

Questions in Context:

The 2012 Republican Primary Debates By the Numbers

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Overview

With the 2016 Republican presidential primary debates fast approaching — the first debate is scheduled for August 6, 2015 — The Winston Group went back to analyze the 2012 primary election debates. **How well did the questions reflect the issues that voters wanted to hear about? Which networks and which anchors asked the most questions? And which candidates received the most questions?**

Over the course of twenty debates in eight distinct states (and the District of Columbia), the Republican candidates were asked 719 total questions. By analyzing trends and questioning patterns that existed in 2012, we can develop some context for the 2015-16 debates. In this report, we present notable findings from our research. Perhaps the most striking insight from 2012: though Republican voters consistently said (in primary exit polls and surveys) that economic issues were their top priority in determining who to vote for, questions about the economy were largely underrepresented throughout the debates.

Question Topics

Throughout the nine months of debate, a wide variety of topics were discussed, from economic issues to social issues to those relating to U.S. foreign policy. The chart below shows the distribution of questions by topic area. While most of these general topic areas are fairly straightforward in terms of what they encompass, three may need some further definition: “electability,” “other candidates,” and “for fun.” The “electability” topic area includes questions directly to a candidate about his/her ability to attract a large portion of the electorate (for example, asking a candidate about his/her standing in the polls or his/her relationship with Tea Party voters), while the “other candidates” topic area refers to questions that directly ask one candidate about another candidate’s past, policies, or prospects (like asking Romney what he thinks of Cain’s business record). The “for fun” topic area includes lighthearted questions aimed at letting viewers see more of a candidate’s personality (for example, asking Pawlenty whether he prefers Coke or Pepsi).

General Topic Area	Number of Questions	Percentage of Questions
Economy	187	26.0
Foreign Policy	146	20.3
Electability	68	9.5
Spending/National Debt	62	8.6
Healthcare	51	7.1
Social Issues	51	7.1
Immigration	50	7.0
Other Candidates	49	6.8
Education	13	1.8
Energy	12	1.7
For Fun	10	1.4
Environment	6	0.8
Justice System	6	0.8
Space Exploration	5	0.7
Checks and Balances	3	0.4
Total	719	100.0

The Economy

In every exit/entrance poll taken during the Republican presidential primary in 2012, the economy was the top issue for voters. In 23 out of 26 of those primary exit polls, more than half of Republican voters said that economic issues — those that concern growing the US economy, changing the tax system, or creating jobs, for example — were their number-one consideration in deciding who to vote for. And in New Hampshire’s and South Carolina’s early primaries, which shape the opening phase of the nominating process, more than 60% of Republican voters said the economy was their priority.

In contrast, out of the 719 total questions asked in the 2012 Republican debates, 187 — or 26.0% — asked about economic issues. **So, although the economy was — by a small margin — the most commonly asked about topic area, it seemed to be underrepresented in the debate questions, relative to the importance that voters placed on it.**

Foreign Policy

Foreign policy questions came in right behind the economy as a topic area that candidates were asked about most; the 146 questions about foreign policy constituted 20.3% of all questions in the debates. **Foreign policy questions seemed to be overrepresented**, considering that a small number of voters saw foreign policy issues as the primary determinant of who they would vote for. In fact, primary exit polls in 2012 didn't list foreign policy as an option for voters to choose as their top issue. The Winston Group's New Models survey conducted in November 2011 shows that only 5% of Republican voters said that issues of foreign affairs and national defense were most important to them.

However, many of the questions reflected the significant foreign policy events occurring at the time of a specific debate. For example, the May 2011 debate — which occurred right after Osama Bin Laden was killed — included multiple questions about antiterrorism policies as a whole. Over the course of all 20 debates, the US approach towards the Middle East dominated the foreign policy discussion. 52.1% of foreign policy questions — 76 out of 146 — concerned the Middle East. 17 of those questions regarded Afghanistan, 21 were about Iran, and 7 related to Israel. Besides the Middle East, China was also a hot topic of discussion, with 14 separate questions.

Education

In the Winston Group's November 2011 New Models survey, 7% of Republican voters said that education was their top voting issue. In the 2012 Republican debates, 13 out of 719 questions — 1.8% of all questions — related to education. Of those 13 questions, four concerned higher education. **Education is a particularly notable topic area because the demographic groups that most often say in our surveys that education is a priority issue — young people under the age of 30 and Hispanics — are also groups that the Republican Party needs to attract.**

Immigration

Another contentious issue that candidates often sparred over was immigration. 50 out of 719 — 7% — of all questions concerned immigration. The November 2011 New Models survey showed that only 2% of Republican voters said immigration was the most important topic to them.

Looking at the general topic area of “immigration,” the overwhelming majority of questions — 47 out of 50 — concerned illegal immigration; there was little talk about inefficiencies in the system of legal immigration.

Who Asked What?

Most Frequent Questioners

Questioner	Number of Questions Asked	Most Common Topic Area
John King (CNN)	72	Economy (19)
Bret Baier (Fox)	57	Foreign Policy (29)
Chris Wallace (Fox)	51	Healthcare (11)
Brian Williams (NBC)	47	Economy (14)
Wolf Blitzer (CNN)	39	Economy (7)
John Harris (Politico)	23	Healthcare (7)
George Stephanopoulos (ABC)	22	Other Candidates (8)
John Harwood (CNBC)	21	Economy (11)
David Gregory (NBC)	19	Electability (7)
Juan Williams (Fox)	18	Economy (7)
Megyn Kelly (Fox)	18	Economy, Justice System (4)
Scott Pelley (CBS)	17	Foreign Policy (16)
Diane Sawyer (ABC)	17	Foreign Policy (5)
Anderson Cooper (CNN)	16	Economy (7)
Major Garrett (National Journal)	16	Foreign Policy (14)
Maria Bartiromo (CNBC)	15	Economy (8)
Byron York (Washington Examiner)	13	Social Issues (8)
Shannon Bream (Fox)	13	Social Issues (6)
Charlie Rose (PBS)	12	Economy (8)
Neil Cavuto (Fox)	12	Spending/National Debt (4)
Susan Ferrechio (Washington Examiner)	11	Economy (6)
Karen Tumulty (Washington Post)	11	Economy (5)

Networks

The five panelists/moderators who asked the most questions over the course of the 20 debates came from three networks: Fox News, CNN, and NBC News. **Of all the questions asked, more than half — 363 — were asked by representatives of one of those three networks.**

On the whole, **Fox News most often asked questions about foreign policy.** Out of the 169 questions asked by Fox News in the 2012 debates, 42 of them — 24.9% — concerned foreign policy or national security issues. Among Fox panelists, Bret Baier asked most often about foreign policy; just over half — 29 out of 57 — of his questions were on this topic area. Chris Wallace's most common topic area was healthcare, followed by electability and foreign policy, while Juan Williams most often asked about the economy.



For CNN questions, the economy was the most common topic area; 33 out of 128, or 25.8%, of the questions related to the economy, while only 9 questions — 7% — concerned foreign policy. Both John King and Wolf Blitzer's most common topic area was the economy, followed by electability and immigration respectively.

NBC panelists/moderators asked 28.8% of their questions about a candidate's electability, with the economy following closely afterwards. Brian Williams asked about the economy most often (followed by electability), while David Gregory asked about electability (following by spending/national debt).

CNBC panelists/moderators asked a majority of their questions about the economy. Out of their 47 questions, 26 pertained to economic issues. John Harwood and Maria Bartiromo both most commonly asked about economic issues, followed by spending/national debt and foreign policy respectively.

