



# Questions in Context:

The 2016 Presidential Election Debates

David Winston  
Caitlin Peartree  
Emily O'Connor

## Overview

Throughout the general election season, the Winston Group has been analyzing the presidential and vice presidential debates to quantify how the question topics interact with voters' key concerns for election day. As noted in our previous report on the last presidential debate, jobs and the economy remains the number one issue for general election voters.

In the debates thus far, questions about electability and foreign policy are well-represented among all the debate questions. In fact, these two topics tie as the most asked-about topics across all three main debates and the vice presidential debate. As for the questions posed to each candidate, the two tickets are roughly even when it comes to the number of questions received pertaining to the different topics. Trump-Pence, however, slightly outpaces Clinton-Kaine in both number of questions received and overall speaking time. They also continue to receive more questions about electability when compared with Clinton-Kaine.

Here, we present our analysis of debate topics, number of questions addressed to candidates, and more for the third and final presidential debate. As we also stated in our last report, many voters report feeling dissatisfied with the current state of political discourse, a dissatisfaction that is markedly worse than it has been in recent years. As the election draws closer, understanding how well the debates address voters' concerns is key.

## Question Topics

The chart below shows the distribution of questions by topic area. Most of the topics are self explanatory, but for a few, definitions may be helpful. The “electability” topic area includes questions addressed directly to a candidate about his/her ability — or his/her running mate’s ability — to attract a large portion of the electorate (for example, asking a candidate about his/her standing in the polls or statements he/she made that have raised questions), while the “other candidates” topic area refers to questions that directly ask one candidate about another candidate’s past, policies, or prospects. The “for fun” topic area includes lighthearted questions aimed at letting viewers see more of a candidate’s personality. “Social Security/retirement” consists of questions that address that topic as a separate individual retirement benefit issue — other entitlements questions fall under “Spending/National Debt.”

Some of these questions were directed at both candidates, as opposed to a question directed to one candidate and the other candidate given the opportunity for a rebuttal. Other questions were directed at

only one candidate. For example, there were four questions pertaining to the economy. Two were directed at Clinton, one was directed at Trump, and one was directed to both candidates.

## Fox News October 19 Presidential Debate

General Topic Area	Number of Questions	Percentage of Questions	Questions Directed at Trump	Questions Directed at Clinton
Economy	4	19.0	2	3
Education	-	-	-	-
Electability	5	23.8	4	3
Environment	-	-	-	-
For Fun	-	-	-	-
Foreign Policy/ National Security	4	19.0	3	2
Healthcare	-	-	-	-
Immigration	1	4.8	1	1
Judicial System	1	4.8	1	1
Other Candidates	-	-	-	-
Presidential Priorities	-	-	-	-
Social Issues	4	19.0	2	3
Social Security/ Retirement	1	4.8	1	1
Spending/National Debt	1	4.8	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>

**Total — Fox News October 19 Presidential Debate, ABC/CNN October 9 Presidential Debate, CBS October 4 Vice Presidential Debate and NBC September 26 Presidential Debate**

General Topic Area	Total- NBC September 26 Presidential Debate				Total- CBS October 4 Vice Presidential Debate				Total- ABC/CNN October 9 Presidential Debate			
	# of Qs	% of Qs	Qs to Trump	Qs to Clinton	# of Qs	% of Qs	Qs to Pence	Qs to Kaine	# of Qs	% of Qs	Qs to Trump	Qs to Clinton
Economy	3	21.4	3	2	-	-	-	-	1	4.8	1	1
Education	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Electability	3	21.4	3	1	5	23.8	4	3	9	42.8	7	5
Environment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4.8	1	1
For Fun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Foreign Policy/ National Security	4	28.6	4	3	10	47.6	7	7	3	14.3	1	3
Healthcare	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	9.5	2	1
Immigration	-	-	-	-	1	4.8	1	1	1	4.8	1	0
Judicial System	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4.8	1	1
Other Candidates	1	7.1	1	0	-	-	-	-	2	9.5	1	2
Presidential Priorities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Social Issues	3	21.4	2	2	3	14.3	3	2	1	4.8	1	1
Social Security/ Retirement	-	-	-	-	1	4.8	0	1	-	-	-	-
Spending/ National Debt	-	-	-	-	1	4.8	1	1	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>		<b>13</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>21</b>		<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>21</b>		<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>

**Total — Fox News October 19 Presidential Debate, ABC/CNN October 9 Presidential Debate, CBS October 4 Vice Presidential Debate and NBC September 26 Presidential Debate (continued)**

