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 your state or by means which may be accessed outside your state, including the Internet, during the month of November.

**NFHS EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING TOPICS**

# November 2011

***Domestic***

*Easier Topics*

1. Is Herman Cain’s 9-9-9 Plan a sound solution to America’s complicated tax system?
2. Should the United States cut the size of its nuclear weapons arsenal?
3. What are the goals of the “Occupy Wall Street” movement?
4. Should the federal government forgive student loans?
5. Will Mitt Romney’s Mormon faith become a significant issue in the presidential race?
6. Should taxes be increased on the wealthiest Americans?
7. Is it time for the United States to consider a national presidential primary?
8. Which Republican presidential candidate is in the best position to defeat President Obama?
9. Should the United States military increase its investment in unmanned aerial vehicles (drones)?
10. Should the United States work to expand alternatives to imprisonment of convicted criminals?
11. Should the United States increase funding for the federal courts?
12. Should the United States continue development of the Keystone XL pipeline?
13. Should government continue to extend unemployment benefits to long-jobless Americans?

*More Difficult Topics*

1. Is President Obama a populist?
2. Is it wrong for video game companies to sell games based on America’s real wars?
3. How will the death of Steve Jobs impact the computer industry?
4. Should doctors reduce the use of PSA (prostate cancer) tests?
5. Will pressuring China to revalue its currency help recover lost American jobs?
6. Will investing in the nation’s infrastructure help give a boost to the sagging economy?
7. How will Sarah Palin’s decision not to enter the presidential race impact the Republican primary contest?
8. Will the failure of Solyndra become a political scandal?
9. Can President Obama’s plan for cutting the deficit succeed?
10. Is United States security threatened by the intensifying drug war in Mexico?
11. Should photo identification be a requirement for voting throughout the United States?
12. Is the Internet improving the quality of education in the United States?

## **International**

*Easier Topics*

1. Will the ETA honor its commitment to end violent resistance in Spain and France?
2. Will Kenya’s involvement in Somalia help bring increased stability there?
3. Was Yulia Tymoshenko’s conviction in the Ukraine politically motivated?
4. Should the world be concerned about the slow pace of Egypt’s democratic reforms?
5. Can the Syrian people succeed in overthrowing the Assad regime?
6. Should Germany take responsibility for bailing out the Euro?
7. Will Algeria be the next domino to fall in the Arab Spring?
8. Will revolutions in the Arab world result in increased human rights?
9. Is it time for the United States to sever its relationship with Pakistan?
10. Should the United States suspend drone attacks in Yemen?
11. Can Greece reverse its own financial crisis?
12. Can the French Socialists present a serious challenge to Nicolas Sarkozy?
13. Is David Cameron losing popularity in the United Kingdom?

*More Difficult Topics*

1. Did Israel make a good decision when it traded over 1000 Palestinian prisoners for Gilad Shalit?
2. Will United States involvement help curtail the activities of the Lord’s Resistance Army in Uganda?
3. Is China at risk of having its own real estate bubble burst?
4. How will the death of Muammar Gaddafi change the Middle East?
5. How will allegations that Iran tried to assassinate a Saudi ambassador impact Iran’s position in the Middle East?
6. Was the Palestinian government wise in petitioning the United Nations for the recognition of a Palestinian state?
7. Will Vladimir Putin’s decision to run for President of Russia in 2012 further erode Russian democracy?
8. Will recent rights concessions granted to women by King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia limit western calls for women’s rights in the country?
9. What can be done to curtail the spread of organized crime in Central America?
10. Is the government of Myanmar taking hopeful steps toward increased democracy?
11. What steps can the Bulgarian government take to curb anti-Roma rioting?

12. Should the European Union abandon the Euro common currency experiment?