

National FFA Extemporaneous Public Speaking Career Development Event Topics

Year	Title	Round
1997	A central voice for creating American agriculture policy	
1997	Agricultural literacy – a crisis in urban America	
1997	Assuring the safety of the American food supply	
1997	Cloning: An Answer or an assault	
1997	Consumer confidence in American food	
1997	Creating more nutritional food	
1997	Creating new demand for agricultural commodities	
1997	Creating niche markets for locally produced food	
1997	Creating profit for all agricultural producers	
1997	Environmental activists – partners or pitfalls?	
1997	Food – an answer for preventative health care	
1997	High yield sustainable agriculture	
1997	Horticultural pesticides in urban water systems	
1997	International confidence in American agricultural products	
1997	International food safety standards	
1997	Large confinement animal production facilities – economic opportunity or environmental concern	
1997	Maximizing production – at what cost?	
1997	NAFTA – What it’s done so far	
1997	Preserving American farmland	
1997	Preserving the environment through modern agricultural production	
1997	Rural vs. Urban – a debate for future development priorities	
1997	Solving the problem of bacteria contamination in food	
1997	Sustainable agriculture – a viable option?	
1997	Sustainable agriculture’s role in food/fiber production	
1997	The future of non-food uses for American agricultural commodities	
1997	The future of the small farmer in the total American agricultural industry	
1997	The impact of economies of scale on profitable food production	
1997	The impact of international trade tariffs on American agriculture	
1997	The implications of the European Union on American agriculture	
1997	The international ethics of agricultural biotechnology	
1997	The long term impact of federal policies and programs on American agriculture	
1997	The promise of genetically engineered food	
1997	The promise of precision farming	
1997	The role of animal agriculture in human health care	
1997	Urbanization of American farmland	

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1997	Who has the right to water?
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National FFA Extemporaneous Public Speaking Career Development Event Topics

Year	Title	Round
1998	American agriculture's contribution to better human health care	Finals
1998	Balancing livestock production with environmental concerns	Finals
1998	Fast track trade negotiating authority and its impact on American agriculture	Finals
1998	How risk management impacts American farmers	Finals
1998	Maintaining a voice for American Agriculture in urban dominated Congress	Finals
1998	Maintaining the balance of population growth and food production in the future	Finals
1998	Maintaining the ecological balance while feeding the world	Finals
1998	The current world economic crisis and its impact on American agriculture	Finals
1998	The impact of consolidation of the United States meat industry	Finals
1998	The impact of the Japanese Yen on United States corn prices	Finals
1998	The issues surrounding high density livestock production operations	Finals
1998	The role of the International Money Fund in developing foreign agricultural markets	Finals
1998	Ethical issues facing American agriculture	Preliminary
1998	Maintaining a safe and abundant food supply	Preliminary
1998	Maintaining fair market value for producers of agricultural commodities	Preliminary
1998	Meeting the agriculture industry's employment needs for the 21 st century	Preliminary
1998	The environmental impact of urban lawn and garden care	Preliminary
1998	The impact of agricultural literacy on the future of the agriculture industry	Preliminary
1998	The outlook for the small-sized family farmer	Preliminary
1998	The role of agricultural literacy on the future of the agriculture industry	Preliminary
1998	The role of American agriculture in our global economy	Preliminary
1998	The role of the United States in helping third world countries develop their agriculture industry	Preliminary
1998	The urbanization of American farm land	Preliminary
1998	What is the future for rural America	Preliminary
1998	Changing the eating habits of over-weight Americans through agricultural research	Semi-Finals
1998	Creating non-food uses for agricultural products	Semi-Finals
1998	Is sustainable agriculture a realistic alternative to current agricultural practices?	Semi-Finals
1998	Resolving the E. Coli problem in agricultural produce	Semi-Finals
1998	The future of the ethanol industry	Semi-Finals
1998	The future of the United States meat industry	Semi-Finals
1998	The impact of agricultural non-point pollution on the environment	Semi-Finals
1998	The impact of marketing strategies in locking in profit for the American farmer	Semi-Finals
1998	The issue of consumer confidence in our nations food supply	Semi-Finals
1998	The issue of foreign bans on agricultural commodities produced by using growth hormones or genetic alteration	Semi-Finals

