



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 Event Rules

Limited Preparation Speech

1. **General Speech Rules** must be followed in addition to these Event Rules.
2. **Topics** will refer to newsworthy events from the past 90 days, including questions about domestic politics and policy, international politics and policy, business, culture, and entertainment.
3. **Research** is permitted prior to the competition.
 - **Published articles or other materials** (e.g. books, magazines, newspapers) may be downloaded onto a laptop or other electronic device 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 laptop or other electronic device 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.
4. **Preparation time** is limited to a twenty-minute maximum. **Speech time** is limited to a seven-minute maximum.
5. **The speaker** should report for Extemporaneous Preparation at their assigned time and remain until the assigned speech time.
6. **A unique speech** must be prepared and delivered during each competition round.
7. **During preparation time:**
 - **The speaker** must prepare to speak on one of the two assigned topics.
 - **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 laptop or other electronic device.
 - **Previously printed, published articles or other material** (e.g. books, magazines, newspapers) may be accessed from a personal or club file box(es).

- **No help or advice about the topic** may be requested.
- **Notes** for speech construction may be taken but may not be used during the speech.
- A **single 3”x5” notecard** provided by the speaker must be prepared for use during the speech to ensure accurate information and citations. The speaker must include his or her name on the card.
- **Unused preparation time** may not be added to the speech time.

8. **A laptop or other electronic device** may be used during preparation time.

- **Special accommodations** will not be made for equipment failure.
- **Power cords** may not be plugged into outlets in the Extemp Prep Room.
- **WiFi or other cellular capability** must be disabled prior to the beginning of preparation time.
- **Devices must be muted, and headphones** of any variety may not be used.
- **A device may only be used** by the speaker who brings it into the Extemp Prep Room.

9. **During the delivery of the speech:**

- **The speaker** must speak on one of the two assigned topics.
- **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.

10. **After the speech:**

- **The speaker must retain the prepared notecard** until the end of the tournament.