ABC News most often asked speakers questions about other candidates (10 questions), closely followed by the economy (9 questions). ABC's George Stephanopoulos received quite a bit of media coverage for his question on contraception to Mitt Romney, but that was, in fact, the only question he asked about social issues throughout the course of the debates. Stephanopoulos' most common topic area was other candidates (with 8 questions), followed by the economy (with 5). Diane Sawyer's most common topic area was foreign policy — with 5 questions — followed by the economy.

When looking at the distribution of topic areas, it's important to note that some debates purposely focused on one topic area. For example, the tenth debate — run by CBS and the National Journal — was designed to focus exclusively on issues of foreign policy and national security. Thus, both of these networks have a disproportionately high number of questions concerning that topic area.

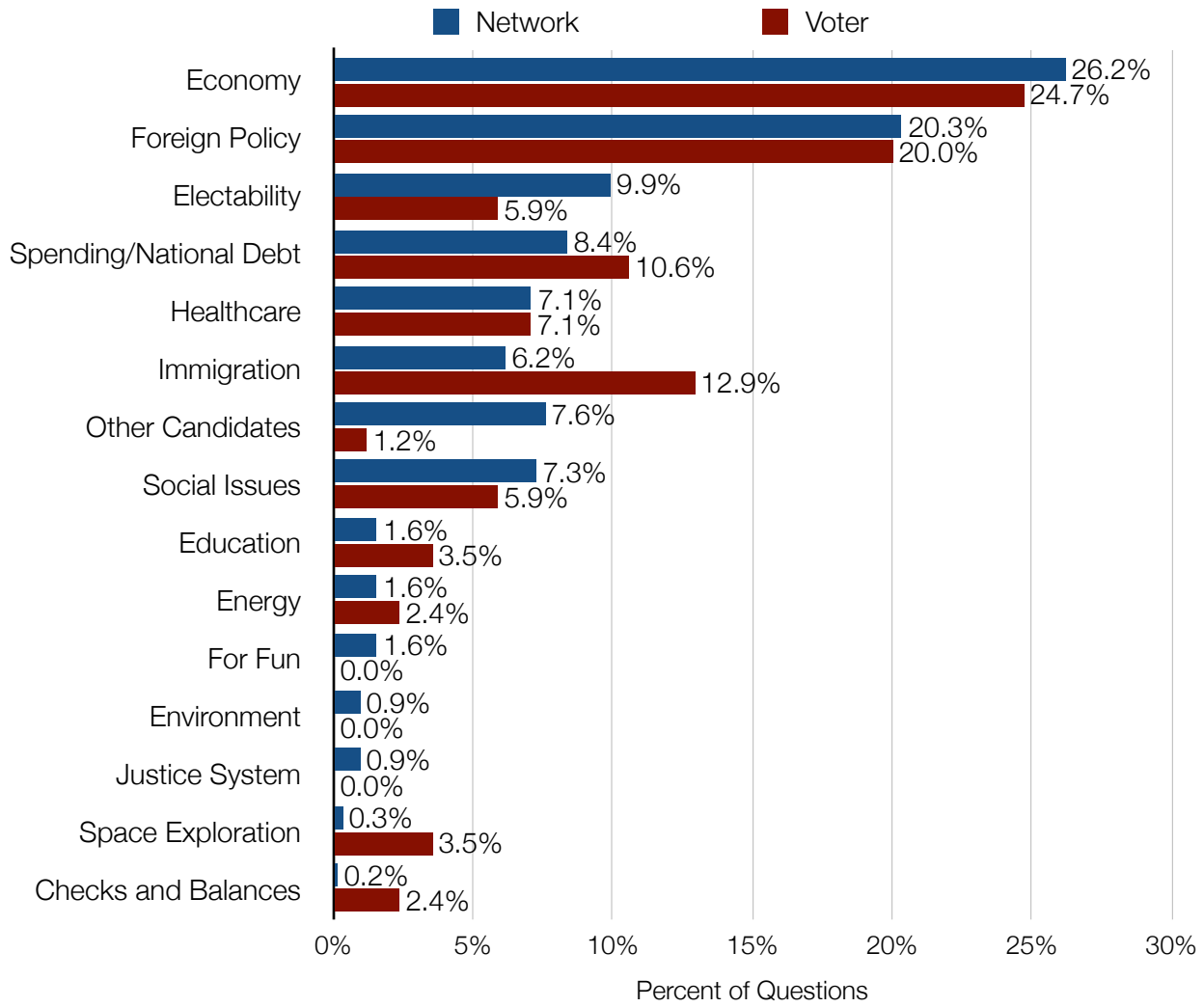


Network	Number of Questions Asked	Most Common Topic Area	Second Most Common Topic Area
Fox News	169	Foreign Policy (42)	Economy (31)
CNN	128	Economy (33)	Electability (18)
NBC News	66	Electability (19)	Economy (16)
CNBC	47	Economy (26)	Foreign Policy (6)
ABC News	39	Other Candidates (10)	Economy (9)
Washington Examiner	24	Economy (9)	Social Issues (8)
Politico	23	Healthcare (7)	Foreign Policy, Spending/ National Debt (4)
National Journal	21	Foreign Policy (14)	Immigration (2)
CBS	17	Foreign Policy (16)	Spending/National Debt (1)
PBS	12	Economy (8)	Spending/National Debt (3)
WMUR	12	Social Issues, Foreign Policy, Economy (3)	Electability, Energy, Spending/National Debt (1)
Washington Post	11	Economy (5)	Foreign Policy, Healthcare, Spending/National Debt (2)
New Hampshire Union Leader	10	Economy, Energy, Environment, Spending, National Debt (2)	Social Issues, Electability (1)
Wall Street Journal	10	Economy (3)	Foreign Policy, Spending/ National Debt (2)

Voter Questions

In many of the debates, moderators asked questions submitted by the audience or by people watching at home (via Twitter or Facebook) as a way to get questions that reflected the issues that average voters cared about. **The distribution of “voter” questions, however, almost identically matched the distribution of the “panelist/moderator” questions.** A large discrepancy existed between the voter questions that were chosen and what voters overall said — in surveys and exit polls — that they cared about. For example, despite the fact that, according to our November 2011 New Models survey, 55% of Republican voters said that economic issues were their top priority in determining how to vote (a preference that was further shown in the exit polls mentioned earlier), less than 25% of questions asked from among those submitted by the audience concerned the economy. And while only 4% of Republican voters said that issues of

foreign affairs and national defense were their top voting issue, 20% of “voter” questions regarded foreign policy.



To Whom Were Questions Directed?

Most Frequently Questioned

Candidate	Number of Questions Directed Toward Him/Her*	Percent of Questions Directed Towards Him/Her*	Number of Debates Attended	Average Number of Questions Per Debate Attended
Romney	194	27.0%	19	10.2
Gingrich	168	23.4%	19	8.8
Paul	163	22.7%	20	8.2
Santorum	159	22.1%	20	8.0
Perry	101	14.0%	13	7.8
Bachmann	94	13.1%	12	7.8
Cain	94	13.1%	11	8.5
Huntsman	73	10.2%	11	6.6
Pawlenty	36	5.0%	3	12.0
Johnson	15	2.1%	2	7.5

* Many questions were asked of multiple candidates, so the percentages do not add up to 100.

Mitt Romney, the eventual nominee, was asked the most questions; **27% of all questions asked were directed at Romney**. Romney was followed by Newt Gingrich (23.4%), Ron Paul (22.7%), and Rick Santorum (22.1%). Considering that these four candidates were the last ones standing and attended more debates than the others, this is hardly surprising. However, it's interesting that Romney and Gingrich — neither of whom attended the first debate — were questioned more than Paul and Santorum, who both attended all 20 debates and thus had an “extra” debate.