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1998	The issue of opening foreign markets for American agricultural products	Semi-Finals
1998	The role of precision farming techniques for agriculture's future	Semi-Finals
1999	The issue of adult agricultural literacy.	Preliminary
1999	Protecting our nation's ground water supply.	Preliminary
1999	Restoring profitability to the American Farmer.	Preliminary
1999	The future of the family farm.	Preliminary
1999	Maintaining the safety of our food supply.	Preliminary
1999	Getting agriculture's voice heard in our Federal Government.	Preliminary
1999	The effects of biotechnology on the future of the agricultural industry.	Preliminary
1999	Alternative uses of agricultural commodities.	Preliminary
1999	Maintaining fair trade policies for agricultural commodities.	Preliminary
1999	The effects of business consolidation on American agriculture.	Preliminary
1999	The impact of global economy on American agriculture.	Preliminary
1999	Maintaining consumer confidence in American agricultural commodities.	Preliminary
1999	American agriculture's roles in helping third world countries develop their economy.	Semi-Final
1999	Solution for the problem of E. Coli bacteria.	Semi-Final
1999	The ethics of genetic engineering.	Semi-Final
1999	Creating a common agenda for farmers and environmentalists.	Semi-Final
1999	Protecting American farmland from urban sprawl.	Semi-Final
1999	Establishing the priorities in distributing and preserving America's water supply.	Semi-Final
1999	The effects of biotechnology on the future of the agricultural industry.	Semi-Final
1999	Solving the issue of agricultural literacy.	Semi-Final
1999	The future of sustainable agriculture movement.	Semi-Final
1999	Moving toward high yield, conservation agriculture.	Semi-Final
1999	Exploring non-food uses of agricultural commodities.	Semi-Final
1999	The role of animal research in the improvement of human and animal health.	Semi-Final
1999	The effect of the European GMO ban on research and technology future.	Final
1999	The future of the Freedom to Farm Act.	Final
1999	The effect of vertical integration on American agriculture industry.	Final
1999	The effect of the consolidation of the meat packing industry on U. S. livestock producers.	Final
1999	The future of agriculture cooperatives.	Final
1999	The future of the ethanol industry.	Final
1999	Who should regulate biotechnology research and application?	Final
1999	The role of the Federal Government in providing a safety net for agricultural producers.	Final
1999	The effect of labeling food concerning GMO's and point of origin.	Final
1999	Agriculture's response to PETA, Greenpeace and other activist organizations.	Final

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1999	The impact of international consolidation of agribusiness on the American farmer.	Final
1999	The impact of limiting agricultural biotechnology research on the human health care industry.	Final

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2000	Solving the issue of adult agricultural literacy	Preliminary
2000	Protecting our ground water supply	Preliminary
2000	Restoring profitability to the American farmer	Preliminary
2000	The future of the family farm	Preliminary
2000	Maintaining the safety of our food supply	Preliminary
2000	Keeping agriculture's voice heard in our Federal Government	Preliminary
2000	The long-term effects of biotechnology on the agriculture industry	Preliminary
2000	Alternative uses of agricultural commodities	Preliminary
2000	Maintaining fair international trade policies for agricultural commodities	Preliminary
2000	The effect of business consolidation on American agriculture	Preliminary
2000	Maintaining consumer confidence in American agricultural commodities	Preliminary
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2000	Solving the issue of agricultural literacy	Semi-Final
2000	The future for sustainable agriculture movement	Semi-Final
2000	Moving toward high yield conservation agriculture	Semi-Final
2000	Exploring non-food uses for agricultural commodities	Semi-Final
2000	The role of animal research in the improvement of human and animal health	Semi-Final
2000	The effect of the international concerns with GMO's on research and technology of the future	Final
2000	The future of U.S. Federal farm policy	Final
2000	The effect of vertical integration on the American agriculture industry	Final
2000	The effect of the consolidation of the meat packing industry on U.S. livestock producers	Final
2000	The future of agriculture cooperatives	Final
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2000	Who should regulate biotechnology research and application?	Final

