



2023-2024 MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE

The following selection of Extemporaneous Speaking questions were used at 2023 Speech subsections, sections and/or State competition, and are posted for student practice.

International

Should the U.S. be concerned about a continued relationship between the Taliban government in Afghanistan and Al Qaeda?

How should the global community respond to the "world's largest hunger crisis" resulting from the civil war in Sudan?

Is the Palestinian Authority equipped and able to effectively govern Gaza in a post-Hamas world?

Was Senate majority leader Chuck Schumer correct in his call for new leadership of Israel?

How has Ayatollah Ali Khamenei of Iran shaped the government, policies and actions of Iran?

What significant factors have been responsible for the chaos, violence and death in Haiti?

Does the trilateral alliance of Russia, China and North Korea represent a real threat to the U.S.?

How has Russia's war with Ukraine affected the NATO military alliance?

What does the resignation of Prime Minister Leo Varadkar mean for the government and country of Ireland?

Why would China struggle to successfully invade Taiwan?

Will China be successful in displacing the U.S. as the motor that drives the world economies?

Should Muslims in India have real concerns about legislation and actions targeting them?

Is the EU's European Green Deal a realistic and viable response to climate change?

What does the declining global fertility rate mean for the future global population?

What does the future hold in store for former Brazilian president Jair Bolsonaro?

Can China realistically achieve its 5% annual economic growth target in 2024?

What does the election of Bassirou Diomaye Faye as president mean for Senegal?

Why did Ukraine's 2023 counteroffensive against Russian forces fail to achieve its objectives?

What is the status of the situation facing China and its Asian neighbors in the South China Sea?

What does the presidential election victory of Prabowo Subianto in Indonesia mean for the government and the country?

Will Kenya's pledge to send police forces to Haiti restore law and order in the country?

Is the goal of reaching global net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 realistic?

What challenges are posed by Houthi forces in Yemen to Middle East peace and stability?

Is it time to revisit America's foreign policy toward North Korea?

What significant factors are responsible for growing tensions between India and Pakistan?

What is the report card for EU President Ursula Von der Leyen after 4 years of EU leadership?

Should the global community engage with or continue to distance itself from the Taliban government in Afghanistan?

Why did Israeli intelligence fail to identify and prepare for the threat of Hamas?

How should the U.S. and its European allies respond to the recent death of Alexei Navalny?

How will recent national elections in Pakistan affect the future government and policies of the country?

What would reelection to a third term for Prime Minister Narendra Modi mean for India's government and economy?

Will Julian Assange be successful in his legal efforts to avoid extradition to the U.S. for espionage activities?

What are the prospects for Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the scheduled spring elections in India?

What major foreign policy issues require the attention of the Biden administration in the Indo-Pacific region?

What foreign policy and military priorities will the North Korean government of Kim Jong-un pursue in 2024?

Are North and South Korea headed for peaceful coexistence or continued conflict in 2024?

What lies in the cards for the future relationship between the Philippines and the U.S.?

What more must the Biden administration do to strengthen American economic and military ties with countries in Asia?

What is the future for democratic rule in the nations of Southeast Asia?

What major challenges does President Putin face in his governance of Russia?

What major threats does Russian President Putin pose to the global interests of the U.S.?

Is the Russia - China relationship fulfilling the intended objectives of their governments?

What is responsible for the demise of democracy and rise of autocracy in Russia?

Should other Eastern European countries have reason to fear future Russian military attacks?

What can the Russian government and people expect for their economy in 2024?

What are Russian President Putin's long range plans for Ukraine and its neighbors?

How will Russia respond to the expansion of NATO membership to more countries in Europe?

How has the government of Russian President Vladimir Putin affected the work and rights of foreign journalists?

How should President Vladimir Putin be graded as the leader of Russia?

What can the nations of the world expect for climate change and the environment in 2024?

What does the future portend for the use of nuclear energy in the world?

What major water crisis situations does the global community face?

Will alternative energy sources be viable in replacing fossil fuels to meet the future energy needs of the world?

Is there real hope of countering the projected worst-case scenario for global climate change?

Are the net-zero pledges by the world's largest carbon emitters sufficient to meet the growing challenge of global climate change?

How will global climate change affect the nations of the world in the years to come?

What continued challenges does the U.S. face in its efforts to combat global climate change?

How did climate change impact the environment, nations and people of the world in 2023?

What major challenges do plastics present to the global environment and the nations of the world?

Is it time for elections in Israel to choose a new government to lead the country?

What major issues challenge successful negotiations of a ceasefire and hostage release in the Gaza conflict?

Do the Houthi rebels in Yemen present a clear and present danger to peace and stability in the Middle East?

What actions does the global community need to take to address the growing drought in southern Africa?

What priorities should the Biden administration pursue with the countries of the Horn of Africa?

Has the Israeli military been sensitive enough to the needs, interests and lives of the Palestinian civilians in Gaza?

Can Hamas survive the military campaign by Israel in Gaza?

Is an all-out war in store for Israel and the militant forces of Hezbollah?

