

## Competition Events – At A Glance

# An Introduction to International Extemporaneous Speaking (IX)



### Event Description

In International Extemporaneous Speaking, students are presented with a choice of three questions related to international current events and, in 30 minutes, prepare a seven-minute speech answering the selected question. Students may consult articles and evidence they gather prior to the contest, but may not use the Internet during preparation. Topics range from country-specific issues to regional concerns to foreign policy. The speech is delivered from memory.

### Considerations for International Extemp

Students who do IX are typically very curious about matters of a global interest. Students should be well read and understand current events outside the U.S. To learn more about international issues, students should spend significant time reading from a variety of news sources. Recommended reading lists include, but are not limited to: *Council on Foreign Relations*, *New York Times*, *Asia Times*, *Jerusalem Post*, *Wall Street Journal*, *BBC*, *Foreign Policy*, *Foreign Affairs*, and more.

### Traits of Successful IX Speakers

When considering what event you should choose, or which direction to point a student when selecting an event, below are some general traits of successful Extempers to keep in mind:

- Enjoys reading
- Naturally curious or inquisitive
- Concerned with the global society in which s/he lives
- Sees interconnectedness of concepts and events
- Reflective
- Focused

### List of Past IX Questions

- What should the AU do to help combat Boko Haram?
- Will North Korea test another nuclear weapon in the near future?
- What does Narendra Modi's election mean for India-Pakistan relations?
- How should the WHO respond to a global resurgence in polio?
- Has President Peña Nieto's anti-drug strategy been more effective than his predecessors?
- Will renewed U.S.-Iranian nuclear negotiations be successful?
- What does Petro Poroshenko's election mean for Ukraine's relationship with Russia?
- Can Colombia's peace talks with the FARC succeed?
- What's next for Sino-Japanese relations?

**Learn More!** The National Speech & Debate Association is the leading provider of competitive and educational resources to aid students and coaches as they explore our competitive events. For *International Extemporaneous Speaking*, we provide a number of helpful resources—including live and recorded webinars designed to introduce foundational and advanced concepts in Extemp; access to Extemp final round videos; an Extemp textbook for Resource Package subscribers; practice questions; topic analysis; and much more! Take advantage of the amazing benefits of being a member by using our resources to help advance yourself in competitive speech and debate activities. Visit [www.speechanddebate.org](http://www.speechanddebate.org) for more information. ✨

## Find Your Voice

*The fast-paced nature of Extemp quickly cultivated my speaking skills, while the never-ending subject matter of current events provided an outlet for my intense curiosity. On its most fundamental level, Extemp gave me a microphone to address the world, imbued eloquence into my voice and ideas, and taught me to make concise arguments."*

— Dylan Adelman, Association Alum