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2001	Keeping agriculture's voice heard in our Federal Government.	Preliminary
2001	Restoring profitability to the American farmer.	Preliminary
2001	Maintaining the safety of our food supply.	Preliminary
2001	The impact of a global economy on American agriculture.	Preliminary
2001	Creating a common agenda for farmers and environmentalists.	Semi
2001	The role of animal research in the improvement of human and animal health	Semi
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2001	Establishing the priorities in distributing and preserving America's water supply	Semi
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2001	Exploring non-food uses for agricultural commodities.	Semi
2001	The future for the sustainable agriculture movement.	Semi
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2001	Who should regulate biotechnology research and application?	Final
2001	Agriculture's response to PETA, Greenpeace and other activist organizations.	Final

2002	New ways to influence an urban Congress	Preliminary
2002	The importance of farming for today's consumer	Preliminary
2002	Urban encroachment – opportunity or threat	Preliminary
2002	The importance of managing risk in agriculture	Preliminary
2002	The farmer's shrinking share of the food dollar	Preliminary
2002	Packer Ownership of livestock – help or hindrance	Preliminary
2002	Value-added processing and the rural economy	Preliminary
2002	Why farmers need transparency in the marketplace	Preliminary
2002	Checkoffs – positive or negative for farmers and ranchers	Preliminary
2002	The need for cost-benefit analysis in land-use regulations	Preliminary
2002	Why agriculture needs better water quality analysis	Preliminary
2002	The value of today's Extension Service on the farm	Preliminary
2002	The future of Global Positioning or cropping systems	Semi
2002	Is Agricultural Biotechnology an answer to world hunger?	Semi
2002	Farming: Good or Bad for the environment	Semi
2002	Leveling the Playing Field through global trade talks	Semi
2002	The role of e-commerce in agriculture	Semi
2002	Marketplace activism and its impact on farming	Semi
2002	Contract Production – good or bad for family agriculture	Semi
2002	The future of organic production	Semi
2002	How to attract the beginning farmer	Semi
2002	Why farmers must gauge public opinion	Semi
2002	Taking Agriculture to the urban classroom	Semi
2002	The “hayseed” myth -- exploit it or overcome it	Semi
2002	The role of public agricultural research in today's agribusiness world	Final
2002	Designer crops – sowing seeds for specific end uses	Final
2002	The Gulf hypoxia challenge – fact or fiction	Final
2002	The pluses and minuses of trading with Cuba	Final

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2002	Bilateral vs. Multilateral trade agreements	Final
2002	The role of environmental incentives	Final
2002	Are government payment limits necessary	Final
2002	The growing role of conservation in farm policy	Final
2002	How the farm/commodity organization fits today	Final
2002	The use of conservation easements and development rights	Final
2002	The importance of right-to-farm laws	Final
2002	How to fit in with urban neighbors	Final

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2003	Is agricultural biotechnology an answer to world hunger?	Preliminary
2003	The future of global positioning or cropping systems	Preliminary
2003	The gulf hypoxia challenge – fact or fiction	Preliminary
2003	WTO trade talks and liberalizing the global economy	Preliminary
2003	The role of e-commerce in agriculture	Preliminary
2003	Market place activism and its impact on farming	Preliminary
2003	The supplier and marketer roles of today's co-op	Preliminary
2003	How to attract the beginning farmer	Preliminary
2003	Contract production – good or bad for family agriculture	Preliminary
2003	How to fit in with urban neighbors	Preliminary
2003	Taking agriculture to the urban classroom	Preliminary
2003	The importance of farming for today's consumer	Preliminary
2003	New ways to influence an urban congress	Semi
2003	Why farmers must gauge public opinion	Semi
2003	The use of conservation easements and development rights	Semi
2003	The growing role of conservation in farm policy	Semi
2003	Lowering government payment limits – good or bad for farmers	Semi
2003	Packer ownership of livestock – help or hindrance	Semi
2003	Value-added processing and the rural economy	Semi
2003	The pluses and minuses of trading with Cuba	Semi
2003	Are U.S. subsidies hurting farmers in developing nations?	Semi
2003	Why agriculture needs better water quality analysis	Semi
2003	The need for cost-benefit analysis in land-use regulations	Semi
2003	How important is internet technology to rural America	Semi
2003	Designer crops – sowing seeds for specific end uses.	Finals
2003	Should Atrazine be retained as a tool for farmers?	Finals
2003	The renewable fuels platform – will it help presidential hopefuls?	Finals
2003	Country-of-origin labeling – good or bad	Finals
2003	The role of environmental incentives	Finals
2003	The implications of using food as a weapon	Finals
2003	The importance of managing risk in agriculture	Finals
2003	The future of organic production	Finals
2003	Check off programs: why are they under fire?	Finals
2003	How the consumer benefits from farm support programs	Finals
2003	The importance of right-to-farm laws.	Finals

