

2021 NIETOC EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING TOPIC AREAS

RD 1 -- US Environment and Health

RD 2 -- Middle East and Africa

RD 3 -- US Rights, Law, and Politics

Octos -- Asia and Oceania

Quarters -- US Foreign Policy

Semis -- Europe and Russia

Finals -- US and Global Economy

2021 NIETOC EXTEMP PROCEDURES

ASYNCHRONOUS PORTION -- Extemp speakers will submit four videos; one for each prelim and a fourth video to be used for the octafinal round. Topics will be released one week before video submissions are due. Speakers must draw and speak on one of the topics provided for that given round. Extempers are on the honor system for this process and are strongly encouraged to approach prepping and presenting each speech in the manner in which doing so typically takes place. Each video must be single take and no editing is allowed.

*VIDEOTAPING STEPS -- After recording the performance with the program of your choice, complete these steps:

A-CREATE A YOUTUBE ACCOUNT, if you do not already have one.

B-PUBLISH YOUR VIDEO: Log in to www.youtube.com, click "upload" at the top of the front page. Select your original video and upload it into your YouTube account.

C-EDIT VIDEO DETAILS: The title of your video should be the event followed by your name (ie EXTEMP-Demond Wilson). In the description section, add the draw question to each video.

D-EDIT VIDEO VISIBILITY: When creating the Visibility, change audience option from "Public" to "Unlisted" to ensure the privacy of your video - only those with a link to the video can watch. **Do not make your video "Private" or "Public" and DO NOT REMOVE your video.**

E-CONFIRM VIEWABILITY: After your video is fully uploaded, please ensure that your video has no technical issues with sound/video and that the performance is viewable from beginning to end. Share the link with your coach, who can double check that the link works and add it to your entry on SpeechWire.

SYNCHRONOUS PORTION -- Beginning with quarterfinals, extemp (like all other individual events) will switch to synchronous and live performances. For all live elimination rounds, Extemp Prep will return to standard draw with 30 minutes of prep. PLEASE have your extempers familiarize themselves with electronic draw and prep. Students will join a zoom room to facilitate draw order and confirm that they are drawing at the appropriate time. They will do draw from within their SpeechWire account and then begin prepping. When time to speak, they will leave the virtual prep room and access their virtual competition room. Coaches will need to share the prep zoom link with students; the competition zoom link will be provided directly to each student from within SpeechWire.

The video for this has information for both tournament managers and students, so you may want to view this with your extempers and/or direct them to sections that pertain directly to them (STUDENT DRAW PROCESS BEGINS @ 8:15). <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AhB9U1iQaLY>

NIETOC 2021 Prelim 1 Environment and Health

1. Did the US approve Covid-19 vaccines too quickly to be safe?
2. What steps can be taken to reduce food insecurity in the US?
3. Who are the real winners and losers during this pandemic?
4. Is "virus fatigue" making it more difficult to mitigate the pandemic?
5. How will we know when we have reached "herd Immunity" from Covid-19 in the US?
6. Does vaccine distribution expose inherent bias in the US?
7. Who was most impacted by Biden's revoking of the Keystone XL Pipeline?
8. Why do so many Americans suffer from "vaccine skepticism"?
9. Should "saving the bees" be a higher priority for American environmental efforts?
10. Did the US "open up" too soon to mitigate the spread of Covid-19?
11. When will US students be able to return safely to "in person" schooling?
12. Has the treatment, health and welfare of migrant children crossing the border into the US improved under the Biden Administration?
13. Will Biden's infrastructure proposals succeed in making the US a healthier, safer place to live?
14. Why are some countries much more successful than the US in curbing cases of Covid-19?
15. Should the US be doing more to mitigate the impacts of climate change?
16. Will the US rejoining the Paris Climate Accord really mitigate climate change to any significant degree?
17. Should Congress legalize medical and recreational marijuana at the federal level?
18. Is declining mental health responsible for the recent rise in violent crime across the US?
19. Should the US do more to thwart animal mass extinctions?
20. Do Americans value rights and liberty over health and life?
21. Did recent weather events and utility failures underscore the need for electricity and safe drinking water for all US citizens?