General Topic Area	Total- Fox News October 19 Presidential Debate				Total- All Debates			
	# of Qs	% of Qs	Qs to Trump	Qs to Clinton	# of Qs	% of Qs	Qs to Trump/Pence	Qs to Clinton/Kaine
Economy	4	19.0	2	3	8	10.4	6	6
Education	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Electability	5	23.8	4	3	22	28.8	18	12
Environment	-	-	-	-	1	1.3	1	1
For Fun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Foreign Policy/National Security	4	19.0	3	2	21	27.3	15	15
Healthcare	-	-	-	-	2	2.6	2	1
Immigration	1	4.8	1	1	3	3.9	3	2
Judicial System	1	4.8	1	1	2	2.6	2	2
Other Candidates	-	-	-	-	3	3.9	2	2
Presidential Priorities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Social Issues	4	19.0	2	3	11	14.3	8	8
Social Security/Retirement	1	4.8	1	1	2	2.6	1	2
Spending/National Debt	1	4.8	1	1	2	2.6	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>77</b>		<b>60</b>	<b>53</b>

## To Whom Were Questions Directed?

“Direct Questions” refers to questions directed by a moderator at a particular candidate and includes questions that were asked of both candidates - so totals may differ from the charts above. “Rebuttals” includes any times the moderator addressed a follow-up or rebuttal opportunity to a candidate, or a candidate broke in and gave a rebuttal to another candidate's answer on their own initiative. This debate featured time for discussion on various topics between the two candidates, so caution is advised in interpreting the data on rebuttals. A complete list of questions and to whom they were directed can be found in the appendix.

“Percentage of Questions” a candidate received comes from only questions directly addressed to a candidate or those addressed to all candidates, while “Percentage of Answers” includes all opportunities a candidate had to speak, including rebuttals, as described above. The “Percentage of Answers” comes out of the total of all answers given — not the total questions asked — so once again, the totals differ.

Candidate	Total - All Debates				
	Direct Questions	Rebuttals	Total Answers	% of Questions	% of Answers
Trump/Pence	60	30	90	53.1%	50.8%
Clinton/Kaine	53	34	87	46.9%	49.2%
Total	113	64	177		

## Speaking Time

The speaking times for the debates listed in the chart below are taken from The New York Times: NBC September 26 - <http://www.nytimes.com/2016/09/28/us/politics/by-the-numbers-debate.html>; and Politico: CBS October 4 <http://www.politico.com/story/2016/10/vice-presidential-debate-speaking-times-trump-229160>; ABC/CNN October 9 <http://www.politico.com/story/2016/10/2016-presidential-debate-speaking-times-229502>; Fox News October 19 <http://www.politico.com/live-blog-updates/2016/10/third-2016-presidential-debate-clinton-trump-las-vegas-000012>.

Candidate	NBC September 26 Presidential Debate	CBS October 4 Vice Presidential Debate	ABC/CNN October 9 Presidential Debate	Fox News October 29 Presidential Debate	Total
Trump/Pence	44:23	41:53	39:07	34:48	160:11
Clinton/Kaine	41:21	39:09	38:29	40:49	159:08

## Conclusion

The October 19 presidential debate was the final debate in the 2016 general election season. It was broken into six 15 minute segments consisting of time for candidates to answer direct questions from the moderator and time for open discussion between the candidates and, when appropriate, the moderator. The six segments addressed topics that included the Supreme Court, the economy, candidates' fitness to be president, immigration, foreign hot spots, and the national debt.

Question topics addressed in this final debate can be broken into three tiers. In the first tier is electability, comprising about 24 percent of all questions asked. In the second tier are the economy, foreign policy and national security, and social issues, each accounting for 19 percent of all the questions. Immigration, the judicial system, social security/retirement, and spending/the national debt fall into the third tier, each comprising about five percent of all questions asked. Both candidates received the same amount of direct questions, and for the first time Clinton outpaced Trump in terms of speaking time.

Across all the debates, electability is the most represented question topic, representing 29 percent of all questions asked. Electability, however, is closely followed by foreign policy and national security, which itself accounts for about 27 percent of all questions asked. Rounding out the top three topics are questions about social issues, about 14 percent of all questions asked. Questions about the economy followed social issues, representing 10 percent of all questions. The Trump-Pence ticket finished the debates having received slightly more direct questions than the Clinton-Kaine ticket. While Trump and Pence received more questions about electability, immigration, and healthcare, Clinton and Kaine received more questions about social security/retirement, the only category in which Trump-Pence did not receive more questions or the two tickets did not tie. Both tickets finished the debates with roughly equal speaking times, with Trump-Pence outpacing Clinton-Kaine by about one minute.

