



Extemporaneous is a limited preparation speech in which the speaker is assigned a current event topic and given twenty minutes to analyze news and other sources while preparing a seven-minute, evidence-based speech.

Extemporaneous

Limited Preparation Speech

1. **General Speech Rules** must be followed in addition to these Event Rules.
2. **Preparation time** is limited to a twenty-minute maximum. **Speech time** is limited to a seven-minute maximum. **Cross-examination** time during elimination rounds is limited to a two-minute maximum.
3. **The speech** must be prepared in the Extemporaneous Preparation Room and delivered in the competition room.
4. **Research** is permitted prior to the competition.
 - **Published articles** or other materials (e.g. books, magazines, newspapers) may be downloaded onto a computer or printed and stored in a personal or club file box(es).
 - **Previously prepared notes or analysis**, including debate briefs or speech outlines, may not be accessed from a computer or a personal or club box(es).
 - **Shared club box(es)** must have a label affixed to the outside that includes the club name and the individual names of all speakers who have permission to use the box at that tournament.
5. **A draw time** will be assigned, and at the designated time, the speaker should report to the Extemporaneous Preparation Room (also referred to as the Extemp Prep Room), monitored and managed by the Extemp Prep Room Director. The speaker will remain until the assigned speech time. A clock or other timepiece will be visible during preparation time.
6. **Preparation time** begins at the assigned time.
 - **A topic card** will be assigned to the student. The topic card contains two topics, posed as questions, that refer to newsworthy events from the past 90 days, including questions about domestic politics and policy, international politics and policy, business, culture, and entertainment.
 - **The speaker** must prepare and speak on one of the two topics.
 - **The chosen topic** may be underlined, but no notes may be written on the topic card.

- **Previously downloaded, published articles** or other material (e.g. books, magazines, newspapers) may be accessed from a tablet or a laptop computer.
- **Previously printed, published articles** or other material (e.g. books, magazines, newspapers) may be accessed from a personal or club file box(es).
- **Notes** may be taken on paper, although this paper may not be used during the speech. Notes may not be taken on the computer.
- **A single, 3" x 5" notecard** will be provided and should be prepared for use during the speech to ensure accurate information and citations.
- **No help or advice** about the topic may be requested before the speech.
- **Unused preparation time** may not be added to the speech time.

7. **A laptop or tablet computer** may be used during preparation time, but computers may not be shared between competitors in the Extemp Prep Room.

- **Liability** will not be assumed by NCFCA for lost, stolen, or broken computers. Speakers accept full responsibility for the security and safety of their computers at all times during the tournament.
- **Special accommodations** will not be made for equipment failure.
- **Computer power cords** may not be plugged into outlets in the Extemp Prep Room.
- **Connection** to the internet or other shared devices is not permitted, and computers with built-in WiFi or cellular capability must have these capabilities disabled prior to the beginning of preparation time.
- **Computers must be muted**, and **earbuds** may not be used.

8. **During the speech:**

- **The prepared 3" x 5" notecard** must be held; **the topic card** may be held.
- **The chosen topic** must be stated early in the speech.
- **Verifiable support** for analysis must be provided by the speaker.
- **Sources for supporting material** used within the speech must be verbally mentioned in the speech.

9. **After the speech:**

- **In preliminary rounds**, the Extemp Speaker must turn in the topic card and the prepared notecard to the Head Judge before leaving the room.
- **In elimination rounds**, continue with Cross-Examination.



*To invite dialogue
and deepen
understanding of the
presented position, a
fellow competitor
will ask a thought-
provoking
question(s) at the end
of a speaker's
presentation in
elimination rounds.*

Cross-Examination

In Elimination Rounds

10. **During cross-examination, an Extemp Examiner** will ask a thought-provoking question(s) that invites dialogue and deepens understanding of the presented position. The Extemp Examiner may use notes, prepared during the speech.
11. **The Extemp Speaker** must turn in the topic card and the prepared notecard to the Head Judge and then assumes the role of Extemp Examiner, staying to listen to and cross-examine the next Extemp Speaker.
12. The following order will be used:
 - **The last speaker** enters the room prior to the first speaker to serve as the Extemp Examiner.
 - **The first speaker** stays in the room with the second speaker to serve as the Extemp Examiner.
 - **The second speaker** stays in the room with the third speaker to serve as the Extemp Examiner.
 - **The order** continues until all speakers have delivered their speeches and defended their positions.