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2003	The “hayseed” myth – exploit it or overcome it	Finals
2004	The value of prescription farming with GPS.	Preliminary A
2004	Feeding a hungry world through biotechnology.	Preliminary A
2004	The need for cost-benefit analysis in land-use regulations.	Preliminary A
2004	When should the United States allow Canadian cattle access?	Preliminary A
2004	Marketplace activism and its impact on farming.	Preliminary A
2004	Country-of-origin labeling – Good or bad?	Preliminary A
2004	Do farmers need government payments?	Preliminary A
2004	How the farm/commodity organization fits today.	Preliminary A
2004	The importance of managing risk in agriculture.	Preliminary A
2004	Why host a farm tour?	Preliminary A
2004	Why farmers must gauge public opinion?	Preliminary A
2004	The use of conservation easements and development rights	Preliminary A
2004	Why worry about countrywide biotech bans?	Preliminary B
2004	Why rural American needs broadband access?	Preliminary B
2004	Why use livestock cloning as a production tool?	Preliminary B
2004	Value-added processing and the rural economy.	Preliminary B
2004	Are U.S. subsidies hurting farmers in developing nations?	Preliminary B
2004	Checkoffs – Is it a free speech issue?	Preliminary B
2004	The supplier and marketer roles of today’s co-op.	Preliminary B
2004	Big vs little – How size affects farm profitability	Preliminary B
2004	The farmer’s shrinking share of the food dollar.	Preliminary B
2004	Can agriculture harness the rural lifestyle crowd?	Preliminary B
2004	How to fit in with urban neighbors.	Preliminary B
2004	Taking agriculture to the urban classroom	Preliminary B
2004	Designer Crops – Sowing seed for specific end uses.	Semifinals
2004	The terminator gene – Should it be allowed?	Semifinals
2004	Animal ID – Who should pay for it?	Semifinals
2004	Can organics be promoted without bashing the main stream?	Semifinals
2004	How to protect the United States from Agroterrorism.	Semifinals
2004	WTO trade talks and liberalizing the global economy.	Semifinals
2004	Payments to farmers vs. rural development spending.	Semifinals
2004	The growing role of green payments in farm policy.	Semifinals
2004	How the U. S. Tax structure affects the farmers.	Semifinals
2004	The growing market for organics.	Semifinals

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2004	Bang for the buck – Public investment in farm programs.	Semifinals
2004	Communicating with an urban congress.	Semifinals
2004	Farmaceuticals: Opportunity or dream?	Finals
2004	The renewable fuels platform – Will it help presidential hopefuls?	Finals
2004	Wind Farms – Opportunity or scam?	Finals
2004	The role of environmental incentives.	Finals
2004	Foreign job outsourcing – the case for agriculture as a domestic industry.	Finals
2004	Should the United States be a preferred commodity supplier for Iraq?	Finals
2004	The unseen cost of the death tax.	Finals
2004	Managing farm labor – The challenge of migrant workers.	Finals
2004	Do farm programs promote cheap food policy?	Finals
2004	Balancing farmland preservation with the right to sell land.	Finals
2004	The importance of right-to-farm laws.	Finals
2004	The opportunities of agritourism.	Finals