# Appendix A - Presidential Debate Questions

Debate Number — Location — Date — Sponsor(s)	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
1 — Hempstead, NY — 9/26/16 — Hofstra University	Beginning with you, Secretary Clinton, why are you a better choice than your opponent to create the kinds of jobs that will put more money into the pockets of American workers? ... Mr. Trump, the same question to you. It's about putting money -- more money into the pockets of American workers.	Lester Holt	Clinton and Trump
1 — Hempstead, NY — 9/26/16 — Hofstra University	Let me follow up with Mr. Trump, if you can. You've talked about creating 25 million jobs, and you've promised to bring back millions of jobs for Americans. How are you going to bring back the industries that have left this country for cheaper labor overseas? How, specifically, are you going to tell American manufacturers that you have to come back?	Lester Holt	Trump; Clinton, Trump
1 — Hempstead, NY — 9/26/16 — Hofstra University	Secretary Clinton, you're calling for a tax increase on the wealthiest Americans. I'd like you to further defend that. And, Mr. Trump, you're calling for tax cuts for the wealthy. I'd like you to defend that.	Lester Holt	Clinton and Trump
1 — Hempstead, NY — 9/26/16 — Hofstra University	Mr. Trump, we're talking about the burden that Americans have to pay, yet you have not released your tax returns. And the reason nominees have released their returns for decades is so that voters will know if their potential president owes money to -- who he owes it to and any business conflicts. Don't Americans have a right to know if there are any conflicts of interest?	Lester Holt	Trump; Clinton
1 — Hempstead, NY — 9/26/16 — Hofstra University	The share of Americans who say race relations are bad in this country is the highest it's been in decades, much of it amplified by shootings of African-Americans by police, as we've seen recently in Charlotte and Tulsa. Race has been a big issue in this campaign, and one of you is going to have to bridge a very wide and bitter gap. So how do you heal the divide?	Lester Holt	Trump and Clinton
1 — Hempstead, NY — 9/26/16 — Hofstra University	Your two minutes expired, but I do want to follow up. Stop-and-frisk was ruled unconstitutional in New York, because it largely singled out black and Hispanic young men.	Lester Holt	Trump; Clinton
1 — Hempstead, NY — 9/26/16 — Hofstra University	Secretary Clinton, last week, you said we've got to do everything possible to improve policing, to go right at implicit bias. Do you believe that police are implicitly biased against black people?	Lester Holt	Clinton; Trump
1 — Hempstead, NY — 9/26/16 — Hofstra University	Mr. Trump, for five years, you perpetuated a false claim that the nation's first black president was not a natural-born citizen. You questioned his legitimacy. In the last couple of weeks, you acknowledged what most Americans have accepted for years: The president was born in the United States. Can you tell us what took you so long? ... I just want to get the answer here. The birth certificate was produced in 2011. You've continued to tell the story and question the president's legitimacy in 2012, '13, '14, '15, as recently as January. So the question is, what changed your mind?	Lester Holt	Trump; Clinton, Trump
1 — Hempstead, NY — 9/26/16 — Hofstra University	Our institutions are under cyber attack, and our secrets are being stolen. So my question is, who's behind it? And how do we fight it?	Lester Holt	Clinton and Trump; Clinton
1 — Hempstead, NY — 9/26/16 — Hofstra University	You mention ISIS, and we think of ISIS certainly as over there, but there are American citizens who have been inspired to commit acts of terror on American soil, the latest incident, of course, the bombings we just saw in New York and New Jersey, the knife attack at a mall in Minnesota, in the last year, deadly attacks in San Bernardino and Orlando. I'll ask this to both of you. Tell us specifically how you would prevent homegrown attacks by American citizens?	Lester Holt	Trump and Clinton; Trump

