

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 May.

NFHS EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING TOPICS

May 2007

Domestic

Less Difficult

1. Was the firing of Don Imus an appropriate response to his actions?
2. Should steps be taken to curtail the spending of presidential campaigns?
3. Have too many states moved their presidential primary to February 5?
4. Can John McCain jumpstart his presidential campaign?
5. Is Fred Thomson a viable contender for the Republican presidential nomination?
6. Should the Federal Communications Commission tighten regulations on the content of radio talk shows?
7. Are America's colleges sufficiently prepared to deal with potentially violent students?
8. Should college students be allowed to carry concealed weapons on campus?
9. Has Congress over-reacted to the controversial firing of several U.S. attorneys?
10. What should the U.S. military do to improve recruitment?
11. Should manufacturers be held legally liable for the deaths of pets by contaminated pet food?
12. Has the ideological balance of the Supreme Court shifted?
13. Will his success in fundraising propel Mitt Romney to the Republican presidential nomination?

More Difficult

1. How will the rapidly growing population of Hispanic immigrants to the United States reshape America?
2. Is politics jeopardizing meaningful immigration reform?
3. Is the Endangered Species Act in danger of losing its power?

4. Should the authority of high school athletic associations to regulate recruitment be limited?
5. Should caffeine be regulated by the government as a controlled substance?
6. Should Paul Wolfowitz resign as president of the World Bank?
7. What lessons can the judicial system take from the Duke Lacrosse case?
8. Should schools have the right to bar students with potentially violent mental illnesses from class?
9. Will the Supreme Court's decision to uphold a late-term abortion ban lead to further abortion restrictions?
10. Has the Coast Guard succeeded in its efforts to modify and update its fleet?
11. Have Democratic efforts to condition war funding on a timetable for withdraw from Iraq hurt their standing in the public eye?
12. Are America's tribunals for Guantanamo Bay detainees legally fair?

International
Less Difficult

1. Are relations between China and Japan warming?
2. Has Rwanda fully recovered from its violent past?
3. Can dissidents bring democracy back to Russia?
4. Should Robert Mugabe be deposed?
5. Is secular democracy in Turkey in jeopardy?
6. Can UN peacekeepers succeed in Darfur where others have failed?
7. Can Nigeria succeed in its transition from one civilian government to another?
8. Will the United States and China begin a trade war this summer?
9. Is the Shiite political coalition in Iraq crumbling?
10. Should the world fear a nuclear arms race in the Middle East?
11. Will the power sharing agreement for Northern Ireland succeed?

12. Will Saudi Arabia's renewed initiative for peace bring Israel and the Palestinians together?
13. Is Somalia's new government in danger of being overthrown?

More Difficult

1. Do recent terrorist attacks in Algeria and Morocco suggest the global war on terror is not being won?
2. Should the United States increase diplomatic contacts with Islamic dissident groups, such as Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood?
3. Should Latin American nations resist America's push for increased ethanol production?
4. Could global warming spur global conflict?
5. Can the UN succeed in forming an international tribunal to try the killers of Lebanon's Rafik Hariri?
6. Should the United States distance itself from the ruling regime in Pakistan?
7. Are China's current leaders the best hope for democracy there?
8. Should the United States continue with its efforts to install a missile defense shield in Europe?
9. Have Pakistan's tribal areas become a safe-haven for terrorists?
10. Should India withdraw its troops from Kashmir?
11. At age 50, is the EU a success?
12. Has Timor-Leste developed sufficiently to stand on its own as an independent state?