Does Iran pose a clear and present danger to peace and stability in the Middle East?

What will the government of Iran look like after Ayatollah Ali Khamenei of Iran?

What is the report card on Iran's nuclear weapons program?

Are Israel and Iran headed for significant military conflict in 2024?

U.S.

What lies in the cards for the U.S. economy in 2024?

What can we expect from the U.S. Federal Reserve Board with its economic policies for the nation in 2024?

What would a November election victory for President Biden or former President Trump mean for U.S. business and the economy?

Should Americans be concerned about threats to Social Security and Medicare with a Trump victory in the 2024 presidential election?

Have the federal and state governments responded effectively to the environmental threat of "forever chemicals"?

How will Arizona U.S. Senator Kyrsten Sinema's decision not to seek reelection affect the U.S. Senate and American political scene?

What are the implications of annual U.S. budget deficits and growing federal debt for the country?

What could the recent Department of Justice antitrust lawsuit mean for Apple?

What is responsible for the record-setting U.S. stock market?

Is the U.S. Supreme Court's skepticism of the effort to curtail access to the mifepristone abortion pill justified?

How will Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s campaign impact on the 2024 presidential election?

Are real changes in Social Security on the horizon with the Republicans in Congress?

What will the new auto emission standards by the Biden administration mean for the U.S. auto industry and greenhouse gas emissions?

What is responsible for growing antisemitism in the United States?

What is the legacy of the Affordable Care Act on its 14th anniversary as America's health care policy?

Will Hispanic voters propel former President Trump into the White House in the 2024 presidential election?

Does Tik Tok present a clear and present danger to the United States?

What are the political prospects of Speaker Mike Johnson to remain in power in the U.S. House of Representatives?

How can America effectively meet the challenge of growing child poverty?

What impact have claims of a "stolen election" in 2020 had on the American political scene?

Why did Nikki Haley fail to capture the support of Republican voters in her campaign for the Republican presidential nomination?

What major challenges do transgender individuals face in the United States?

What is the report card on the status of abortion rights in the U.S. in 2024?

What policies and actions are needed to meet the challenge of fentanyl in the U.S.?

Are "straw purchase" laws and restrictions on access to ammunition effective measures to deter future U.S. gun violence?

How will the current controversy regarding Boeing Co.'s safety record impact the company and its workers?

Has Elon Musk been good or bad for X (formerly known as Twitter)?

What will running mate Nicole Shanahan bring to the Robert F. Kennedy Jr. presidential campaign?

Has the Federal Reserve Board pursued the correct strategy to support America's economy?

What lies in store for the future of the American office workplace in the wake of the COVID pandemic?

What legislative initiatives should be taken by Congress to address the affordable housing crisis facing America?

What major challenges does inflation present to the American economy and people?

Should America's labor unions be optimistic or pessimistic about their prospects in 2024?

What domestic legislative priorities should the Biden administration pursue in 2024?

Is the House Republican impeachment drive against President Biden dead or alive?

What major challenges will President Biden face in the pursuit of his political agenda in 2024?

How should President Biden be evaluated on his domestic leadership and accomplishments during his 3+ years in the White House?

Has Kamala Harris effectively fulfilled expectations of her role as Vice-President of the U.S.?

What has Lloyd J. Austin III brought to America's military and the country as the Secretary of Defense?

What policies and actions should the Biden administration pursue to meet the challenge of violent extremism in the U.S.?

What will be the impact of President Biden's efforts to rebuild and renew America's infrastructure?

Do the House Republicans have a legitimate case for pursuing impeachment of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas?

What are the reelection prospects for President Biden in the 2024 presidential election?

How is the Supreme Court's decision to end affirmative action in college admissions impacting diversity in higher education?

What major issues are challenging America's public schools in 2024?

What is the answer to growing student college debt in the United States?

What are the implications of the growing teacher shortage in America's schools?

What will America's schools need to address to rebound from the impact of the COVID pandemic?

What are the lessons to be learned from the COVID vaccination controversy in the U.S.?

Are America's health care providers, state and federal governments effectively prepared for a future health pandemic?

How is the fentanyl crisis affecting the health of the United States?

What major challenges threaten access to rural health care in America?

What is responsible for the growing mental health crisis in America?

Is national legalization of marijuana for recreational purposes the right policy to pursue?

What major initiatives are required to reform America's police forces?

What challenges does the NRA face in maintaining its influence on the national gun control debate?

Will America's gun culture or the tragedy of mass shootings prevail in the national debate over gun rights?

Should Americans have real concern about crime and violence in the country?

How have body cameras affected the conduct and practices of police forces in the U.S.?

What major challenges does the LGBTQ+ movement face in the U.S. in 2024?

Why are antisemitic incidents and violence on the rise in the U.S.?

What major challenges does the growing white supremacist movement pose to America?

What is the report card on transgender rights in the U.S.?

What can we expect in the U.S. abortion controversy in 2024?

What explains the declining use of the death penalty in the United States?