Debate Number — Location — Date — Sponsor(s)	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
1 — Hempstead, NY — 9/26/16 — Hofstra University	You had supported the war in Iraq before the invasion. Why is your judgment -- why is your judgment any different than Mrs. Clinton's judgment?	Lester Holt	Trump; Clinton
1 — Hempstead, NY — 9/26/16 — Hofstra University	On nuclear weapons, President Obama reportedly considered changing the nation's longstanding policy on first use. Do you support the current policy?	Lester Holt	Trump and Clinton; Trump
1 — Hempstead, NY — 9/26/16 — Hofstra University	Mr. Trump, this year Secretary Clinton became the first woman nominated for president by a major party. Earlier this month, you said she doesn't have, quote, "a presidential look." She's standing here right now. What did you mean by that?	Lester Holt	Trump; Clinton, Trump
1 — Hempstead, NY — 9/26/16 — Hofstra University	One of you will not win this election. So my final question to you tonight, are you willing to accept the outcome as the will of the voters?	Lester Holt	Clinton and Trump
2 — Farmville, VA — 10/4/16 — Longwood University	I'd like to start with the topic of presidential leadership. Twenty-eight years ago tomorrow night, Lloyd Bentsen said the vice presidential debate was not about the qualifications for the vice presidency, but about how if tragedy should occur, the vice president has to step in without any margin for error, without time for preparation, to take over the responsibility for the biggest job in the world. What about your qualities, your skills, and your temperament equip you to step into that role at a moment's notice?	Elaine Quijano	Kaine and Pence
2 — Farmville, VA — 10/4/16 — Longwood University	Senator Kaine, on the campaign trail, you praised Secretary Clinton's character, including her commitment to public service, yet 60 percent of voters don't think she's trustworthy. Why do so many people distrust her? Is it because they have questions about her e-mails and the Clinton Foundation?	Elaine Quijano	Kaine
2 — Farmville, VA — 10/4/16 — Longwood University	Governor Pence, let me ask you, you have said Donald Trump is, quote, "thoughtful, compassionate, and steady." Yet 67 percent of voters feel he is a risky choice, and 65 percent feel he does not have the right kind of temperament to be president. Why do so many Americans think Mr. Trump is simply too erratic?	Elaine Quijano	Pence; Kaine
2 — Farmville, VA — 10/4/16 — Longwood University	According to the nonpartisan Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, neither of your economic plans will reduce the growing \$19 trillion gross national debt. In fact, your plans would add even more to it. Both of you were governors who balanced state budgets. Are you concerned that adding more to the debt could be disastrous for the country?	Elaine Quijano	Pence and Kaine
2 — Farmville, VA — 10/4/16 — Longwood University	Governor Pence, recently the New York Times released part of Mr. Trump's 1995 tax return and reported that he could have avoided paying federal income taxes for years. Yesterday, Mr. Trump said he brilliantly used the laws to pay as little tax as legally possible. Does that seem fair to you?	Elaine Quijano	Pence; Kaine
2 — Farmville, VA — 10/4/16 — Longwood University	Senator Kaine, on the issue of Social Security, in 18 years, when the Social Security Trust Funds run out of money, you'll be 76. The Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget estimates your benefits could be cut by as much as \$7,500 per year. What would your administration do to prevent this cut?	Elaine Quijano	Kaine; Pence
2 — Farmville, VA — 10/4/16 — Longwood University	Do we ask too much of police officers in this country? And how would you specifically address the chief's concerns?	Elaine Quijano	Kaine and Pence; Kaine

Debate Number — Location — Date — Sponsor(s)	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
2 — Farmville, VA — 10/4/16 — Longwood University	Your fellow Republican, Governor Pence, Senator Tim Scott, who is African-American, recently spoke on the Senate floor. He said he was stopped seven times by law enforcement in one year. ... He said, "I have felt the anger, the frustration, the sadness, and the humiliation that comes with feeling like you're being targeted for nothing more than being just yourself." What would you say to Senator Scott about his experiences?	Elaine Quijano	Pence
2 — Farmville, VA — 10/4/16 — Longwood University	Your running mates have both said that undocumented immigrants who have committed violent crimes should be deported. What would you tell the millions of undocumented immigrants who have not committed violent crimes?	Elaine Quijano	Pence and Kaine
2 — Farmville, VA — 10/4/16 — Longwood University	Do you think the world today is a safer or more dangerous place than it was eight years ago? Has the terrorist threat increased or decreased?	Elaine Quijano	Kaine and Pence; Kaine
2 — Farmville, VA — 10/4/16 — Longwood University	Governor Pence, Mr. Trump has proposed extreme vetting of immigrants from parts of the world that export terrorism. But that does not address many of the recent terrorist attacks in the United States, such as the Orlando nightclub massacre and the recent bombings in New York and New Jersey. Those were homegrown, committed by U.S. citizens and legal residents. What specific tools would you use to prevent those kinds of attacks?	Elaine Quijano	Pence; Kaine
2 — Farmville, VA — 10/4/16 — Longwood University	Senator Kaine, let me ask you this, Secretary Clinton has talked about an intelligence surge. What exactly would an intelligence surge look like? And how would that help identify terrorists with no operational connection to a foreign terrorist organization?	Elaine Quijano	Kaine; Pence
2 — Farmville, VA — 10/4/16 — Longwood University	I want to turn now to Syria. Two hundred fifty thousand people, 100,000 of them children, are under siege in Aleppo, Syria. Bunker buster bombs, cluster munitions, and incendiary weapons are being dropped on them by Russian and Syrian militaries. Does the U.S. have a responsibility to protect civilians and prevent mass casualties on this scale, Governor Pence?	Elaine Quijano	Pence and Kaine
2 — Farmville, VA — 10/4/16 — Longwood University	Governor Pence, you had mentioned no-fly zone. Where would you propose setting up a safe zone specifically? How would you keep it safe?	Elaine Quijano	Pence; Kaine, Pence
2 — Farmville, VA — 10/4/16 — Longwood University	Gentlemen, Russia. Russian President Vladimir Putin invaded Ukraine, annexed Crimea, and has provided crucial military support to the Assad regime. What steps, if any, would your administration take to counter these actions?	Elaine Quijano	Kaine and Pence
2 — Farmville, VA — 10/4/16 — Longwood University	Governor, yesterday, Mr. Trump said, "Putin has no respect for Hillary Clinton and no respect for Obama." Why do you think he'll respect a Trump- Pence administration?	Elaine Quijano	Pence; Kaine
2 — Farmville, VA — 10/4/16 — Longwood University	Senator Kaine, what went wrong with the Russia reset?	Elaine Quijano	Kaine
2 — Farmville, VA — 10/4/16 — Longwood University	All right, I'd like to ask now about North Korea, Iran and the threat of nuclear weapons. North Korea recently conducted its fifth and most powerful nuclear test. What specific steps would you take to prevent North Korea from developing a nuclear-armed missile capable of reaching the United States?	Elaine Quijano	Pence and Kaine; Pence
2 — Farmville, VA — 10/4/16 — Longwood University	Senator Kaine, if you had intelligence that North Korea was about to launch a missile, a nuclear-armed missile capable of reaching the United States, would you take preemptive action?	Elaine Quijano	Kaine