What They Were Questioned About

Overall, every candidate was asked questions about a wide variety of topics. **However, some candidates were more likely to be questioned on certain topic areas**. For example, Romney received more questions than average about electability and the economy. While 9.5% of questions to all candidates concerned electability, 12.9% of questions aimed specifically at

Romney had to do with that topic. The same is true with the economy: overall, 26.0% of questions related to economic issues, but 28.9% of Romney's pertained to the economy.

Perry was more often asked about spending/national debt on average (13.9% of his questions, compared to 8.6% of all questions), while Rick Santorum was more likely to be questioned on social issues (11.3% of his questions vs. 7.1% of all questions). Paul was more often asked about other candidates (11.0% vs. 6.8%). Huntsman — not surprisingly since he's a former ambassador — was asked about foreign policy most often (26.0% vs. 20.3%). Herman Cain, again unsurprisingly considering his background as a businessman, was asked more questions about the economy than average (35.1% vs. 26.0%).

Conclusion

In the 2012 Republican presidential primary debates, over the course of nine months, ten different candidates took the stage to debate current political issues, ranging from the national debt to abortion rights to US foreign policy toward Iran.

Through an in-depth analysis of the more than 700 questions asked, we can see that the distribution of topics didn't quite match what voters were concerned about. For more than half of Republican voters, the economy was by far the most important issue for them when considering who to vote for. Yet, only a fourth of the overall questions pertained to the economy.

Certainly, the distribution of debate questions will never perfectly match voters' priorities. After all, presidential debates are also designed to help ensure that candidates are competent on a wide range of topics. Still, the debate analysis shows that the distribution of the questions asked in 2012 didn't reflect the Republican electorate's top concerns. Looking forward to the 2016 Republican primary debates, it's important to ensure that questioners keep the Republican electorate's priorities in mind; for the foreseeable future, it seems that those priorities will center around issues concerning the economy and jobs.

Sources, Methodology, and Appendix

Image Sources

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Methodology

Analysis using SPSS software of database compiling all 719 questions using widely available transcripts and videos of the 20 debates. Categorized by general topic area of question, specific topic area, asker, asker network, and to whom it was asked.

Appendix – All Questions Asked in 2012 Republican Primary Debates

Table 1: List of 20 Debates in Chronological Order.

Table 2: List of All 719 Questions.

Debate Order	Location, Date, Sponsor	Main Moderator(s)	Participants											
			Bachmann	Cain	Gingrich	Huntsman	Johnson	Paul	Pawlenty	Perry	Romney	Santorum		
1	SC, 5/5/11 Fox News / South Carolina Republican Party	Bret Baier, Chris Wallace, Juan Williams, Shannon Bream		x				x	x	x				x
2	NH, 6/13/11 CNN / WMUR-TV / Union Leader / Saint Anselm College	John King	x	x	x				x	x			x	x
3	IA, 8/11/11 Fox News / Washington Examiner / Iowa Republican Party	Bret Baier, Chris Wallace, Susan Ferrechio, Byron York	x	x	x	x			x	x			x	x
4	CA, 9/7/11 MSNBC / Politico / Reagan Library	Brian Williams, John Harris	x	x	x	x			x			x	x	x
5	FL, 9/12/11 CNN / Tea Party Express	Wolf Blitzer	x	x	x	x			x			x	x	x
6	FL, 9/22/11 Fox News / Google / Florida Republican Party	Bret Baier, Megyn Kelly, Chris Wallace	x	x	x	x		x	x			x	x	x
7 (focus on econ.)	NH, 10/11/11 Bloomberg / WBIN-TV / Washington Post	Charlie Rose, Karen Tumulty, Juliana Goldman	x	x	x	x			x			x	x	x

Debate Order	Location, Date, Sponsor	Main Moderator(s)	Participants										
			Bachmann	Cain	Gingrich	Huntsman	Johnson	Paul	Pawlenty	Perry	Romney	Santorum	
8	NV, 10/18/11 CNN / Western Republican Leadership Conf.	Anderson Cooper	x	x	x				x		x	x	x
9	MI, 11/9/11 CNBC / Michigan Republican Party	Maria Bartiromo, John Harwood	x	x	x	x			x		x	x	x
10 (focus on foreign policy/national security)	SC, 11/12/11 CBS / National Journal / South Carolina Republican Party	Major Garrett, Scott Pelley	x	x	x	x			x		x	x	x
11 (focus on national security)	DC, 11/22/11 CNN / Heritage Foundation / American Enterprise Institute	Wolf Blitzer	x	x	x	x			x		x	x	x
12	IA, 12/10/11 ABC News / WOI-DT / Des Moines Register / Iowa Republican Party	Diane Sawyer, George Stephanopoulos	x		x				x		x	x	x
13	IA, 12/15/11 FOX News / Iowa Republican Party	Bret Baier, Megyn Kelly, Chris Wallace, Neil Cavuto	x		x	x			x		x	x	x

Debate Order	Location, Date, Sponsor	Main Moderator(s)	Participants										
			Bachmann	Cain	Gingrich	Huntsman	Johnson	Paul	Pawlenty	Perry	Romney	Santorum	
14	NH, 1/7/12 ABC News / WMUR-TV Saint Anselm College	Diane Sawyer, George Stephanopoulos, Josh McElveen			x	x			x		x	x	x
15	NH, 1/8/12 NBC News / Facebook	David Gregory			x	x			x		x	x	x
16	SC, 1/16/12 Fox News / South Carolina Republican Party	Bret Baier, Juan Williams			x				x		x	x	x
17	SC, 1/19/12 CNN / Southern Republican Leadership Conf.	John King			x				x			x	x
18	FL, 1/23/12 MSNBC / NBC News / National Journal / Tampa Bay Times / Florida Council of 100	Brian Williams, Adam Smith, Beth Reinhard			x				x			x	x
19	FL, 1/26/12 CNN / Republican Party of Florida	Wolf Blitzer			x				x			x	x
20	AZ, 2/22/12 CNN / Arizona Republican Party	John King			x				x			x	x

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
1/SC—5/5/11	President Obama...received the praise of city leaders there as well as 9/11 families for ordering the special ops mission that killed the world's number one terrorist Osama Bin Laden. One month ago, you said about President Obama, "He doesn't understand America's place in the world, America's place in history—he is weak." Does he still look weak to you today?	Bret Baier	Pawlenty
1/SC—5/5/11	As president, would you put out a photo of a dead Osama Bin Laden?	Bret Baier	Cain
1/SC—5/5/11	You said Monday President Obama has made the country less safe and his policies have made America's enemies "less fearful and less respectful of us." But, when it comes to going after terrorists for example, drone attacks in Pakistan have more than tripled under president Obama, he sent 30,000 more US troops into Afghanistan last year and he just authorized this mission to kill Bin Laden—how much more aggressive could he be?	Bret Baier	Santorum
1/SC—5/5/11	You have wanted to pull US troops out of Afghanistan for years...if President Paul had been running things, and troops were already out of Afghanistan, wouldn't that mean that Osama Bin Laden would be alive today?	Bret Baier	Paul
1/SC—5/5/11	You're running for president after almost 10 years in Afghanistan, you don't have your own plan yet about what you would do in Afghanistan?...but sir, how would you define winning in Afghanistan right now as you're looking at it as a candidate?	Bret Baier	Cain
1/SC—5/5/11	You are an advocate of getting out of Afghanistan tomorrow. You've also said that you'd support a democratic plan to establish a timetable with an end date for withdrawal of US troops in Afghanistan. Are you worried at all about providing a specific end date and that possibly would enable the Taliban to move in the day after the US troops left?	Bret Baier	Johnson
1/SC—5/5/11	Let's talk about how to reach out to the Arab world in this new post Bin Laden era...question, in this Arab Spring when young people across the Middle East are protesting, not bombing, can the American president afford to be seen as anti-Islam?	Chris Wallace	Santorum
1/SC—5/5/11	You say the prison at Guantanamo should be closed that the detainees there have not been given due process. Governor Pawlenty said a couple months ago that bullies respect strength not weakness, is governor Pawlenty wrong?... I'd like to follow up on this with you Governor Pawlenty because you mentioned it in your first answer, we heard a very different opinion from Congressman Paul.	Chris Wallace	Paul, Pawlenty
1/SC—5/5/11	Raise your hand if you would support a resumption of water boarding under any circumstances.	Chris Wallace	Paul, Pawlenty, Santorum, Johnson, Cain
1/SC—5/5/11	Among your proposals for getting the private sector to start hiring are eliminating corporate income tax, doing away with the Federal minimum wage law and to stop extending unemployment benefits, isn't that just a windfall for big business?	Juan Williams	Johnson
1/SC—5/5/11	Governor Pawlenty, despite 10 years of the Bush tax cuts, the unemployment rate here in South Carolina was 9.6% in March. Do you have any ideas for stimulating the job market beyond continued tax cuts?	Juan Williams	Pawlenty
1/SC—5/5/11	What will President Cain do to alleviate skyrocketing gas prices?	Juan Williams	Cain

