# United States Extemp Nationals 2017

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| 2 | Government and Politics | 12/12 |
| 3 | U.S. Economics and Business | 12/12 |
| 4 | Technology and the Environment | 12/12 |
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| 13 (F) | The U.S. Next Week | 12/12 |

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# Round 1: Education in the United States

1. What impact would expanded school choice programs have on student education outcomes?

2. Should more states seek to repeal the Common Core standards?

3. What should be done to address school segregation in the modern public education system?

4. Has the federal government done enough to help those with student loans?

5. What is the impact of standardized testing on education in the United States?

6. What steps can the federal government take to better promote student safety?

7. What will be the impact of President Trump’s order to reduce federal involvement in education?

8. How can the Department of Education reduce fraud at for-profit colleges?

9. Are President Trump’s changes to the Every Student Succeeds Act the right solution to America’s education problems?

10. How has Betsy DeVos fared thus far as Education Secretary?

11. Is tuition-free college an economically viable proposal?

12. Should state governments increase funding for preschool education?

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# Round 2: Government and Politics

1. Should the U.S. Senate eliminate the filibuster?

2. How has the Freedom Caucus affected congressional politics?

3. Should Congressional Republican leaders be more willing to oppose President Trump’s positions?

4. As the new DNC chair, how can Tom Perez improve his party’s 2018 midterm prospects?

5. Will the 115th U.S. Congress be more productive than the last?

6. How could Congress have better handled healthcare reform?

7. How can Republican Party congressional leaders better promote party unity?

8. Are federal campaign finance rules in need of reform?

9. How should Congress react to Puerto Rico’s recent bankruptcy declaration?

10. Should the federal government be doing more to enhance border security?

11. Will Congressional town halls continue to feature rising tensions with constituent audiences?

12. Has the U.S. done enough to demonstrate its commitment to NATO?

# Round 3: U.S. Economics and Business

1. If enacted, what would be the impact of President Trump’s proposed budget?

2. How can the federal government do a better job of addressing poverty?

3. What reforms should Congress seek to make in the current U.S. tax code?

4. Should the Federal Reserve seek to adjust interest rates within the next year?

5. Do airlines need to rethink policies concerning passenger rights and regulations?

6. Will President Trump’s efforts to discourage the movement of jobs overseas be successful?

7. Is the oil industry recovering in the United States?

8. What factors are driving consumer spending trends?

9. How will the decision to abandon the Trans-Pacific Partnership affect the U.S. economy?

10. Is the Trump administration’s border wall proposal economically feasible?

11. What more should U.S. companies be doing to protect the privacy of their customers?

12. Is it time for a national minimum wage hike?

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# Round 4: Technology and the Environment

1. What should the Trump administration do to better promote cybersecurity?

2. What changes should be expected from the Environmental Protection Agency’s new leadership?

3. How should U.S. internet surveillance policies be reformed?

4. Should the U.S. remain a part of the Paris climate agreement?

5. Is more federal investment in space exploration a good use of funds?

6. How can the federal government minimize the impact of job losses due to technological automation?

7. What does the expansion of the “Internet of Things” mean for individual privacy?

8. How will the decision to approve the Keystone XL pipeline’s permit affect the environment?

9. What would be the impact of a reversal of current net neutrality rules?

10. Should the FDA be stricter on approving genetically modified foods?

11. What steps should federal and state governments take to regulate self-driving vehicles?

12. Should the U.S. impose stronger fuel economy standards?

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# Round 5: President Trump’s First Year

1. What do President Trump’s cabinet choices signal about his administration’s priorities?

2. How should the Trump administration respond to his historically low approval ratings?

3. Do allegations of the President's ties to Russia justify an independent prosecutor investigation?

4. How will America’s relationship with its allies fare under President Trump?

5. How would President Trump’s tax plan impact the average American taxpayer?

6. How can President Trump work more effectively with congressional leaders?

7. Should the Trump administration’s first 100 days be deemed a success?

8. Should President Trump be required to release his tax returns?

9. Has President Trump done enough to lead efforts on healthcare reform?

10. Has President Trump’s use of executive orders been appropriate?

11. What will be the impact of President Trump’s promise to spur infrastructure investment?

12. Will President Trump’s “two-for-one” regulation order be a net benefit for the economy?

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# Round 6: Social Issues and Entitlements

1. Is “Medicare for all” economically plausible?

2. How can large corporations do a better job of promoting gender equality in the workplace?

3. What would be the impact of President Trump’s proposed cuts to SNAP?

4. What can the federal government do to reduce Medicare fraud?

5. What impact would the House Republicans’ healthcare bill have on Medicaid?

6. What reforms should the Trump administration bring to Social Security?

7. Is the Department of Justice under Jeff Sessions doing enough to address racial bias in the criminal justice system?

8. Should more states enact marijuana legalization laws?

9. Should the U.S. eliminate mandatory minimum sentences?

10. Is the Black Lives Matter movement losing momentum?

11. What impact will the Trump administration have on LGBT rights?

12. How can the federal government make entitlement programs more financially sustainable?

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# Round 7 (Octas 1): Healthcare