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2 — Farmville, VA — 10/4/16 — Longwood University	All right. I'd like to turn to our next segment now. And in this, I'd like to focus on social issues. You have both been open about the role that faith has played in your lives. Can you discuss in detail a time when you struggled to balance your personal faith and a public policy position?	Elaine Quijano	Kaine and Pence; Kaine, Pence
2 — Farmville, VA — 10/4/16 — Longwood University	I do have one final question for you both tonight. It has been a divisive campaign. Senator Kaine, if your ticket wins, what specifically are you going to do to unify the country and reassure the people who voted against you? ... Governor, how will you unify the country if you win?	Elaine Quijano	Kaine and Pence
3 — St. Louis — 10/9/16 — Washington University in St. Louis	Knowing that educators assign viewing the presidential debates as students' homework, do you feel you're modeling appropriate and positive behavior for today's youth?	Voter	Clinton and Trump
3 — St. Louis — 10/9/16 — Washington University in St. Louis	We received a lot of questions online, Mr. Trump, about the tape that was released on Friday, as you can imagine. You called what you said locker room banter. You described kissing women without consent, grabbing their genitals. That is sexual assault. You bragged that you have sexually assaulted women. Do you understand that?	Anderson Cooper	Trump; Clinton, Trump
3 — St. Louis — 10/9/16 — Washington University in St. Louis	This tape is generating intense interest. In just 48 hours, it's become the single most talked about story of the entire 2016 election on Facebook, with millions and millions of people discussing it on the social network. As we said a moment ago, we do want to bring in questions from voters around country via social media, and our first stays on this topic. Jeff from Ohio asks on Facebook, "Trump says the campaign has changed him. When did that happen?" So, Mr. Trump, let me add to that. When you walked off that bus at age 59, were you a different man or did that behavior continue until just recently? And you have two minutes for this.	Martha Raddatz	Trump; Clinton, Trump
3 — St. Louis — 10/9/16 — Washington University in St. Louis	And, Secretary Clinton, I do want to follow up on emails. You've said your handing of your emails was a mistake. You disagreed with FBI Director James Comey, calling your handling of classified information, quote, "extremely careless." The FBI said that there were 110 classified e-mails that were exchanged, eight of which were top secret, and that it was possible hostile actors did gain access to those e-mails. You don't call that extremely careless?	Martha Raddatz	Clinton; Trump, Clinton
3 — St. Louis — 10/9/16 — Washington University in St. Louis	Thank you. Affordable Care Act, known as Obamacare, it is not affordable. Premiums have gone up. Deductibles have gone up. Copays have gone up. Prescriptions have gone up. And the coverage has gone down. What will you do to bring the cost down and make coverage better?	Voter	Clinton and Trump; Clinton
3 — St. Louis — 10/9/16 — Washington University in St. Louis	You've said you want to end Obamacare. You've also said you want to make coverage accessible for people with pre-existing conditions. How do you force insurance companies to do that if you're no longer mandating that every American get insurance?	Anderson Cooper	Trump
3 — St. Louis — 10/9/16 — Washington University in St. Louis	There are 3.3 million Muslims in the United States, and I'm one of them. You've mentioned working with Muslim nations, but with Islamophobia on the rise, how will you help people like me deal with the consequences of being labeled as a threat to the country after the election is over?	Voter	Trump and Clinton
3 — St. Louis — 10/9/16 — Washington University in St. Louis	Mr. Trump, in December, you said this. "Donald J. Trump is calling for a total and complete shutdown of Muslims entering the United States until our country's representatives can figure out what the hell is going on. We have no choice. We have no choice." Your running mate said this week that the Muslim ban is no longer your position. Is that correct? And if it is, was it a mistake to have a religious test?	Martha Raddatz	Trump

