

NATIONAL EXTEMP

National Extemp consists of speeches prepared in response to questions given at the beginning of your round. With limited prep time, you're expected to present an answer and analysis on a current domestic event or development.

RULES

- 5-7 minute speeches, with 30 minutes of prep time
- You are given three questions to choose as your topic
- Not a rule, but having at least 3-5 sources is expected
- no pre-outlines or fully-written speeches are allowed
- No notes in round, but you can take them outside the door
- Computer Rules
 - Allowed only on airplane mode
 - Cannot be plugged in or charging in the Extemp room
 - You cannot access pre-written documents, only articles filed on Extemp Genie
 - Files cannot be highlighted or cut beforehand

TIME ALLOCATION

0:00 - AGD, Background, Question & Answer, Roadmap
1:45 - 1st point
3:00 - Wrapping up your 1st point/Transition into 2nd point
4:00 - Moving into your 2nd point
5:00 - Into your 3rd point
6:00 - Wrapping up the 3rd point
6:30 - Restating the question/beginning your conclusion
6:45 - AGD tieback/Ending your speech.

NEWS SOURCES

- New York Times
- Economist
- BBC
- The Guardian
- The Financial Times
- Reuters
- National Public Radio

TYPES OF QUESTIONS

Open vs. Closed

Open questions usually begin with "How" or "What" (etc.) and require a justification to your answer, or some kind of conditional answer.

Examples:

How should Mitt Romney appeal to independent voters?

What should the international community do to increase non-proliferation measures?

Closed, on the other hand, warrant an unconditional answer in the affirmative or the negative--so Yes, or No.

Examples:

Can the US bring an end to aggression in the South China Sea?

Should the European Union increase sanctions on Iran?

Fact, Value, and Policy.

Fact questions ask for a description or a prediction of an issue based upon the "facts" of the situation, or the status quo. They're typically preceded by/can be identified by "is", "are", "will", & "would"

Examples:

Is Mexico doing enough to combat police corruption?

Will China's naval prowess pose a threat to the United States?

Value questions call for the application of (some kind of) personal/societal norms to an issue. Similar to the fact questions, but with a little more leeway. "Should" is usually used.

Examples:

Should Greece leave the Eurozone?

Should the Obama campaign be as concerned about GOP SuperPACs?

Policy questions call for an evaluation of a problem or prescription for a solution to a problem. They're usually marked by "can" or "could"

Examples:

Can the PRI bring an end to drug violence in Mexico?

How should the UK respond to Ecuador's granting of asylum to Julian Assange?

NATIONAL EXTEMP

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU'RE COMPETING IN EXTEMP?

Before the Tournament:

- Reading/watching the news, understanding current events
- Pack a notepad or loose paper and a few pens for the tournament
- Try to give a few practice speeches before the tournament - this will make you feel a lot more confident when you actually compete!

At the Tournament

Before the Round:

- Computers and personal items will be taken to the Extemp Room. This is usually a large classroom, the library, or sometimes even in the auditorium. You'll see a bunch of kids set up with their snacks, water bottles, notebooks/legal pads, and most importantly, their computers with files or the physical box of files (we use computers at clearfield). At the front of the room will be a person sitting at a desk or table. This is the Extemp Nazi. They'll give you your questions, times, answer any questions, deal with issues in the extemp room, and sometimes walk around to check your computers to make sure you're adhering to the rules.
- Go to the bathroom or eat while you can. You can't leave the extemp room while prepping your speech
- Postings will go up, check your code, and see what room you're in. You will also be assigned a speaker number, which determines when you start prepping and when you'll go to speak.

In the Round:

- Sometimes they'll do a roll call to make sure everyone's there, or they'll do roll call just for the first speakers. When they call your code, just say "here!"
 - They'll start off with the first speakers for the "draw". This is when you pick up three questions (you have to choose one of them to speak on) and your prep time begins.
 - For the next twenty five minutes, you outline your speech, research, add sources, and practice to a wall (very quietly).
 - At five minutes left, the Extemp Nazi calls for a five minute warning (sometimes they don't, so you have to watch your own time). Take your notes and practice as you head to your room. Most of the time, someone is still speaking, so just wait outside until the judge calls you in or the other person leaves. This is the best time to speak to a wall or calm your nerves.
 - Showtime! When you walk in the room, it's just you and the judge. They'll usually ask you for your name, code, question, and how you want your time signals. Make sure you're friendly, this is the judges first impression of you.
- After the round:
- Once you're finished, make sure to thank the judge and ask if they shake hands. If you brought your notes inside and set them on a desk, or left them out in the hall, take them when you leave.
 - Go back to the team spot or the extemp room (but be quiet since some people may still be prepping) and congratulate yourself on making it through Extemp!