

October 2025

TO: MHSА SPEECH AND DRAMA COACHES

FROM: AMY BARTELS, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

RE: MATERIALS FOR OCTOBER

Attached: Please find these materials.

- The Tournament Schedule can be found by clicking on this [2025-26- Link](#). There have been some changes since the September mailing. Please review the schedule and notify me with any corrections.
- Keep in mind that changes occur in the list of schools that participate. As a result, you should review the updated list of schools with this mailing. There might be changes that do not appear in the booklet. Schools are still in the process of updating/changing information, and I will update changes often. Schools Registered for Forensic & Drama Activities - [2025-26 Speech and Drama List](#)
- If you are hosting a meet, only the schools that appear on the attached list are eligible for participation. Watch for changes in next month's mailing also.
- The October extemp topics are attached. Since many states use these topics for their tournaments, please, do not post them to your school website until the following month.
- To access this current year's MHSА Forensics Handbook [2025-26 MHSА/MFEА Handbook - Click Here](#)
- To assist the MFEА with their membership data, we are including the link to the MFEА registration letter for 2025-26 Click the [2025-26 MFEА Membership Dues Registration Letter](#) Link to access the registration form. Inquiries should be directed to Becky Nay, MFEА Treasurer, at Huntley Project High School [rnay@huntley.k12.mt.us].

The Legislative debate topics are posted at [MHSA Information](#) . Listed below are the topics.

1st Legislative Debate Topics:

Domestic: Indigenous Peoples

Foreign: Diplomacy

2nd Legislative Debate Topics:

Domestic: Campaign Finance

Foreign: Trade & Labor Standards

3rd Legislative Debate Topics (Until End of Season):

Domestic: Threatened Biomes

Foreign: Weapons Proliferation

Lincoln Douglas Debate Topics Visit <http://www.speechanddebate.org/topics>

The Lincoln Douglas and Public Forum debate topics will be available on the NSDA site which is linked through the MHSA website. Beginning of Season- Nov 16th: Resolved: In the United States criminal justice system, plea bargaining is just.

- Nov 17- Dec. 31th: To be released Oct.10
- Jan. 1- End of Season: To be released Dec. 1

The Extemp topics will be available electronically in monthly memos or by emailing abartels@mhsa.org. The NFHS has asked us not to post the topics on our website because some states release the topics weekly.

Oct/Nov is Resolved: The United States ought to require that workers receive a living wage.

Public Forum debate topic Beginning of Season- Nov. 15: Resolved: The United Kingdom should rejoin the European Union.

- Nov 16- Dec. 20th: Resolved: The United States federal government should require technology companies to provide lawful access to encrypted communications.

- Jan. 1- Feb. 1st: To be released Dec. 1

Policy Debate Topic - Resolved: The United States federal government should significantly increase its exploration and/or development of the Arctic.

If you have any questions or concerns about this information, please feel free to contact the MHSA office.

Attachments: Tournament Schedule -See Link

List of Participating Schools – See Link

October Extemp Topics – Attached