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
1/SC—5/5/11	You've had a lot to say about Romneycare...84% of Massachusetts residents are satisfied with the plan—why isn't that good enough for you?	Shannon Bream	Pawlenty
1/SC—5/5/11	He says Republicans need to think about repealing the prescription drug plan tied to Medicare. You voted for it...you've said you regretted that vote now. As president, would you vote to repeal that?	Shannon Bream	Santorum
1/SC—5/5/11	You have said that medical malpractice awards are creating a crisis in the medical industry...tort reform could save the federal government \$54 billion over ten years. So why are you against federal tort reform?	Shannon Bream	Paul
1/SC—5/5/11	You say that Republicans should refuse to raise the debt limit unless Democrats agree to take out all funding for Obamacare. Is blocking Obama healthcare reform more important than keeping the country from default?	Chris Wallace	Santorum
1/SC—5/5/11	How do you defend your plan on Medicare to turn it into a voucher system... right away, for seniors who are already in the program?	Chris Wallace	Santorum
1/SC—5/5/11	You routinely vote against raising the debt limit. Would you let the country go into default? And you want to cut spending...eliminating everything from the Federal Reserve to the Department of Homeland Security. Under your plan, what would you leave for the federal government to do?	Chris Wallace	Paul
1/SC—5/5/11	You say, abolish the IRS and impose a fair tax of 23%...according to experts, the practical effect of this would be a tax cut for the wealthy and a tax increase for the middle class.	Chris Wallace	Paul
1/SC—5/5/11	You say in Minnesota you balanced the budget without raising taxes, but...you used a lot of one-time fixes...you left your state with a projected deficit of \$6 billion.	Chris Wallace	Pawlenty
1/SC—5/5/11	You say that Medicare and Medicaid should be cut almost in half, turned into block grants, and that the state should run healthcare. Won't Democrats be able to, in 2012, tell seniors that Republicans want to take away their Medicare?	Chris Wallace	Johnson
1/SC—5/5/11	You have said that, sometimes, states should be empowered to enforce laws the federal government will not. When it comes to Arizona's controversial immigration bill...did Arizona go too far?	Shannon Bream	Cain
1/SC—5/5/11	You've worked against a path to citizenship and for making English the national language of the US...does the GOP run the risk of alienating Hispanic voters?	Shannon Bream	Santorum
1/SC—5/5/11	You said we should make it easier for immigrants to come here and work in the US...you also referred to an "amnesty grace period"...what is that?	Shannon Bream	Johnson
1/SC—5/5/11	For Syria, which action, in your mind, is the right one?	Bret Baier	Cain
1/SC—5/5/11	You faulted President Obama for saying US policy was to depose Libyan dictator Qaddafi, but then failing to send US special forces to do the job. Wouldn't your policy result in either chaos or prolonged US involvement?	Juan Williams	Pawlenty
1/SC—5/5/11	Intelligence officials are saying there is no doubt that active or retired Pakistani military provided some aid to Osama Bin Laden...would you cut off the \$3.2 billion the US provides annually to Pakistan?	Juan Williams	Santorum
1/SC—5/5/11	You have expressed concern that Israel will act unilaterally and start war with Iran...how does President Paul plan to stop Israel from attacking?	Juan Williams	Paul
1/SC—5/5/11	Trump has proposed putting a 25% tax on Chinese imports if China does not stop manipulating its currency—do you agree with that? What would you do?	Bret Baier	Johnson

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
1/SC—5/5/11	You were asked, should gays be allowed to marry, you said, "Sure they can do whatever they want and call it whatever they want." Are you advocating legalizing gay marriage in this country?	Shannon Bream	Paul
1/SC—5/5/11	Given that answer, I have to ask you about your views on the Defense of Marriage Act which defines marriage as between one man and one woman. Even just weeks ago you criticized this administration for its decision to no longer defend it against legal challenges.	Shannon Bream	Paul
1/SC—5/5/11	You have said the administration's decision not to defend DOMA is "a breach of presidential duty bordering on treason." That's some pretty tough language, isn't this country just moving toward accepting gay marriage?	Shannon Bream	Cain
1/SC—5/5/11	Most Republicans and everyone else on the stage but you have identified themselves as pro life; you have said that abortion should be legal until the fetus is viable. How do you hope to woo conservative GOP voters here in South Carolina and across the country with that position?	Shannon Bream	Johnson
1/SC—5/5/11	You identify yourself as strongly pro life, but you don't oppose government funding for research on existing stem cell lines already derived from embryos, but isn't that still spending tax payer money on elements that were generated by, at some point destroying an embryo?	Shannon Bream	Pawlenty
1/SC—5/5/11	"Declare a truce on social issues in the next election"—is he right? Are you willing to tone down your positions on abortion and homosexuality, in an effort to reach more voters and to help the GOP coalesce behind a more fiscally focused platform?	Shannon Bream	Santorum
1/SC—5/5/11	In Wisconsin, Governor Walker has ended collective bargaining rights for some civil service workers, Mr. Cain, does the GOP risk the perception it's becoming the union busting party?	Juan Williams	Cain
1/SC—5/5/11	Congressman Paul, I have the same question for you sir, but let me add that Republicans have historically had success when appealing to union voters, blue collar voters, do you see danger in the GOP alienating union members?	Juan Williams	Paul
1/SC—5/5/11	Do you equate the teaching of creationism with the teaching of evolution as the basis for what should be taught for our nation's schools? And I ask that in this sense, do you personally equate a faith based theory with scientific inquiry?	Juan Williams	Pawlenty
1/SC—5/5/11	...ask you each about an issue that could be a problem for you down the road in this campaign. Governor Pawlenty, you now say that that was a dumb mistake, but weren't you in fact far more committed to cap and trade over those years than you now led on?	Chris Wallace	Pawlenty
1/SC—5/5/11	"Many women find it easier, more professionally gratifying, and certainly more socially affirming , to work outside the home...Here, we can thank the influence of radical feminism." Question, have you changed your opinion of why women work?	Chris Wallace	Santorum
1/SC—5/5/11	You say that the federal government should stay out of people's personal habits—you say marijuana, cocaine, even heroin should be legal if states want to permit it; you feel the same about prostitution and gay marriage. Question sir, why should social conservatives in South Carolina vote for you for president?	Chris Wallace	Paul
1/SC—5/5/11	Governor Johnson, you say we should not only legalize and tax marijuana, you admit that you smoked it when it was still illegal in your state of New Mexico, after suffering several serious and very painful bone fractures. Question, how far would you go in legalizing drugs sir?	Chris Wallace	Johnson

