratic Party?
3. Does Ivanka Trump play a major role in White House decision-making?
4. Is Donald Trump a divisive leader?
5. What issues have contributed to the political rivalry between Bob Corker and Donald Trump?
6. As White House Chief of Staff, what are John Kelly's most challenging duties?
7. Does Steve Scalise play a major role among Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives?
8. What changes is Congress likely to consider regarding the Affordable Care Act in the near future?
9. Who are the Democratic Party's most influential leaders?
10. What is the political significance of Roy Moore's victory in Alabama's Senate Republican primary?
11. Was Senator Jeff Flake's criticism of President Trump warranted?
12. Was the criminal indictment of Paul Manafort warranted?
13. Demographically speaking, who are President Trump's most fervent supporters?
14. Has the issue of tax reform attracted bi-partisan support in Congress?
15. What is the duty of the Consumer Finance Protection Bureau?

United States Extemp – Round Two Finances and Economics

1. Is the United States economy beginning to experience an inflationary trend?
2. What factors are contributing to the projected increase in Social Security payments for next year?
3. To what extent does the Dow Jones Industrial Average reflect U.S. economic conditions?
4. Why are leading members of Congress reluctant to fully support tax reform?
5. Should the U.S. banking sector be concerned about a possible inflationary trend in the nation?
6. Are household incomes in the United States increasing at a steady rate?
7. Does the Federal Reserve have too much control of the American economy?
8. Are lower interest rates in the best interest of U.S. consumers?
9. In what ways has Internet commerce changed the retail sector of the U.S. economy?
10. Are U.S. consumers being misled by flawed government economic data?
11. Has artificial intelligence become an integral component of the U.S. industrial sector?
12. Will newly emerging competition from China possibly cut into Tesla's profit margin?
13. Does the current federal tax structure in the United States unfairly burden the middle class?
14. Is Richard Trumka the most powerful organized labor leader in the United States today?

15. What factors are fueling current trends with respect to the U.S. stock market?

United States Extemp – Round Three Science and Technology / Social Issues and Controversies

1. Should the Trump administration give more serious consideration to climate change issues?
2. In what ways is the United States currently affected by climate change?
3. Are today's environmentalists becoming increasingly more philosophical in their views?
4. Has the dramatic increase in the U.S. technology sector resulted in loss of digital property rights?
5. Should the federal government more fully support loan forgiveness programs for college graduates?
6. What challenges have flood and hurricane recovery efforts posed for FEMA?
7. What is the significance of Elon Musk's views regarding artificial intelligence?
8. Is freedom of expression on the decline on the campuses of major American universities?
9. What are the objectives and tactics of the Antifa political group?
10. Are changes likely for the Dream Act?
11. Are incidents of fraud hampering the effectiveness of relief organizations in the United States today?
12. What was the extent of damage sustained by Puerto Rico as a result of hurricane Maria?

13. Are most Americans at risk of identity theft?
14. Has increased use of social media caused a proliferation of hate speech in the United States?
15. What factors have contributed to the growing popularity of urban farming in the United States?

United States Extemp – Finals

U. S. Foreign Policy

1. What action has President Trump taken with regard to the Iran nuclear agreement?
2. As ambassador to the United Nations, what is Nikki Haley's role in shaping U.S. foreign policy?
3. Should the United States continue joint military exercises with South Korea?
4. In what ways is President Trump attempting to alter NAFTA?
5. Is the United States vulnerable to a major cyber-attack?
6. Does Rex Tillerson's former business experience enhance his ability as U.S. Secretary of State?
7. With regard to North Korea, does threatening language intensify the potential crisis?
8. Does North Korea pose an immediate military threat to the United States?
9. Does President Trump enjoy favorable diplomatic relations with Britain's Prime Minister Theresa May?
10. Is Rex Tillerson effectively leading the U.S. State Department?
11. Should the United States seek improved relations with Mexico?

12. Are President Trump's policies setting the stage for a major trade war with China?
13. Should the United States open its borders to political refugees?
14. In terms of relations with North Korea, do the United States and Russia have common objectives?
15. Should the United States substantially increase the size of its nuclear arsenal?