1. How can Congress best protect individuals with pre-existing health conditions in their healthcare proposal?

2. Can states feasibly implement single-payer healthcare on their own?

3. What can the federal government do to rein in the cost of prescription drugs?

4. How will Tom Price change the Department of Health and Human Services?

5. What more should the federal government do to promote medical research?

6. Should the Freedom Caucus be more willing to cooperate with the rest of the Republican Party on healthcare issues?

7. Should the U.S. implement a mandatory childhood vaccination policy?

8. What are the most significant shortcomings of the Affordable Care Act?

9. Why are healthcare costs in the United States higher than in other developed nations?

10. Is an “age tax” a reasonable approach to reducing healthcare costs in the United States?

11. How should Medicare respond to rising life expectancy?

12. How effective has state Medicaid expansion been at improving healthcare for the poor?

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# Round 8 (Octas 2): U.S. Immigration Policy

1. Is a “border wall” a wise immigration policy?

2. Should the federal government cut funding to sanctuary cities?

3. What will be the impact of President Trump’s order to tighten visas?

4. Would new mandatory minimum sentences for immigration crimes reduce illegal immigration?

5. How should the U.S. simplify the immigration process?

6. How will the Trump administration’s new immigration policies affect national security?

7. What would be the economic implications of President Trump’s immigration proposals?

8. Should the U.S. expand the H1-B visa program?

9. Should the Trump administration preserve DACA protections?

10. Can President Trump pursue his immigration reform without harming U.S.-Mexico relations?

11. Should the U.S. be playing a larger role in responding to the global migrant crisis?

12. What can the government do to reduce backlog in immigration courts?

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# Round 9 (Quarters 1): Legal Issues and the Courts

1. How will Neil Gorsuch impact the balance of the Supreme Court?

2. Should religious schools be eligible to receive government funding?

3. Is it time for the death penalty to be abolished nationwide?

4. How should American colleges and universities balance protecting First Amendment rights with competing concerns?

5. Are President Trump’s travel bans constitutional?

6. Is the court system becoming more politicized?

7. How can the United States best balance safety from gun violence with Second Amendment protections?

8. Should the NSA continue to curtail domestic surveillance?

9. What role should courts play in addressing political gerrymandering?

10. Are “sanctuary cities” legally justifiable?

11. What will be the impact of the Supreme Court’s recent ruling on patent lawsuits?

12. What changes does the United States need to make to better protect voting rights?

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# Round 10 (Quarters 2): American Foreign Policy

1. What would be the global effect of President Trump’s proposed humanitarian aid cuts?

2. Should the US impose new sanctions upon Iran?

3. How can the U.S. and Russia better cooperate on common foreign policy interests?

4. Will Rex Tillerson prove to be an effective Secretary of State?

5. What role has Nikki Haley played in promoting American leadership internationally?

6. What does Brexit mean for the future of America’s relationship with Europe?

7. What should the United States focus on in renegotiating NAFTA?

8. How should the U.S. revise its strategy for promoting peace in the Middle East?

9. Was the Trump administration wrong to pull out of the Trans-Pacific Partnership?

10. How will Emmanuel Macron’s presidency affect U.S.-France relations?

11. What will be the impact of the recent U.S.-China trade deal?

12. Should the U.S. do anything to respond to ongoing repression in Venezuela?

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# Round 11 (Semis 1): Military, Defense, and National Security

1. How will the NSA’s move to cut some surveillance programs affect national security?

2. Has the United States appropriately responded to the North Korean nuclear threat?

3. How should the U.S. change its counterterrorism strategy?

4. Should the U.S. be willing to commit ground troops to Syria?

5. Is the Department of Defense in need of additional federal funding?

6. Are unmanned drone strikes a counterproductive strategy?

7. How can the U.S. military better cooperate with foreign governments to promote Middle Eastern stability?

8. Has the House of Representatives appropriately handled the investigation into Michael Flynn?

9. What can the U.S. do to better protect itself against foreign hacking?

10. How should the U.S. reform veterans support services?

11. Should the Pentagon send additional troops into Afghanistan?

12. What will be the impact of U.S. efforts to increase military presence in the Asia-Pacific region?

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# Round 12 (Semis 2): Journalism and the Mass Media

1. What impact has Facebook had on news consumption in the United States?

2. Is “fake news” a serious threat to American democracy?

3. Has the Trump administration been unfair to news outlets?

4. What should news organizations do to adapt to the new media environment?

5. Should news outlets focus attention on more "balanced" reporting?

6. How has the White House Press Office fared under the Trump administration?

7. What lessons should political pollsters learn from the 2017 elections?

8. Why has public confidence in the media continued to slip?

9. Should the Department of Justice bring criminal charges against WikiLeaks staff members?

10. Have major news organizations been fair to the Trump administration?

11. Is dependence on advertising revenue a serious threat to the integrity of online news publications?

12. How should the FCC reform media regulations?

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# Round 13 (Finals): The U.S. Next Week

1. What will be the impact of President Trump’s efforts to renegotiate NAFTA?

2. How can the United States better approach the fight against ISIS?

3. Will congressional Republicans be able to achieve unity on key political issues?

4. How should President Trump revise his proposals for immigration policy?

5. What would a repeal of the Affordable Care Act mean for healthcare accessibility?

6. What does the Trump administration mean for the future of U.S.-Russia relations?

7. How should the congressional and presidential electoral systems be reformed?

8. Should the federal government invest more in charter schools?

9. Should the FCC change its current rules on net neutrality?

10. How would President Trump’s proposed budget affect the U.S. economy?

11. Can more be done to promote police accountability in the United States?

12. How should the United States respond to tensions in the South China Sea?