

2024 Cougar Cup - Extemporaneous Speaking Topic Areas

National Extemporaneous Speaking: Blue Wave (Wave A)

Round 1 - United States Relations

These questions aim to explore the evolving dynamics of U.S. relations with global powers and regional allies, encouraging students to examine foreign policy decisions, trade agreements, and diplomatic strategies shaping America's role on the world stage.

Round 2 - Pop Culture

These questions are crafted to encourage critical analysis of the influence of pop culture on societal norms and values, focusing on the intersection of media, technology, and generational trends that redefine identity and communication in the United States.

Round 3 - Technology & Innovation

These questions explore the rapid advancements in technology and their societal implications, prompting students to analyze the opportunities and challenges presented by artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and the ethical dimensions of innovation.

Finals - The Constitution

These questions prompt critical thinking about the enduring relevance of the U.S. Constitution, encouraging students to examine its interpretation in modern legal debates, the balance of powers, and the challenges posed by societal and political changes.

Foreign Extemporaneous Speaking: White Wave (Wave B)

Round 1 - International Politics & Relations

These questions aim to examine the shifting dynamics of international relations, encouraging students to analyze the roles of global institutions, alliances, and power struggles in shaping diplomatic and geopolitical outcomes.

Round 2 - Conflicts & Wars

These questions are crafted to explore the causes, consequences, and resolutions of modern conflicts and wars, focusing on the impact of regional tensions, international interventions, and the broader implications for global stability.

Round 3 - Economics, Trade, & Technology

These questions examine the intersection of global economics, trade policies, and technological advancements, prompting students to evaluate how innovation and market trends influence international cooperation, competition, and economic disparities.

Finals - Humanitarian Issues

These questions explore the challenges and responses to humanitarian crises, encouraging students to analyze global efforts to address refugee displacement, food insecurity, and human rights violations in a rapidly changing world.