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3 — St. Louis — 10/9/16 — Washington University in St. Louis	And, Secretary Clinton, let me ask you about that, because you have asked for an increase from 10,000 to 65,000 Syrian refugees. We know you want tougher vetting. That's not a perfect system. So why take the risk of having those refugees come into the country?	Martha Raddatz	Clinton; Trump
3 — St. Louis — 10/9/16 — Washington University in St. Louis	This next question from the public through the Bipartisan Open Debate Coalition's online forum, where Americans submitted questions that generated millions of votes. This question involves WikiLeaks release of purported excerpts of Secretary Clinton's paid speeches, which she has refused to release, and one line in particular, in which you, Secretary Clinton, purportedly say you need both a public and private position on certain issues. So, Tu (ph), from Virginia asks, is it OK for politicians to be two-faced? Is it acceptable for a politician to have a private stance on issues? Secretary Clinton, your two minutes.	Voter	Clinton and Trump
3 — St. Louis — 10/9/16 — Washington University in St. Louis	What specific tax provisions will you change to ensure the wealthiest Americans pay their fair share in taxes?	Voter	Trump and Clinton
3 — St. Louis — 10/9/16 — Washington University in St. Louis	Mr. Trump, I want to give you the chance to respond. I just wanted to tell our viewers what she's referring to. In the last month, taxes were the number-one issue on Facebook for the first time in the campaign. The New York Times published three pages of your 1995 tax returns. They show you claimed a \$916 million loss, which means you could have avoided paying personal federal income taxes for years. You've said you pay state taxes, employee taxes, real estate taxes, property taxes. You have not answered, though, a simple question. Did you use that \$916 million loss to avoid paying personal federal income taxes for years?	Anderson Cooper	Trump; Clinton
3 — St. Louis — 10/9/16 — Washington University in St. Louis	Diane from Pennsylvania asks, if you were president, what would you do about Syria and the humanitarian crisis in Aleppo? Isn't it a lot like the Holocaust when the U.S. waited too long before we helped? Secretary Clinton, we will begin with your two minutes.	Voter	Clinton and Trump; Trump
3 — St. Louis — 10/9/16 — Washington University in St. Louis	Secretary Clinton, you want Assad to go. You advocated arming rebels, but it looks like that may be too late for Aleppo. You talk about diplomatic efforts. Those have failed. Cease-fires have failed. Would you introduce the threat of U.S. military force beyond a no-fly zone against the Assad regime to back up diplomacy?	Martha Raddatz	Clinton
3 — St. Louis — 10/9/16 — Washington University in St. Louis	My question is, do you believe you can be a devoted president to all the people in the United States?	Voter	Trump and Clinton
3 — St. Louis — 10/9/16 — Washington University in St. Louis	You said that half of Donald Trump's supporters are, quote, "deplorables, racist, sexist, homophobic, xenophobic, Islamophobic." You later said you regretted saying half. You didn't express regret for using the term "deplorables." To Mr. Carter's question, how can you unite a country if you've written off tens of millions of Americans?	Anderson Cooper	Clinton
3 — St. Louis — 10/9/16 — Washington University in St. Louis	In 2008, you wrote in one of your books that the most important characteristic of a good leader is discipline. You said, if a leader doesn't have it, quote, "he or she won't be one for very long." In the days after the first debate, you sent out a series of tweets from 3 a.m. to 5 a.m., including one that told people to check out a sex tape. Is that the discipline of a good leader?	Anderson Cooper	Trump