NIETOC 2021 Prelim 2 Middle East and Africa

1. How big a threat is Iran to the US?
2. Should the international community intervene in Ethiopia?
3. Are 3rd world countries being left behind in the distribution of Covid-19 vaccines?
4. Should the international community step up aid to curb the famine in the Democratic Republic of the Congo?
5. Has Ethiopia become a failed state?
6. What can be done to aid African nations in overcoming “vaccine apartheid”?
7. Should the Algerian government do more to stop the “migrant trafficking”?
8. What root causes are behind the ongoing violence in Nigeria?
9. Is Israel undermining US efforts to revive a nuclear deal with Iran?
10. Will warming relations between Israel and its Arab neighbors lead to regional peace?
11. As Africa becomes more modernized, is pollution being properly addressed?
12. Is Ghana's political system irreparably broken?
13. Is vaccine nationalism harming efforts to curb the pandemic in Africa?
14. Will warming relations between Israel and several Arab nations signal an end to Israel's Palestinian problem?
15. Are forces at work to destabilize the government in Jordan?
16. What is fueling the revolt in Chad?
17. Is war on the horizon between Ethiopia and Sudan?
18. Is democracy working in any African nation?
19. Have any reforms been made to make gender equality in Saudi Arabia a possibility?
20. What can be done to reverse the violence in Yemen, Mali, and Algeria?
21. Is the US sale of weapons and F-35's to the UAE in the best interest of the US?

NIETOC 2021 Prelim 3 US Rights, Law, and Politics

1. Should US legislators vote for congressional term limits to mitigate possible corruption?
2. What needed reforms would improve US policing?
3. Can corporate influence impact recent changes to US voting rights?
4. What has led to the increased comingling of sports and politics?
5. Is abolishing the filibuster a good idea?
6. Will Donald Trump be the GOP nominee for President in 2024?
7. Should Facebook, Twitter, and other social media platforms be regulated by the federal government?
8. Has the Biden Administration overpromised and underdelivered on the refugee crisis at the US southern border?
9. Is the Electoral College still relevant?
10. After voting in favor of statehood, what is next for Puerto Rico?
11. Should Washington D.C. be granted statehood?
12. Will redesigning state flags and removing statues be enough to end racism in the US?
13. Should presidential candidates be required to submit tax returns before running?
14. Should federal executions have resumed this year?
15. Are political party conventions still necessary to inform and energize voters?
16. Are mask mandates and business restrictions violations of US Constitutionally protected freedoms?
17. Are there signs that women are making headway in equal opportunity?
18. What are positive steps that can be taken to reform police actions and procedures?
19. In this technological age, is the US Post Office still necessary?
20. Will the "Black Lives Matter" movement bring about real change?
21. Should Daylight Saving Time be eliminated?

NIETOC 2021 Octafinals Asia & Oceania

1. Does the jailing of Jimmy Lai signal the end of free press in Hong Kong?
2. How can the Australian government reform the factors surrounding mass incarceration of its Aboriginal population?
3. Has China lost its record-breaking economic momentum due to COVID?
4. Can Prime Minister Modi secure re-election following his poor handling of the COVID pandemic in India?
5. How can Taiwan work to reduce recently strained relations with China?
6. Are events surrounding the military coup in Myanmar at risk of losing international attention?
7. How can the Japanese government work to increase participation of women in the national discourse?
8. Is Japan risking its relations with neighboring countries due to efforts to remediate the Fukushima disaster?
9. Have recent record fines against tech giant Alibaba signaled an end to economic deregulation by the Chinese government?
10. What must Southeast Asian nations do to prevent further bloodshed in Myanmar?
11. What can Australia do to adapt to more damaging floods and fires it has seen in recent years?
12. Will Japan signal a more receptive attitude to U.S cooperation under Prime Minister Suga?
13. Is immigration to Japan under threat following recent reports of widespread mistreatment of foreigners in workplaces and detention?
14. Is Pakistan losing confidence in Prime Minister Khan following his 6th cabinet reshuffle in 3 years?
15. What can Asian nations do to pressure the international community for more access to the COVID vaccine?
16. Has Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte failed in protecting his nation's sovereignty against Chinese actions in the south China Sea?
17. In its relations with the Biden Administration, does Taiwan see a path to declaring independence?
18. Do reports of low efficacy rates from the Sinovac COVID vaccine show weakness in the Chinese response to COVID?
19. Should Asian nations relax immigration controls for Uyghurs fleeing persecution in China?
20. Is there any hope for opposition political parties to challenge the People's Action Party in Singapore?
21. Why have lauded COVID responses in Australia and New Zealand turned into lackluster vaccination campaigns?