



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 February.

**NFHS EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING TOPICS
February 2019**

Domestic

Closed-Ended

1. Have Tulsi Gabbard's views on LGBT rights evolved sufficiently for her to succeed in earning votes from the Democratic presidential primary electorate?
2. Have Kirsten Gillibrand's views on immigration evolved sufficiently for her to succeed in earning votes from the Democratic presidential primary electorate?
3. Should the Mueller report be released to the general public upon its completion?
4. Should certain parts of the federal government remain fully funded during government shutdowns?
5. Should a President be able to meet with foreign leaders without staff present?
6. Do the lower numbers in attendance at the Washington, DC, Women's March signal a fracturing of the movement since 2016?
7. Is it time for Steve Mnuchin to be removed as Treasury Secretary?
8. Was Nancy Pelosi right to advocate delaying the State of the Union address during the government shutdown?
9. Should Congress take more extreme measures against Representative Steve King of Iowa?
10. Will William Barr protect the Mueller investigation from Presidential or Justice Department interference?
11. Will Amazon workers pursue unionization?

12. Should online credit recovery programs in America's high schools be more tightly regulated?
13. With John Kelly and Jim Mattis gone, who is in the position to check the President's impulses when it comes to the use of the military?

Open-Ended

1. What will be the lasting political impacts of the federal government shutdown?
2. How are President Trump's continued denials of climate change impacting the global effort to reverse it?
3. What steps must Congressional Republicans take if they want to establish their independence from the President?
4. How would a candidacy by former Democratic Presidential candidate, John Kerry, impact the primary race for 2020?
5. How have Michael Cohen's public statements since announcing his cooperation with the Mueller probe helped or hurt his credibility?
6. How will the start of higher minimum wage rate hikes in several states impact their economies relative to their lower-wage counterparts?
7. How will Congress' decision to deny relief to Russia sanctions impact already tense relations with Moscow?
8. What can the United States government do to get an accurate accounting of the scope of the separation of migrant children from their parents?
9. How long will Mick Mulvaney serve as White House Chief of Staff?
10. What steps can government take to curtail unnecessary SWAT team deployments?
11. What is John Kasich's future in the Republican Party?
12. What steps can the federal government take to prevent future federal government shutdowns?

International**Closed-Ended**

1. Will protests in Greece derail that government's deal with Macedonia over that nation's proposed new name?
2. Will cuts in European arms sales to Saudi Arabia have any influence on the conduct of the Saudi regime?
3. Will the proposed US withdrawal from Syria result in a resurgence of ISIS?
4. Can the world's central banks successfully fight a future recession?
5. Will China's repression of its Muslim minority result in a backlash against the government?
6. Can Nicolas Maduro complete another six-year term?
7. Can Australia rival China for influence in Asia?
8. Is the King amassing too much power in Thailand?
9. Will Japan's withdrawal from the International Whaling Commission result in the collapse of the anti-whaling treaty?
10. Will Benjamin Netanyahu achieve reelection in April?
11. Will Serbia's government succeed in joining the European Union?
12. Can another term for Stefan Lofven keep Sweden's far right in check?

Open-Ended

1. What is the source of the German economy's woes?
2. What will be the consequences of the current Brexit-related turmoil on the UK's government?
3. What will be the consequence of US withdrawal from Syria on America's Kurdish allies?
4. What is the likelihood that a second US-North Korean nuclear summit will result in greater security for Northeast Asia?
5. What steps can Colombia and Venezuela take to deescalate tensions?

6. What must Canada's Justin Trudeau do to wrest his country away from dependence on fossil fuels?
7. What actions must Indonesia take to fuel its economic growth?
8. What can Taiwan do to reduce mainland Chinese influence over its elections?
9. What would be the consequences of an American withdrawal from Afghanistan?
10. What will be the impact of increased outward migration of progressive Persian Gulf Arabs be on their homelands?
11. Who will likely take power in Algeria after Abdelaziz Bouteflika?
12. What steps can Saudi Arabia take to increase foreign investment in its country?
13. Who is best-equipped to bring about a peace deal in Yemen?