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3 — St. Louis — 10/9/16 — Washington University in St. Louis	Secretary Clinton, does Mr. Trump have the discipline to be a good leader?	Anderson Cooper	Clinton
3 — St. Louis — 10/9/16 — Washington University in St. Louis	Perhaps the most important aspect of this election is the Supreme Court justice. What would you prioritize as the most important aspect of selecting a Supreme Court justice?	Voter	Clinton and Trump
3 — St. Louis — 10/9/16 — Washington University in St. Louis	What steps will your energy policy take to meet our energy needs, while at the same time remaining environmentally friendly and minimizing job loss for fossil power plant workers?	Voter	Trump and Clinton
3 — St. Louis — 10/9/16 — Washington University in St. Louis	My question to both of you is, regardless of the current rhetoric, would either of you name one positive thing that you respect in one another?	Voter	Clinton and Trump
4 — Las Vegas — 10/19/16 — University of Nevada, Las Vegas	First of all, where do you want to see the court take the country? And secondly, what's your view on how the Constitution should be interpreted? Do the founders' words mean what they say or is it a living document to be applied flexibly according to changing circumstances?	Chris Wallace	Clinton and Trump
4 — Las Vegas — 10/19/16 — University of Nevada, Las Vegas	Secretary Clinton, you said last year, "The Supreme Court is wrong on the Second Amendment." And now, in fact, in the 2008 Heller case, the court ruled that there is a constitutional right to bear arms, but a right that is reasonably limited. Those were the words of Judge Antonin Scalia who wrote the decision. What's wrong with that? ... Let me bring Mr. Trump in here. ... How will you ensure the Second Amendment is protected? You just heard Secretary Clinton's answer. Does she persuade you that, while you may disagree on regulation, that, in fact, she supports a Second Amendment right to bear arms?	Chris Wallace	Clinton; Trump, Clinton
4 — Las Vegas — 10/19/16 — University of Nevada, Las Vegas	Let me bring Mr. Trump back into this, because, in fact, you oppose any limits on assault weapons, any limits on high-capacity magazines. You support a national right to carry law. Why, sir?	Chris Wallace	Trump
4 — Las Vegas — 10/19/16 — University of Nevada, Las Vegas	Mr. Trump, you're pro-life. But I want to ask you specifically: Do you want the court, including the justices that you will name, to overturn Roe v. Wade, which includes -- in fact, states -- a woman's right to abortion?	Chris Wallace	Trump and Clinton
4 — Las Vegas — 10/19/16 — University of Nevada, Las Vegas	Secretary Clinton, I want to explore how far you believe the right to abortion goes. You have been quoted as saying that the fetus has no constitutional rights. You also voted against a ban on late-term, partial-birth abortions. Why? ... Mr. Trump, your reaction? And particularly on this issue of late-term, partial-birth abortions?	Chris Wallace	Clinton; Trump, Clinton
4 — Las Vegas — 10/19/16 — University of Nevada, Las Vegas	Mr. Trump, you want to build a wall. Secretary Clinton, you have offered no specific plan for how you want to secure our southern border. Mr. Trump, you are calling for major deportations. Secretary Clinton, you say that within your first 100 days as president you're going to offer a package that includes a pathway to citizenship. The question, really, is, why are you right and your opponent wrong?	Chris Wallace	Trump and Clinton; Trump, Clinton

Debate Number — Location — Date — Sponsor(s)	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
4 — Las Vegas — 10/19/16 — University of Nevada, Las Vegas	Secretary Clinton, I want to clear up your position on this issue, because in a speech you gave to a Brazilian bank, for which you were paid \$225,000, we've learned from the WikiLeaks, that you said this, and I want to quote. "My dream is a hemispheric common market with open trade and open borders." So that's the question... Is that your dream, open borders?	Chris Wallace	Clinton; Trump, Clinton
4 — Las Vegas — 10/19/16 — University of Nevada, Las Vegas	The top national security officials of this country do believe that Russia has been behind these hacks. Even if you don't know for sure whether they are, do you condemn any interference by Russia in the American election?	Chris Wallace	Trump; Clinton, Trump
4 — Las Vegas — 10/19/16 — University of Nevada, Las Vegas	You also have very different ideas about how to get the economy growing faster. Secretary Clinton, in your plan, government plays a big role. You see more government spending, more entitlements, more tax credits, more tax penalties. Mr. Trump, you want to get government out with lower taxes and less regulation... We're going to drill down into this a little bit more. But in this overview, please explain to me why you believe that your plan will create more jobs and growth for this country and your opponent's plan will not.	Chris Wallace	Clinton and Trump; Clinton
4 — Las Vegas — 10/19/16 — University of Nevada, Las Vegas	Secretary Clinton, I want to pursue your plan, because in many ways it is similar to the Obama stimulus plan in 2009, which has led to the slowest GDP growth since 1949... You told me in July when we spoke that the problem is that President Obama didn't get to do enough in what he was trying to do with his stimulus. So is your plan basically more -- even more of the Obama stimulus?	Chris Wallace	Clinton
4 — Las Vegas — 10/19/16 — University of Nevada, Las Vegas	Mr. Trump, even conservative economists who have looked at your plan say that the numbers don't add up, that your idea, and you've talked about 25 million jobs created, 4 percent ... growth is unrealistic. And they say -- you talk a lot about growing the energy industry. They say with oil prices as low as they are right now, that's unrealistic, as well. Your response, sir?	Chris Wallace	Trump; Clinton, Trump, Clinton
4 — Las Vegas — 10/19/16 — University of Nevada, Las Vegas	Mr. Trump, at the last debate, you said your talk about grabbing women was just that, talk, and that you'd never actually done it. And since then, as we all know, nine women have come forward and have said that you either groped them or kissed them without their consent. Why would so many different women from so many different circumstances over so many different years, why would they all in this last couple of weeks make up -- you deny this -- why would they all make up these stories? Since this is a question for both of you, Secretary Clinton, Mr. Trump says what your husband did and that you defended was even worse. Mr. Trump, you go first.	Chris Wallace	Trump and Clinton; Trump, Clinton
4 — Las Vegas — 10/19/16 — University of Nevada, Las Vegas	Secretary Clinton, during your 2009 Senate confirmation hearing, you promised to avoid even the appearance of a conflict of interest with your dealing with the Clinton Foundation while you were Secretary of State, but emails show that donors got special access to you. Those seeking grants for Haiti relief were considered separately from non-donors, and some of those donors got contracts, government contracts, taxpayer money. Can you really say that you kept your pledge to that Senate committee? And why isn't what happened and what went on between you and the Clinton Foundation, why isn't it what Mr. Trump calls pay to play?	Chris Wallace	Clinton; Trump, Clinton
4 — Las Vegas — 10/19/16 — University of Nevada, Las Vegas	Wasn't some of the money used to settle your lawsuits, sir? ... But there was a penalty that was imposed by Palm Beach County, and the money came from your foundation ... instead of Mar-a-Lago or yourself, sir.	Chris Wallace	Trump; Clinton, Trump

