



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 of your state or by means which may be accessed outside of your state, including the Internet, during the month of January.

NFHS EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING TOPICS
January 2019

Domestic

Closed-Ended

1. Are polls of presidential front runners of any importance this far from November 2020?
2. Are there too many Democratic presidential contenders for 2020?
3. Will Donald Trump face an internal challenge for the 2020 Republican presidential nomination?
4. Should it be possible to indict a sitting President?
5. Will Mick Mulvaney become the permanent White House Chief of Staff?
6. Has CBS been too generous to Les Moonves?
7. Should the Democratic Party be willing to compromise with the President over the contentious issue of border security?
8. Should state legislatures be able to limit the power of the executive branch prior to a switch in party control, as has recently occurred in Wisconsin?
9. Does the United States have a solid case against the Huawei CFO?
10. Is Joe Biden a viable presidential candidate for 2020?
11. Does sufficient evidence now exist to conclude that Russian social media campaigns had an influence on the 2016 presidential election outcome?
12. Should the United States invest in the economic development of Central America as a strategy for reducing illegal immigration?

13. Will North Carolina be required to rerun its recent elections?

Open-Ended

1. What steps can the Department of Homeland Security take to ensure no more detainees die in its custody?
2. Who are the leading candidates to succeed Ryan Zinke as the Secretary of the Interior?
3. How will the decision of Senator Lamar Alexander not to seek reelection in 2020 impact the future of congressional education policy?
4. What is the likelihood that the recent court ruling declaring the Affordable Care Act unconstitutional will be upheld by federal appellate courts?
5. How will the Senate's recent rebuke of Saudi Arabia's government impact the Trump administration's foreign policy toward that country?
6. How will Nancy Pelosi's compromise strategy to return as Speaker of the House limit her influence over the democratic caucus?
7. Is Congress doing enough to advance the cause of criminal justice reform?
8. What is the root cause of the U.S. auto industry's recent plant closures?
9. What will be the implications for the national pro-marijuana movement if New York follows Andrew Cuomo's recommendation and legalizes recreational marijuana?
10. What steps can the federal government take to stem the rising tide of homelessness in the United States?
11. What will be the consequences of the Trump Administration's rollbacks of the Clean Water Act?
12. What is the key to increased Democratic success in rural America?

International

Closed-Ended

1. Will the new Mexican president bring strength or uncertainty to the Mexican economy in 2019?
2. Should Venezuela's neighbors be worried about Venezuela's acquisition of bombers from Russia?

3. Is India's Congress Party regaining strength?
4. Will the Supreme Court ruling restoring Sri Lanka's parliament resolve the constitutional crisis in that country or worsen it?
5. Is Taiwan's KMT party poised to reclaim control of the country?
6. Will China's decision to curb the production of fentanyl slow the global spread of the potent drug?
7. Will Angela Merkel's hand-picked successor be able to keep the CDU in power?
8. Is Emanuel Macron's arrogance his undoing?
9. Is US military action against Al Shabaab militants having an impact in stabilizing Somalia?
10. Can warring parties in Yemen come to a peace agreement?
11. Will protests against Viktor Orban topple Hungary's government?
12. Is Russia preparing for a major offensive against Ukraine?

Open-Ended

1. What can Canada do to lessen its dependence on fossil fuels?
2. How will the new Mexican president shape the relationship between Mexico and the United States?
3. What steps must be taken to curb the spread of methamphetamine in Southeast Asia?
4. What must North Korea and the United States do to move nuclear disarmament talks forward?
5. How will the warming of relations between Russia and China impact global security?
6. What steps must be taken to achieve a peace deal in Yemen?
7. What steps can the international community take to help curb terrorist activity in Burkina Faso?
8. What will be the consequences of Qatar quitting OPEC?

9. What are the prospects for an UN-brokered resolution of the sovereignty question in Western Sahara?
10. What must Teresa May do to bring the Brexit process to its conclusion?
11. Why did efforts to unseat Teresa May as the UK Prime Minister fail?
12. What will be Mohammed bin Salman's fate in the Saudi royal family given the controversy created by the killing of Jamal Khashoggi?
13. What will be the long-term impact of France's "Yellow Vests" protests?