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2005	Global Positioning System (GPS) technology and crop production	Preliminary
2005	How agri-tourism can pay multiple dividends.	Preliminary
2005	Why farmers/ranchers and their organizations must gauge public opinion.	Preliminary
2005	What can be done to end the large number of misconceptions about agriculture that many urban people have?	Preliminary
2005	Managing risk in agriculture.	Preliminary
2005	What is unique about the US food and fiber system?	Preliminary
2005	The benefits of crop rotation.	Preliminary
2005	Organic versus conventional production	Preliminary
2005	The role of niche markets in agriculture's future.	Preliminary
2005	The impact the European Union's position on genetically modified crops has on US grain production	Preliminary
2005	The US space program – How it benefits agriculture.	Preliminary
2005	Does publicity about the advances in agricultural biotechnology help or harm US agriculture?	Preliminary
2005	What makes the US farmer/rancher so efficient and possible threats to this efficiency.	Preliminary
2005	Has organic food become mainstream.	Preliminary
2005	Biotechnology: What are the most attractive benefits for consumers?	Preliminary
2005	Three principals of American agriculture and how they would benefit agriculture in other countries.	Preliminary
2005	Ethanol production – is it energy efficient?	Preliminary
2005	The role of public agricultural research in today's agribusiness world.	Preliminary
2005	Site-specific chemical application technology and how it is used in crop production.	Preliminary
2005	What's to be gained by hosting a farm or ranch tour?	Preliminary
2005	Strategies farmers/ranchers can use to fit in with their urban/suburban neighbors.	Preliminary
2005	The impact of agriculture on the environment in urban areas.	Preliminary
2005	The farmer's shrinking share of the food dollar.	Preliminary
2005	The significance of corn hybridization.	Preliminary
2005	The place of livestock cloning technology in the livestock industry.	Semi
2005	The importance of right-to-farm laws in the suburban setting.	Semi
2005	Opportunities for citizen-supported farming: individuals buying shares in a farmer's yearly production before the crop is planted.	Semi
2005	City gardens: How to feed the mind as well as the body.	Semi
2005	Farm/commodity organizations and their relevance to today's agriculturist.	Semi
2005	Contract production: Good or bad for family agriculture?	Semi
2005	Water demand for non-agricultural uses and its effect on agricultural production in the United States.	Semi
2005	How do we protect the United States from agro-terrorism?	Semi
2005	The agri-chemical industry and its impact on agriculture over the last five years.	Semi

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2005	Marketing US agricultural products to consumers in other countries.	Semi
2005	The future of biofuels.	Semi
2005	Agri-pharmaceutical crop production in the US.	Semi
2005	The role of the inland waterway system in US agriculture.	Finals
2005	Marketplace activism: What is its impact on the agriculture?	Finals
2005	The World Trade Organization and the debate over agricultural free trade among nations of the world.	Finals
2005	What is the situation with the African continent being self-sufficient in food production and what are some specific example-country situations?	Finals
2005	The Green Revolution and its impact on agriculture around the world.	Finals
2005	BSE: What do we know and what do we not know about this relatively new disease?	Finals
2005	What should be agriculture's role in the debate about global warming?	Finals
2005	The "hayseed" myth: Exploit it or overcome it.	Finals
2005	Protecting farmland with the sale of conservation easements and development rights.	Finals
2005	The Supreme Court's ruling in Kelo vs The City of New Haven, Connecticut and the possible impact on agriculture near urban centers.	Finals
2005	Will the next farm bill be the last?	Finals
2005	The US tax structure and how it affects the US farmer/rancher.	Finals