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
1/SC—5/5/11	Mr. Cain, you've never held office...you lost the Republican Senate primary in Georgia, you got just 26% of the vote, in that campaign, you said your opponent was prochoice because he would allowed abortions in the case of rape and incest. You have an impressive personal history sir, but why do you have any belief that you stand a chance to win this nomination, let alone the presidency?	Chris Wallace	Cain
1/SC—5/5/11	after the mission to kill Osama Bin Laden...Some on the left are now saying President Obama is unbeatable in his reelection effort, why are those pundits on the left wrong and what is his biggest vulnerability?	Bret Baier	Paul, Pawlenty, Santorum, Johnson, Cain
1/SC—5/5/11	You supported Governor Romney in 2008, what did you see in him back then that led you to support his campaign?	Bret Baier	Cain
1/SC—5/5/11	Mike Huckabee is still considering whether to even run, and he is already beating you quite badly in the polls, even in Iowa. Sir, if he gets in this race, are you out of business?	Chris Wallace	Pawlenty
1/SC—5/5/11	Congressman Paul, a lot of folks consider you the founding father of the Tea Party Movement, now Congresswoman Michelle Bachman has founded and heads up the Tea Party Caucus in the House. Has she eclipsed you?	Shannon Bream	Paul
1/SC—5/5/11	Senator Santorum, a former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, after pulling out of his South Carolina debate, appears ready to announce his presidential candidacy next week in Georgia. As a social conservative, Senator, do you have a problem with Gingrich's past personal behavior?	Juan Williams	Santorum
1/SC—5/5/11	Governor Johnson, if you had a reality TV show like Donald Trump does, what would it be?	Bret Baier	Johnson
2/NH—6/13/11	The Democrats say that the Republicans don't have any plans to create jobs, -- and jobs in the private sector, not in the government. I'd like to know, what are those plans?	Voter	Cain
2/NH—6/13/11	...he said you could grow the economy 5 percent a year, then 5 percent a year, then 5 percent a year. Do you believe that is a possible? Or is that too optimistic to the American people, who want help but don't want to be misled?	John King	Santorum
2/NH—6/13/11	Governor Pawlenty, answer the critics -- and as you do so -- who say 5 percent every year is just unrealistic. And as you do so, where's the proof -- where's the proof that just cutting taxes will create jobs? If that were true, why during the Bush years, after the big tax cut, where were the jobs?	John King	Pawlenty
2/NH—6/13/11	Governor Romney, I want you to come in on that point. Is 5 percent overly optimistic? And is it fair to compare the United States' economy, a fully developed economy, to the Chinese economy, which is still in many ways developing?	John King	Pawlenty
2/NH—6/13/11	Mr. Speaker, if you look at a poll in the Boston Globe just the other day, 54 percent of Republican voters in this state say they're willing to have higher taxes on the wealthy to help bring down the deficit. Are they wrong?	John King	Gingrich
2/NH—6/13/11	Answer the American out there who says maybe I don't like all of the details, but after what happened in 2007 and 2008, I don't want Wall Street to not have somebody looking at them, watching what they're doing.	John King	Bachmann
2/NH—6/13/11	You're all here saying the president of the United States is making the economy worse. Has he done one thing -- has he done one thing right when it comes to the economy in this country?	John King	Paul

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
2/NH—6/13/11	As a journalist who's written frequently about health care and medicine for both newspapers and for corporate publications, I'm very concerned about the overreach of the massive health care legislation that was passed last year. My question is, what would each candidate do? What three steps would they take to defund Obamacare and repeal it as soon as possible?	Voter	Bachmann
2/NH—6/13/11	...called your Massachusetts plan, which you know has become a focal point of the criticism in this campaign from your friends here, Obamneycare, Obamneycare. Is that a fair comparison?	John King	Romney
2/NH—6/13/11	You just heard the governor rebut your characterization, Obamneycare. Why?	John King	Pawlenty
2/NH—6/13/11	Mr. Speaker, you have at times said, you know, maybe you do have a consider a mandate. You've been very open to the individual mandate. It has become, it seems, at least at the moment, a litmus test in this Republican primary. Should it be?	John King	Gingrich
2/NH—6/13/11	How will you convince myself? I'm not a libertarian Republican, I'm not a Tea Party Republican. I'm just a mainstream Republican. And we need both -- the independents and mainstream Republicans to win in November. How can you convince me and assure me that you'll bring a balance and you won't be torn to one side or the other for many factions within the party?	John King	Santorum, Bachmann
2/NH—6/13/11	Address the concern of the gentleman who seems to think that at least some people in the Tea Party maybe in their dissatisfaction, their anger of the president are too negative, too critical.	John King	Cain
2/NH—6/13/11	Well, for the candidates I'd like to know how they plan on returning manufacturing jobs to the United States.	Voter	Paul, Pawlenty, Santorum
2/NH—6/13/11	Should the United States government, the federal government we say help in community colleges with their vocational training programs and things like that?	John King	Bachmann
2/NH—6/13/11	My question is, where do you fall on right to work and would you support a federal right-to-work law?	Josh McElveen	Pawlenty, Gingrich, Cain
2/NH—6/13/11	Leno or Conan?	John King	Santorum
2/NH—6/13/11	Elvis or Johnny Cash?	John King	Bachmann
2/NH—6/13/11	The federal government now assists many industries, green jobs, the auto industry, research and development, all get subsidies. Given the current state of the economy, what standards do you have, if any, for government assistance to private enterprise?	John Distaso	Paul
2/NH—6/13/11	I want to ask you because you're a businessman who initially at least supported the TARP program...you said, quote, "We needed to do something drastic because we were facing a very drastic situation."	John King	Cain
2/NH—6/13/11	General Motors and Chrysler have rebounded since the Obama administration bailed them up. Bankruptcy is no longer a threat. Would you say the bailout program was a success?	Tom Fahey	Romney
2/NH—6/13/11	Is there anyone here who, given that prospect...who would have stepped in and said, "I don't want to do this, but this is the backbone of American manufacturing, I'll do something"?	John King	Santorum, Bachmann
2/NH—6/13/11	What role should the government play in future space exploration?	Voter	Gingrich

