

State Impromptu Topics - 2009

Round I

Speaker 1

Everyone has a right to a university degree in America, even if it's in Hamburger Technology.

Clive James

Take responsibility

Enthusiasm

Speaker 2

When a friend is in trouble, don't annoy him by asking if there is any thing you can do. Think up something appropriate and do it.

Edgar Watson Howe

Supply and Demand

Rejuvenation

Speaker 3

Do not accustom yourself to use big words for little matters.

Samuel Johnson

Equal representation

Selfishness

Speaker 4

The thing to remember is that that the future comes one day at a time.

Dean Acheson

Informed consent

Equilibrium

Speaker 5

I never trust people's assertions, I always judge of them by their actions.

Ann Radcliffe

Community action

Depression

Speaker 6

One man alone can be pretty dumb sometimes, but for real bona fide stupidity, there ain't nothin' can beat teamwork.

Edward Abbey

Needs based

Earthly

Speaker 7

Good soldiers never pass up a chance to eat or sleep. They never know how much they'll be called on to do before the next chance.

Lois McMaster Bujold

Due process

Benign

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Round 2

Speaker 1

[Television is] the triumph of machine over people.

Fred Allen

American Values

Eternity

Speaker 2

Real integrity is doing the right thing, knowing that nobody's going to know whether you did it or not.

Oprah Winfrey

Conflict of interest

Communication

Speaker 3

Experience teaches slowly and at the cost of mistakes.

James A. Froude

Faith based initiatives

Science

Speaker 4

Part of being sane, is being a little bit crazy.

Janet Long

Limited government

Rehabilitation

Speaker 5

The nice part about being a pessimist is that you are constantly being either proven right or pleasantly surprised.

George F. Will

Balance of power

Enigmatic

Speaker 6

It's all right letting yourself go as long as you can let yourself back.

Mick Jagger

Special interests

Permanence

Speaker 7

Marriage is a great institution, but I'm not ready for an institution yet.

Mae West

Need to know

Allegations

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Round Semi-Finals

Speaker 1

Knowledge is the only instrument of production that is not subject to diminishing returns. John Maurice Clarke
Mutually assured destruction
Rehearsal

Speaker 2

What you do speaks so loud that I cannot hear what you say. Ralph Waldo Emerson
Bipartisan governance
Revelation

Speaker 3

Never believe anything until it has been officially denied. Claud Cockburn
Economic mobility
Hypocrisy

Speaker 4

Learning to live what you're born with is the process, the involvement, the making of a life. Diane Wakoski
Implied consent
Allegiance

Speaker 5

Be wiser than other people, if you can, but do not tell them so. Lord Chesterfield
Buyer beware
Psychology

Speaker 6

Let the fear of danger be a spur to prevent it; he that fears not, gives advantage to the danger. Francis Quarles
Peaceful protest
Nepotism

Speaker 7

Hope doesn't come from calculating whether the good news is winning out over the bad. It's simply a choice to take action. Anna Lappe
American people
Revelation

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Round Finals

Speaker 1

We must believe in luck. For how else can we explain the success of those we don't like? Jean Cocteau

Common values

Sympathy

Speaker 2

The place where optimism most flourishes is the lunatic asylum.

Havelock Ellis

Representative government

Inflammatory

Speaker 3

It's not what you want in this life, it's what you get that you have to do with.

Elizabeth Aston

Progressive agenda

Correspondence

Speaker 4

The best way to convince a fool that he is wrong is to let him have his own way. Josh Billings

Civil rights

Rumor

Speaker 5

The man who has nothing to boast of but his illustrious ancestry is like the potato - the best part under ground.

Thomas Overbury

Limited liability

Redemption

Speaker 6

The best of us must sometimes eat our words.

J. K. Rowling

Special needs

Slander

Speaker 7

If you're never scared or embarrassed or hurt, it means you never take any chances. Julia Sorel

Support the Troops

Compulsory

Extras:

What is the use of a house if you haven't got a tolerable planet to put it on? Henry David Thoreau

Silent Majority

Pacification