

Impromptu Topics - 2010
State Speech Tournament

Round I

Speaker One

"If you want to see the true measure of a man, watch how he treats his inferiors, not his equals." - J. K. Rowling

Contingency

Should the drinking age be lowered to age 18?

Speaker Two

"There was never a good war, or a bad peace." -- Benjamin Franklin

Implication

Should social networking sites be more strictly monitored?

Speaker Three

"Small opportunities are often the beginning of great enterprises." -Demosthenes

Abstraction

Should social security be privatized?

Speaker Four

"It does not matter how slowly you go so long as you do not stop." - Confucius

Concept

Should steroid be allowed in sports?

Speaker Five

"If you don't like how things are, change it! You're not a tree." -Jim Rohn

Enthusiasm

Should elementary schools require uniforms?

Speaker Six

Duty

Should genetically altered crops be more regulated?

"Give thanks for what you are now, and keep fighting for what you want to be tomorrow." -Fernanda

Miramontes-Landeros

Speaker Seven

"If you surrender to the wind, you can ride it." -Toni Morrison

Negation

Should school lunch nutrition standards be changed?

Round II

Speaker One

"Pick battles big enough to matter, small enough to win." -Jonathan Kozei

Absurd

Should prescription drug ads be prohibited on television?

Speaker Two

"Without music, life would be a mistake." -- Nietzsche

Conversion

Should cell phones be prohibited in schools?

Speaker Three

"I am not young enough to know everything." Oscar Wilde

Imagination

Should student led prayer be allowed in public schools?

Speaker Four

"Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in getting up every time we do." - Confucius

Fallacy

Should the US reduce its nuclear arsenal?

Speaker Five

"The greatest griefs are those we cause ourselves." -Sophocles

Perception

Should the minimum wage be raised?

Speaker Six

"If the facts don't fit the theory, change the facts." -Albert Einstein

Natural

Should the use of pesticides be restricted?

Speaker Seven

Invalid

Should the use of performance animals (whales and elephants) be banned?

"You can tell more about a person by what he says about others than you can by what others say about him." -

Leo Aikman

Round Semi-Finals

Speaker One

"Do what you can, with what you have, where you are." Theodore Roosevelt

Fatalism

Should people be able to be genetically screen for diseases?

Speaker Two

Ambiguity

"If you want to see the true measure of a man, watch how he treats his inferiors, not his equals."

- J. K. Rowling

Should the use of antibiotics in animal feed be prohibited?

Speaker Three

"Forget injuries, never forget kindnesses." - Confucius

Egoism

Should the US increase dependence on nuclear energy?

Speaker Four

"Smooth seas do not make skillful sailors." —African proverb

Causality

Should all US citizens be automatically registered to vote?

Speaker Five

"Science is organized knowledge. Wisdom is organized life." -Immanuel Kant

Mean

Should news media be non profit?

Speaker Six

"Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value." - Albert Einstein

Perfectibility

Should the terms of elected officials be limited by law?

Speaker Seven

"Always forgive your enemies; nothing annoys them so much." - Oscar Wilde.

Eternal

Should cities support a more bicycle friendly transportation system?

Round Finals

Speaker One

"Beware of the man of one book." - St. Thomas Aquinas.

Equivalence

Should NASA be privatized?

Speaker Two

Antithesis

"Some people are always grumbling because roses have thorns; I am thankful that thorns have roses." Alphonse

Karr

Should more emphasis be placed on standardized testing in schools?

Speaker Three

"I don't know the key to success, but the key to failure is trying to please everybody." -Bill Cosby

Catharsis

Should there be limits on malpractice law suits?

Speaker Four

"Youth is wasted on the young." -George Bernard Shaw

Proof

Should pay day lenders be prohibited?

Speaker Five

"The bitterest tears shed over graves are for words left unsaid and deeds left undone." - Harriet Beecher Stowe

Empiricism

Should there be a limit to violence on television?

Speaker Six

"Before you embark on a journey of revenge, dig two graves." -Confucius

Caution

Should the US develop more mass transit systems?

Speaker Seven

Limitations

"Life becomes harder for us when we live for others, but it also becomes richer and happier."

Albert Schweitzer

Should media fact check politicians?

Extra Topic:

"Fairy tales do not tell children that dragons exist. Children already know that dragons exist. Fairy tales tell children that dragons can be killed." G. K. Chesterton

Desire

Should consumers have more knowledge about genetically modified food products in the foods they buy?