Debate Number — Location — Date — Sponsor(s)	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
4 — Las Vegas — 10/19/16 — University of Nevada, Las Vegas	Your running mate, Governor Pence, pledged on Sunday that he and you — his words — “will absolutely accept the result of this election.” Today your daughter, Ivanka, said the same thing. I want to ask you here on the stage tonight: Do you make the same commitment that you will absolutely — sir, that you will absolutely accept the result of this election? ... But, sir, there is a tradition in this country — in fact, one of the prides of this country — is the peaceful transition of power and that no matter how hard-fought a campaign is, that at the end of the campaign that the loser concedes to the winner. Not saying that you’re necessarily going to be the loser or the winner, but that the loser concedes to the winner and that the country comes together part for the good of the country. Are you saying you’re not prepared now to commit to that principle?	Chris Wallace	Trump; Trump, Clinton
4 — Las Vegas — 10/19/16 — University of Nevada, Las Vegas	The Iraqi offensive to take back Mosul has begun. If they are successful in pushing ISIS out of that city and out of all of Iraq, the question then becomes, what happens the day after? And that’s something that whichever of you ends up -- whoever of you ends up as president is going to have to confront. Will you put U.S. troops into that vacuum to make sure that ISIS doesn’t come back or isn’t replaced by something even worse?	Chris Wallace	Clinton and Trump; Clinton, Trump
4 — Las Vegas — 10/19/16 — University of Nevada, Las Vegas	Mr. Trump, in the last debate, you were both asked about the situation in the Syrian city of Aleppo. And I want to follow up on that, because you said several things in that debate which were not true, sir. You said that Aleppo has basically fallen. In fact, there -- in fact, there are ... there are a quarter of a million people still living there and being slaughtered... you also said that -- that Syria and Russia are busy fighting ISIS. In fact, they have been the ones who’ve been bombing and shelling eastern Aleppo, and they just announced a humanitarian pause, in effect, admitting that they have been bombing and shelling Aleppo. Would you like to clear that up, sir?	Chris Wallace	Trump
4 — Las Vegas — 10/19/16 — University of Nevada, Las Vegas	Secretary Clinton, you have talked about -- and in the last debate and again today -- that you would impose a no-fly zone to try to protect the people of Aleppo and to stop the killing there. President Obama has refused to do that because he fears it’s going to draw us closer or deeper into the conflict. And General Joseph Dunford, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, says you impose a no-fly zone, chances are you’re going to get into a war -- his words -- with Syria and Russia. So the question I have is, if you impose a no-fly zone -- first of all, how do you respond to their concerns? Secondly, if you impose a no-fly zone and a Russian plane violates that, does President Clinton shoot that plane down?	Chris Wallace	Clinton; Trump
4 — Las Vegas — 10/19/16 — University of Nevada, Las Vegas	Our national debt, as a share of the economy, our GDP, is now 77 percent. That’s the highest since just after World War II. But the nonpartisan Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget says, Secretary Clinton, under your plan, debt would rise to 86 percent of GDP over the next 10 years. Mr. Trump, under your plan, they say it would rise to 105 percent of GDP over the next 10 years. The question is, why are both of you ignoring this problem?	Chris Wallace	Trump and Clinton; Trump
4 — Las Vegas — 10/19/16 — University of Nevada, Las Vegas	So, in effect, the final question I want to ask you in this regard is -- and let me start with you, Mr. Trump, would President Trump make a deal to save Medicare and Social Security that included both tax increases and benefit cuts, in effect, a grand bargain on entitlements? ... And, Secretary Clinton, same question, because at this point, Social Security and Medicare are going to run out, the trust funds are going to run out of money. Will you as president entertain -- will you consider a grand bargain, a deal that includes both tax increases and benefit cuts to try to save both programs?	Chris Wallace	Trump and Clinton
4 — Las Vegas — 10/19/16 — University of Nevada, Las Vegas	I’d like you each to take -- and we’re going to put a clock up, a minute, as the final question in the final debate, to tell the American people why they should elect you to be the next president.	Chris Wallace	Clinton and Trump