International Extemp – Round One The Americas

1. How have Cuban officials responded to allegations of "sonic attacks" on diplomats in their nation?
2. Is Guatemalan President Jimmy Morales ignoring allegations of political corruption in his nation?
3. What do recent Venezuelan election results suggest about President Nicolas Maduro's political strength?
4. Will members of the FARC organization have an active voice in Colombia's political system?
5. Were Venezuela's latest elections marred by fraud?
6. Is Haiti on the road to meaningful economic recovery?
7. Are Cuba's leaders achieving success in their efforts to modernize their nation?
8. What factors are contributing to the current rise in violent crime in Brazil?
9. Are the days of political corruption in Brazil a thing of the past?
10. What are the most pressing challenges currently facing Colombia's leaders?

11. Is Venezuela currently on the brink of a civil war?
12. How would changes in NAFTA affect Mexico's economy?
13. Has the United Nations played a major role dealing with FARC opposition in Colombia?
14. Is acceptance of feminist ideology facing major hurdles in Latin America?
15. Is political stability returning to Venezuela?

International Extemp – Round Two Europe / Russia

1. What European nations have experienced major wildfire damage in recent weeks?
2. Is Italy experiencing a shift in political party strength within its government?
3. What does the future hold in store for the Catalan independence movement?
4. Would a division of Spain result in a weakened European Union?
5. Are Turkey's leaders relying on oppressive tactics to silence political opponents?
6. Is France's President Emmanuel Macron taking the lead in addressing Europe's migrant crisis?
7. How are Turkey's relations with Germany tested by the Turkish diaspora?
8. In what ways is French President Macron attempting to change his nation's immigration policy?

9. What factors are contributing to the increasing popularity of right wing political parties in Austria?
10. Why is French President Emmanuel Macron facing criticism for his labor reform proposals?
11. Has the strength of Greece's economy improved substantially over the past year?
12. As Britain's foreign secretary, why has Boris Johnson attracted criticism from his political opponents?
13. Are Sweden's leaders attempting to strengthen their nation's military forces?
14. Are political conditions in Britain opening the door for Jeremy Corbyn to become prime minister?
15. Why did London's leaders issue a ban against Uber?

International Extemp – Round Three Asia/Australia/Oceania

1. Are religious divisions posing a threat to democracy in Indonesia?
2. What factors are causing political division between Christians and Muslims in Indonesia?
3. What are the latest developments regarding the stand-off between China and India over Bhutan?
4. Should China be concerned about mounting diplomatic tension between North Korea and Japan?
5. Is China risking a potential crisis by its increased reliance traditional medicine treatments?
6. What challenges do Rohingya refugees pose for leaders of Bangladesh?
7. Is the reputation of Aung San Suu Kyi being tarnished by treatment of Rohingya in Myanmar?

8. Should India's leaders be concerned about unemployment levels in their country?
9. Why is the Samsung Corporation once again under scrutiny in South Korea?
10. What factors led to the election of Jacinda Ardern as New Zealand's prime minister?
11. Are China's leaders successfully fostering a "business friendly" atmosphere in their nation?
12. How is Japan's economy being effected by the nation's increased defense spending?
13. Does a rapidly expanding national parks system suggest that China's leaders are conservation minded?
14. Should China's leaders demonstrate an increased willingness to protect digital property rights?
15. Is China willing to risk a war in order to protect the Paracel Islands?

International Extemp – finals Africa / Middle East

1. Is Iran becoming an increasingly more influential Middle Eastern nation?
2. Has the leadership of Yoweri Museveni hampered democracy in Uganda?
3. Are health issues hampering the effectiveness of Nigeria's President Muhammadu Buhari?
4. Is the African National Congress losing its effectiveness as a major political party in South Africa?
5. Were the latest Kenyan elections political divisive?

6. What are the causes of ethnic tension in Ethiopia?
7. As the presidency of Ellen Johnson Sirleaf nears an end what is in store for Liberia's political future?
8. What does the loss of Raqqa mean for the future of ISIS?
9. Should the United Nations advocate an independent Kurdistan within Iraq's borders?
10. What factors have contributed to the financial strength of the Saudi Aramco oil company?
11. Do recent acts of violence indicate problems ahead for the Egyptian government?
12. Is Iran participating in illegal arms trading on the international stage?
13. Is the leadership of President Faure Gnassingbe in Togo nearing an end?
14. Is Zimbabwe's Robert Mugabe deserving of the WHO "goodwill ambassador" designation?
15. As World Health Organization director-general, what are the responsibilities of Tedros Ghebreyesus?