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
2/NH—6/13/11	Is there any candidate who would step in and say, no, this is vital to America's identity, this is vital to America's innovation, I want the government to stay in the lead here when it comes to manned space flight? Nobody?	John King	Pawlenty, Gingrich, Romney
2/NH—6/13/11	Roughly right now, there are about a million homes in the hands of banks and lenders, millions of more homeowners are upside-down, meaning they owe more than their home is worth. What would you or your administration do to try to right the housing ship?	Josh McElveen	Pawlenty
2/NH—6/13/11	So talk about foreclosures a bit, but then tell me something, if you were President and you were dealing with it in your first few weeks, and you said, "I might like to do this, but I can't afford to do this," be as specific as you can, what goes?	John King	Paul
2/NH—6/13/11	Should the federal government be doing food safety inspections?	John King	Cain
2/NH—6/13/11	FEMA is about to run out of money, and there are some people who say do it on a case-by-case basis and some people who say, you know, maybe we're learning a lesson here that the states should take on more of this role. How do you deal with something like that?	John King	Romney
2/NH—6/13/11	Dancing with the Stars or American Idol?	John King	Gingrich
2/NH—6/13/11	BlackBerry or iPhone?	John King	Paul
2/NH—6/13/11	As a member of the Baby Boomer generation, I've been contributing to Medicare through payroll taxes for over 30 years. How do you propose to keep Medicare financially solvent for the next 50 years and beyond?	Voter	Paul, Pawlenty, Gingrich
2/NH—6/13/11	Should the Republicans slow down?	John King	Santorum, Cain
2/NH—6/13/11	What is your specific Social Security reform plan in regards to raising the retirement age, at what ages, cutting benefits and what income level means testing kicking in?...Are you going to raise the retirement age as president of the United States?	John Distaso	Cain
2/NH—6/13/11	The Treasury Department says the United States will hit its credit limit on August the 2nd. Do you believe we will ultimately have to raise the debt ceiling?	Jennifer Vaughn	Romney
2/NH—6/13/11	If you can't get that on the short term and this date approaches, those negotiations are continuing, what is your price tag -- what is your price tag in at least a first wave of cuts? And if you don't get it, would you say to the House Republicans, "No, let the government go into default, that's where we need to stand"?	John King	Bachmann
2/NH—6/13/11	I'm just wondering what your definition of the separation of church and state is, and how it will affect your decision-making.	Voter	Pawlenty, Santorum, Paul
2/NH—6/13/11	Are American-Muslims as a group less committed to the Constitution than, say, Christian or Jews?	John King	Cain
2/NH—6/13/11	In any case, should one segment be singled out and treated differently?	John King	Romney, Gingrich
2/NH—6/13/11	Deep dish or thin crust?	John King	Cain
2/NH—6/13/11	Maybe it's here in New Hampshire, maybe it's South Carolina ordering some wings. Spicy or mild?	John King	Romney

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
2/NH—6/13/11	New Hampshire is one of five states where individuals who happen to be gay can marry legally...what influence would you use from the White House to try to overturn these state laws despite your own personal belief that states should handle their own affairs whenever possible and in many circumstances?	John Distaso	Bachmann
2/NH—6/13/11	Are you a George W. Bush Republican, meaning a constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriage, or a Dick Cheney who, like I believe, the congresswoman just said, this should be made -- this decision, same sex marriage, should be a state's decision?	John King	Cain, Pawlenty, Paul, Romney, Gingrich, Bachmann, Santorum
2/NH—6/13/11	If you become president of the United States, now that gays are allowed to serve openly in the military, would you leave that policy in place or would you try to change it, go back to "don't ask/don't tell," or something else?	John King	Cain, Pawlenty, Paul, Romney, Gingrich, Bachmann, Santorum
2/NH—6/13/11	You are staunchly pro-life. Governor Romney used to support abortion rights until he changed his position on this a few years ago. This has been thoroughly discussed. But do you believe he genuinely changed his mind, or was that a political calculation? Should this be an issue in this primary campaign?	Jennifer Vaughn	Santorum
2/NH—6/13/11	Representative Bachmann, I have a question for you. Governor Pawlenty says he opposes abortion rights except in cases of rape, incest, or when the mother's life is at stake. Do you have any problem with that position? And if so, why?	Tom Foreman	Bachmann
2/NH—6/13/11	As a naturalized American citizen who came here legally, I would like to know how you, as president, plan to prevent illegal immigrants from using our health care, educational, or welfare systems?	Voter	Santorum, Paul
2/NH—6/13/11	...the whole question of birthright citizenship. If there are two illegal immigrants, two adults who came into this country illegally, and they have a child, should that child be considered a citizen of the United States?	John King	Cain
2/NH—6/13/11	The big SB 1070 making its way to the Supreme Court. Alabama just has a new bill. Would you want to be president of the United States in which each state can decide what it does? Or would you make the point, look, this is a federal purview, period?	John King	Pawlenty
2/NH—6/13/11	Do you -- is that what the states should be doing, the federal government should be spending money and resources on? Or -- or like President Bush and like Senator McCain, at least in the McCain-Kennedy days, should we have some path to status for those who are willing to step up and admit where they are and come out of the shadows?	John King	Gingrich
2/NH—6/13/11	Here in New Hampshire, there is a popular bill that is being considered by our state legislature that would restrict the state's power to seize private land to build a power plant or a transmission facility. Should governments at any level be able to use eminent domain for major projects that will reduce America's dependence on foreign oil?	John Distaso	Paul, Romney
2/NH—6/13/11	The Senate tomorrow is going to be voting on possibly abolishing the ethanol tax, effective July 1st...major impact on our friends in another early voting state in Iowa. They grow corn. This is a move that would basically remove tax credits worth \$6 billion. Question to you is, do you support abolishing?	Josh McElveen	Santorum

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
2/NH—6/13/11	Coke or Pepsi?	John King	Pawlenty
2/NH—6/13/11	Osama bin Laden is dead. We've been in Afghanistan for ten years. Isn't it time to bring our combat troops home from Afghanistan?	Voter	Romney, Paul
2/NH—6/13/11	The strikes in Yemen have been targeted at al Qaeda leaders, at al Qaeda operatives, who the president of the United States, who happens to be a Democrat in his case, views as serious threats against this nation. Do you agree with Congressman Paul there or do you agree with President Obama and the strikes?	John King	Pawlenty
2/NH—6/13/11	Should the president have supported and jointed more U.S. presence, but now a NATO operation? Was that the right thing to do? Is that in the vital national interest of the United States of America?	John King	Bachmann, Gingrich
2/NH—6/13/11	We have something like 900 military bases all around the world. I want to know if there's a candidate on the stage who is willing to shut down the bulk -- not the bulk of these bases, but the bases that aren't vital to our national security, and take that money to pay off our national debt?	Voter	Santorum
2/NH—6/13/11	Early polls show a lack of enthusiasm for this field of candidates. Most of you will say that you don't watch polls, but shouldn't you pay attention to public sentiment? And aren't these polls a direct reflection of what voters are and are not looking for?	Jennifer Vaughn	Cain
2/NH—6/13/11	Governor Pawlenty to you, look back on 2008 and the process. President Obama made a pick. Senator McCain made a pick. Who made the best choice?	John King	Pawlenty
2/NH—6/13/11	If...you're only allowed to hire one of the candidates on the stage, which one would it be and why?	John King	Romney, Bachmann, Paul
2/NH—6/13/11	What have you learned in the last two hours?	John King	Cain, Pawlenty, Paul, Romney, Gingrich, Bachmann, Santorum
3/IA—8/11/11	Congresswoman Bachmann, you say you can turn the economy around within one quarter by cutting taxes, reducing spending, and repealing the health care law...Isn't it unrealistic to suggest that something as massive and complex as the U.S. economy can rebound in just three months?	Bret Baier	Bachmann
3/IA—8/11/11	Congresswoman Bachmann says she can start to turn the economy around in three months. How long would it take you?	Bret Baier	Romney
3/IA—8/11/11	Governor Romney, you mentioned leadership on the economy. You are the front-runner in this GOP field, yet when it came to weighing in on the debt ceiling deal in Congress, something that had a major impact on the economy, many on this stage say you were missing in action....if you were president, you would have vetoed that bill?	Bret Baier	Romney
3/IA—8/11/11	As you know, when Standard & Poor's downgraded the country's credit rating last week, one of the reasons S&P listed was because of partisan gridlock in Washington. Congressman, what specific things would you do as president to increase growth, calm the markets, create jobs that could pass through a divided Congress?	Bret Baier	Paul
3/IA—8/11/11	We know you have a four-point economic plan. But one specific thing, what one specific thing would President Cain do first to restart the economic engine? And, again, with the caveat: That one thing would have to get through a divided Congress.	Bret Baier	Cain

