

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 2007**

#### **Domestic**

##### *Easier Topics*

1. Will evangelical Christians turn to Mitt Romney as their candidate of choice for 2008?
2. Should the United States government continue to use Blackwater USA in its operations in Iraq?
3. Is the supply of beef and other meats in the United States safe?
4. Can Senator Larry Craig save his political career?
5. Should the Interstate Highway System be expanded?
6. Is it too early to call Hillary Clinton a shoo-in for the Presidency?
7. Has Fred Thompson proven his viability as presidential candidate?
8. Are Bill Richardson's prospects for the Democratic presidential nomination improving?
9. What can campaigners do to secure the youth vote in 2008?
10. Will the issue of global warming split GOP presidential contenders?
11. Has presidential candidate campaign spending gotten out of control?
12. How will rising oil prices impact Americans' pocket books?
13. How will Michael Mukasey change the Justice Department?

##### *More Difficult Topics*

1. Now that Al Gore has won the Nobel Peace Prize, is it more probable that he will enter the race for President?

2. Will GM's introduction of new hybrid cars put pressure on the American auto industry to develop more alternative-fuel vehicles?
3. Are female governors reshaping the nature of state politics in the United States?
4. Should the courts limit the power of businesses to sue activists who criticize them online?
5. Will Ron Paul's growing appeal boost interest in Libertarian politics in the United States?
6. How will the high rate of home repossessions impact the United States economy?
7. How will President Bush's position on the expansion of the SCHIP program for childhood health insurance impact Republican prospects in the 2008 election?
8. Will the candidacy of comedian Stephen Colbert have any discernable impact on the presidential race?
9. What can American health officials do to curb the spread of drug-resistant staph infections in American hospitals and clinics?
10. Will improved family leave options be a defining issue of the 2008 election?
11. What steps can the military take to relieve stress among troops deployed overseas?
12. With the first "Baby Boomers" now signing-up for Social Security, is the system ready to handle the strain?

### **International**

#### Easier Topics

1. Should the deal between the United States and India to share nuclear technology be scrapped?
2. Can positive diplomatic relations between the United States and Turkey be salvaged?
3. Was it inappropriate for the United States to award the Dalai Lama the Congressional Gold Medal?
4. Will the Paris peace conference on Darfur finally bring stability to the troubled Sudanese province?
5. Is the United States' response to the crackdown in Myanmar (Burma) sufficient?
6. Should the world community take stronger measures to isolate Syria?

7. Will the return of Benazir Bhutto strengthen democracy in Pakistan?
8. Is there any prospect for success in renewed Israeli-Palestinian peace talks?
9. Can negotiators addressing the independence of Kosovo reach an agreement before the December 10<sup>th</sup> deadline for resolving the matter?
10. What can China do to improve the lives of its vast peasant population?
11. What can be done to limit use of the Internet to promote terrorism?
12. Should America once again fear Russia?
13. Is the Iraqi Kurdish region a model for Middle East peace?

*More Difficult Topics*

1. Will Russia's close relationship with Iran have a stabilizing or destabilizing effect on the Middle East?
2. Is Colombia's President Uribe a trustworthy ally of the United States?
3. Will China's new communist party congress set a new course for the nation?
4. Should Congress pass a resolution condemning the Armenian genocide?
5. Will the Russian people accept Vladimir Putin's round-about approach to clinging to power?
6. Should India adopt employment quotas to promote jobs for lower-caste citizens?
7. Has Daniel Ortega's presidency brought improvements to Nicaragua?
8. Should the United States ratify a free trade pact with Peru?
9. What can be done to diffuse tensions between Turkey and Iraq over Kurdish rebels operating along their mutual border?
10. How will the presence of Libya and Vietnam on the UN Security Council impact efforts to promote world peace?
11. Will proposed new restrictions on immigration to France fuel racial strife in Europe?
12. Should the United States declare Eritrea a terrorist state?