National FFA Extemporaneous Public Speaking Career Development Event Topics

2006	Five new uses: what are the five most promising new uses in the research pipeline for agricultural commodities?	Preliminary
2006	What is the current situation with global positioning system (GPS) technology being used in crop production?	Preliminary
2006	What are the repercussions related to the WTO cotton case ruling against the United States?	Preliminary
2006	What is unique about the U.S. food and fiber system?	Preliminary
2006	What can be done about the farmer's shrinking share of the food dollar?	Preliminary
2006	What impact do farms have on the environment (water quality, air pollution, etc.) In urban areas?	Preliminary
2006	The U.S. space program: what are the benefits for agriculture?	Preliminary
2006	Are U.S. agricultural subsidies putting farmers in Africa and other developing regions out of business?	Preliminary
2006	Why must agriculture trading rules be based on science?	Preliminary
2006	What are some of the main benefits from crop rotation and provide some specific examples?	Preliminary
2006	What is the possible impact on agriculture near urban centers from the Supreme Court's ruling of Kelo v the city of New Haven, Conn.?	Preliminary
2006	City gardens: how to feed the mind as well as the body (can city gardens help educate urban citizens about the importance of agriculture?)	Preliminary
2006	How can infrared thermometry be used to determine if a crop is under drought stress, and how is it currently being used?	Preliminary
2006	Does publicity about advances in agricultural biotechnology help or harm U.S. agriculture?	Preliminary
2006	What is the most significant advancement in agriscience over the past decade and why?	Preliminary
2006	What is the situation with the African continent being self-sufficient in food production, and what are some specific example-country situations?	Preliminary
2006	Foreign job outsourcing--the case for agriculture as a domestic industry.	Preliminary
2006	What would be the situation if the United States discontinued all commodity food aid around the world?	Preliminary
2006	What role does the inland waterways system play in the competitiveness of U.S. agriculture?	Preliminary
2006	Why should urban people care about u.s. farm program policy?	Preliminary
2006	How can agritourism pay multiple dividends?	Preliminary
2006	What role should the obesity issue play in farm policy?	Preliminary
2006	Do farmers need government payments? What makes them different from the hardware store owner who is not subsidized?	Preliminary
2006	How do farm/commodity organizations remain relevant to farmers today?	Preliminary
2006	The green revolution: what is it, and what impact did it have on the people of India?*	Semi
2006	What can be done to balancing farmland preservation with a farmer's right to sell his or her land?	Semi
2006	What are the opportunities for citizen-supported farming, where individuals buy shares in a farmer's yearly production before the crops are planted?	Semi
2006	What is the situation with production and demand of alternative meats such as rabbit, buffalo, ostrich, alligator, etc. Compared to more traditional livestock production?	Semi
2006	Can organics be promoted without bashing conventional production?	Semi
2006	Can more be done to build relationships with Ag youth worldwide, recognizing their future relationships will be trading partners and competitors?	Semi
2006	Is livestock cloning a technology that is being advanced, and does it have a place in tomorrow's livestock business?	Semi

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2006	What would be the best way to end the large number of misconceptions about agriculture that many urban people believe such as brown eggs are healthier for you than white eggs and pure sugar only comes from sugar cane, etc.?	Semi
2006	Corn hybridization: a history (how has corn hybridization affected farmers' yields and profits? What were the main milestones in corn hybridization, and why were they so significant?)	Semi
2006	How is water demand for non-ag uses limiting agricultural production in the United States?	Semi
2006	What is the outlook for the European union or countries in the EU approving the import of new strains of biotechnology crops, and how will this impact u.s. grain production?	Semi
2006	How widespread is agri-pharmaceutical crop production in the United States and what is the outlook for growing crops for pharmaceutical compounds?	Semi
2006	The agriculture department's BSE surveillance program: is the scaled back level of testing sufficient?	Finals
2006	Persons with what college degree or area of study will be the most sought after to advance agriculture technology in the next ten years and why?	Finals
2006	Considering the challenges of farming and ranching today, why should young people consider a career in production agriculture?	Finals
2006	If you could select three principles of American agriculture to share with young people in other countries, what would you select and why?	Finals
2006	A strain of genetically enhanced rice is believed to help prevent "river blindness" but the African nation where this disease strikes hardest refuses entry of the u.s. produced rice, citing cultural taboos against mysterious food and general suspicion of motives behind u.s. aid. As a leader, what steps would you attempt to persuade the government to accept this humanitarian gift?	Finals
2006	Land availability: with growing population and demand for housing, will there be any room left for the farm in 20 years?	Finals
2006	Should farmers take greater interest in adapting historic farm buildings for modern uses?	Finals
2006	Should incentives be provided to veterinary students to encourage them to become large animal specialists?	Finals
2006	Should farmers and ranchers pay more attention to consumers who enjoy gourmet food products?	Finals
2006	What are the primary advantages of no-till or reduced-tillage cropping systems?	Finals
2006	How can farmers balance their role in protecting the food supply from terrorist strikes against regulations that have been (or are likely to be) imposed on them to improve security?	Finals
2006	Biodiesel-why use it, and where can you buy it?	Finals

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