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
3/IA—8/11/11	Governor Huntsman, you told the "New Hampshire Union Leader" recently you intend to convene a "council of business leaders" to figure without is needed to improve our economy...In the middle of an economic crisis, shouldn't you already have a pretty detailed plan by now?	Bret Baier	Huntsman
3/IA—8/11/11	Some people on this stage have run big companies, some have turned around companies, some managed payrolls. What makes you more qualified than anyone else on this stage to create jobs and grow the economy?	Bret Baier	Gingrich
3/IA—8/11/11	Governor Pawlenty, you say your economic plan with tax cuts and spending caps would grow the economy by an average rate of five percent a year for 10 years...With the last two quarters averaging less than one percent growth -- and even some Republican budget analysts, very skeptical, openly skeptical of that plan -- is your proposal just pie in the sky?	Bret Baier	Pawlenty
3/IA—8/11/11	Senator Santorum, nothing about your lawn, but Governor Pawlenty says America can quickly grow five percent a year for 10 years, with the right mix of policies. Is he right?	Bret Baier	Santorum
3/IA—8/11/11	Governor Pawlenty, you say that Representative Bachmann has no accomplishments in Congress. You have questioned her ability to serve as president because of her history of migraines. Question, governor, is she unqualified or is she just beating you in the polls?	Chris Wallace	Pawlenty
3/IA—8/11/11	Congresswoman Bachmann, I'm going to ask you in a moment your own question about Governor Pawlenty. But I want to give you an opportunity to respond to his comments...Congresswoman Bachmann, isn't that about the worst thing you can say about a fellow Republican in this campaign, that he reminds you of Barack Obama?	Chris Wallace	Bachmann
3/IA—8/11/11	When you were governor, Massachusetts ranked 47th of the 50 states in job growth...question, you are going to be the jobs president?	Chris Wallace	Romney
3/IA—8/11/11	They said that you were undisciplined in campaigning and fundraising, and at last report, you're a million dollars in debt. How do you respond to people who say that your campaign has been a mess so far?	Chris Wallace	Gingrich
3/IA—8/11/11	You supported a stimulus package in 2009. In fact, you said the Obama stimulus package was not big enough. As governor, you signed onto a regional cap-and-trade market. You endorsed civil unions for same-sex couples. And you served as President Obama's ambassador to China. Some people have suggested that maybe you're running for president in the wrong party.	Chris Wallace	Huntsman
3/IA—8/11/11	Mr. Cain, you have a compelling personal story and a strong record as a businessman, but you also have a growing list of questionable statements in this campaign, and I want to ask you about those, if I may, sir...How do you reassure people that you know enough to be president of the United States, sir?	Chris Wallace	Cain
3/IA—8/11/11	You said, quote, "There's got to be an alternative to sending them back. That's unrealistic." Governor Huntsman, are you proposing citizenship for illegal aliens?	Susan Ferrechio	Huntsman
3/IA—8/11/11	In 2008, you said you favored allowing American companies to hire more skilled foreign workers. With the unemployment rate now at 9.1 percent, do you still think that employers need to import more foreign labor?	Susan Ferrechio	Romney

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
3/IA—8/11/11	When President Obama joked about protecting the borders with alligators and a moat, not only did you embrace the idea, you upped the ante with "a 20-foot barbed wire electrified fence." Were you serious?	Susan Ferrechio	Cain
3/IA—8/11/11	Speaker Gingrich, you recently told Univision that you're looking at the idea of having citizen boards choose which illegal immigrants can stay in the country and which would have to go. Who decides the memberships of these boards, and how would they work?	Susan Ferrechio	Gingrich
3/IA—8/11/11	Congressman Paul, you are opposed to a system that requires employers to verify the immigration status of their workers. Why would you want to eliminate one more tool to help curb illegal immigration?	Susan Ferrechio	Paul
3/IA—8/11/11	You said you used a combination of spending cuts and new revenues to put Massachusetts on a more sound financial footing. You even approvingly cited a tax increase passed by the Democratic state legislature...Doesn't this show that sometimes raising taxes is necessary?	Byron York	Romney
3/IA—8/11/11	In 2005, you levied a new tax on cigarettes, which you called a health impact fee. You said you had to compromise with a Democratic legislature to end government shutdown. But doesn't that show that when leaders are faced with big deficits, they sometimes have to raise taxes?	Byron York	Pawlenty
3/IA—8/11/11	This is a question also about that cigarette tax increase. You were in the Minnesota state legislature at the time. And you said you opposed the tax, but in the end, you voted for it. Now you promise never to raise taxes. Why would you compromise then, but not now?	Byron York	Bachmann
3/IA—8/11/11	The deficit cutting super committee is now getting to work. Democrats will demand that savings come from a combination of spending cuts and tax increases, maybe \$3 in cuts for every \$1 in higher taxes. Is there any ratio of cuts to taxes that you would accept? Three to one? Four to one? Or even 10 to one?	Byron York	Santorum
3/IA—8/11/11	Well, I'm going to ask a question to everyone here on the stage. Say you had a deal, a real spending cuts deal, 10 to one, as -- as Byron said, spending cuts to tax increases. But who on this stage would walk away from that deal? Can you raise your hand if you feel so strongly about not raising taxes, you'd walk away on the 10 to one deal?	Byron York	Santorum, Gingrich, Huntsman, Romney, Pawlenty, Bachmann, Cain, Paul
3/IA—8/11/11	You've said that the president's plan and the Romney plan are so similar that you called them both ObamneyCare...Could you please tell Governor Romney, who's two down from you, what he and President Obama have conspired to do?	Chris Wallace	Pawlenty
3/IA—8/11/11	Do you think that government at any level has the right to make someone buy a good or service just because they are a U.S. resident? Where do you find that authority, that mandating authority, government making an individual buy a good or service in the Constitution?	Chris Wallace	Romney
3/IA—8/11/11	Congresswoman Bachmann, you are a big believer in the 10th Amendment and the idea of granting power to the states. So let me ask you: Does that make any difference whether mandatory health insurance is being imposed by a state or by the federal government?	Chris Wallace	Bachmann

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
3/IA—8/11/11	Congressman Paul, you are a constitutional expert, and you talk a lot about the Constitution. What do you think of this argument, that the state has a constitutional right to make someone buy a good or service just because they're a resident, not because they're driving and need a driver's license, but just the fact that they are a resident?	Chris Wallace	Paul
3/IA—8/11/11	Senator Santorum, I see you wanting to jump in. Your thoughts about Romneycare?	Chris Wallace	Santorum
3/IA—8/11/11	What about Texas Governor Perry?	Bret Baier	Paul, Cain, Huntsman
3/IA—8/11/11	Former governor Sarah Palin is here in Iowa this week as well. She's not in this race yet either. Congresswoman Bachmann, is she stealing your thunder?	Bret Baier	Bachmann
3/IA—8/11/11	Almost 10 years after 9/11, after the killing of Osama bin Laden, with casualties mounting there, costs adding up, many people calling the government there corrupt, is it still worth it?	Bret Baier	Pawlenty, Santorum
3/IA—8/11/11	In June 2009, you argued that America's willingness to fight wars of liberation, quote, "nurture democracy and human rights all over the world," was what made America, quote, "the hope of the earth." Basically a full embrace of George W. Bush's freedom agenda. Yet last debate about Afghanistan you said this, quote, "we've learned that our troops shouldn't go off and try to fight a war of independence for another nation." Those two statements are dramatically different. Have your views changed?	Bret Baier	Romney
3/IA—8/11/11	You said, quote, "exercise a no-fly zone this evening, communicate to the Libyan military that Gadhafi was gone, and that sooner they switched sides the more likely they were to survive." After the president launched military action a few days later you said, quote, "I would not have intervened. I think there were other ways to affect Gadhafi." Are you certain about the way forward in Libya and where it stands now?	Bret Baier	Gingrich
3/IA—8/11/11	Experts said, quote, all signs point to China. Would you as president consider cyber attacks acts of war?	Bret Baier	Huntsman
3/IA—8/11/11	You say we have to prevent Iran from getting nuclear weapons. You also recently said that Syrian President Assad must go. Would you rely on the same idea of international sanctions that President Obama has been using? Or would you be more forward-leaning in possibly using military action?	Chris Wallace	Pawlenty
3/IA—8/11/11	Congressman Paul, you say that President Obama is not too soft on Iran; he is too tough on Iran. I want to put up some of your statements. "Sanctions are not diplomacy," you say...Is that your policy towards Iran?	Chris Wallace	Paul
3/IA—8/11/11	...the way you stop Iran from getting a nuclear weapon is for us to get serious about a real energy-independent strategy. Do you really think that more domestic oil production in this country is going to convince the mullahs in Tehran not to pursue a nuclear weapon?	Chris Wallace	Cain
3/IA—8/11/11	Congressman Paul says terrorism suspects should be given due process in civilian courts. Could you please tell Congressman Paul why he's wrong?	Chris Wallace	Bachmann
3/IA—8/11/11	And, in fact, you've suggested, perhaps, smoking mushrooms, to want to try terrorists in civilian court. Are you also suggesting that Congressman Paul is under the influence?	Chris Wallace	Santorum

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3/IA—8/11/11	Are you really comparing American Muslims to Nazis? And what specific loyalty test would you require them to take?	Byron York	Gingrich
3/IA—8/11/11	Mr. Cain, you recently said this about Governor Romney's Mormon faith: "It doesn't bother me, but I do know it's an issue with a lot of Southerners." Could you tell us what it is about Mormonism that Southerners find objectionable?	Byron York	Cain
3/IA—8/11/11	As president, would you be submissive to your husband?	Byron York	Bachmann
3/IA—8/11/11	Now that the New York state legislature has legalized gay marriage, do you believe state lawmakers have the right to make same-sex marriage legal in their states?	Byron York	Romney
3/IA—8/11/11	You support civil unions. Why are you right and most other candidates along with most GOP caucus goers, why are they wrong?	Byron York	Huntsman
3/IA—8/11/11	Recently Senator Santorum asked if a state wanted to allow polygamy, would that be okay too? What is your answer to that?	Byron York	Paul
3/IA—8/11/11	In June, you said, "I believe that any doctor who performs an abortion should be criminally charged for doing so." You would allow no exceptions for cases of rape and incest. Polls have long shown that large majorities of Americans support at least some exceptions for abortion. Are your views too much, even for many conservatives to support?	Byron York	Santorum
3/IA—8/11/11	You often cite an article in National Review saying you may be the strongest pro-life candidate in the race. What's your opinion on what Senator Santorum said about exceptions? And isn't he more pro-life than you are?...Do you support criminal charges for doctors who perform abortions?	Byron York	Pawlenty
3/IA—8/11/11	Jobless benefits for millions of Americans are about to expire in just a few months. If you were president right now, would you extend them?	Susan Ferrechio	Romney
3/IA—8/11/11	Isn't it accurate to say that, as far as your time in the private sector, you've got more experience creating jobs overseas?	Susan Ferrechio	Huntsman
3/IA—8/11/11	If you had your way, the debt ceiling would not have been raised. What do you say to analysts who insist that Americans' investments, their 401(k)s, their college funds would have been far worse off today?	Susan Ferrechio	Bachmann, Cain
3/IA—8/11/11	You say that we can boost job creation by eliminating the tax on companies that bring back overseas profits to the U.S. But when we tried a tax break like this in 2004, companies didn't create jobs. They just paid bigger dividends to their shareholders. Why would it work this time?	Susan Ferrechio	Cain
3/IA—8/11/11	You call for auditing the Fed and stripping it of its banking powers. But Congressman Paul thinks the Fed needs to be abolished to create lasting prosperity. Why is the Fed worth saving?...is Speaker Gingrich wrong to want to save the Fed?	Susan Ferrechio	Gingrich, Paul
3/IA—8/11/11	But a top Tea Party goal, particularly in Iowa, is to revert back to the gold standard, something you oppose. How do you consider yourself in line with the Tea Party without agreeing on this major issue?	Susan Ferrechio	Santorum
3/IA—8/11/11	The Obama administration announced that they would grant waivers to some failing public school systems that couldn't meet the standard of the No Child Left Behind program. If you were president, would you return to full enforcement of this Bush-era law?	Bret Baier	Huntsman, Cain

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
4/CA—9/7/11	You have touted your state's low taxes, the lack of regulation, tough tort reform as the recipe for job growth in the Lone Star State, but Texas ranks last among those who have completed high school, there are only eight other states with more living in poverty, no other state has more working at or below the minimum wage. So is that the kind of answer all Americans are looking for?	Brian Williams	Perry
4/CA—9/7/11	Despite your own private-sector experience, as you know, Massachusetts ranked only 47th in job creation during your tenure as governor. As for your private-sector experience, as Governor Perry's strategist recently put it, consisted of being, quote, "a buyout specialist." Your response to that?	Brian Williams	Romney
4/CA—9/7/11	Bain Capital, a company you helped to form, among other things, often buys up companies, strips them down, gets them ready, resells them at a net job loss to American workers.	Brian Williams	Romney
4/CA—9/7/11	Let's talk about this debate between public sector life's work and private sector life's work. You've spent your life's work, Mr. Cain, in the private sector. And Senator Santorum, most of yours in the public sector.	Brian Williams	Cain, Santorum
4/CA—9/7/11	Governor Huntsman, as you know, Governor Romney's new economic plan calls for the U.S. government to officially label China a currency manipulator... You're a former ambassador to China. You have served four U.S. presidents. In your view, what does Governor Romney not get about China?	Brian Williams	Huntsman
4/CA—9/7/11	Of all of you on this stage, you've been very vocal about wanting less regulation in American life. Which current federal regulations have been prohibitive or damaging in terms of your own small business?	Brian Williams	Bachmann
4/CA—9/7/11	Over to Congressman Paul, you're known as the absolutist in the bunch, someone who has consistently opposed federal government from having any role -- and I think by your definition -- that isn't explicitly laid out in the Constitution. So this makes people curious: Is there a line with you?	Brian Williams	Paul
4/CA—9/7/11	Does that mean, in terms of job creation credentials, he has your proxy at a gathering like this?	Brian Williams	Gingrich
4/CA—9/7/11	What I'd first like to do is ask if anyone else on this stage agrees that the Massachusetts example was a great opportunity for the rest of the country.	John Harris	Perry
4/CA—9/7/11	Let's go to what Governor Perry mentioned, the individual mandate, the government saying that people have to buy health insurance. Was that one of the things that worked in Massachusetts?	John Harris	Romney
4/CA—9/7/11	In Texas, about a quarter of the people don't have health insurance. That's 50 out of 50, dead last. Sir, it's pretty hard to defend dead last...Why are so many people in Texas uninsured?	John Harris	Perry
4/CA—9/7/11	Is it ever appropriate for government at any level -- federal or state -- to force people to buy health insurance?	John Harris	Huntsman, Cain
4/CA—9/7/11	Is Governor Romney's support of an individual mandate disqualifying from the point of view of conservative voters?	John Harris	Bachmann
4/CA—9/7/11	In Massachusetts, where almost everyone is insured, and in Texas, where about a quarter are insured...who's got the better end of this argument?	John Harris	Gingrich
4/CA—9/7/11	Where do the poor come in, in this party, on this stage, and in a Santorum administration?	Brian Williams	Santorum
4/CA—9/7/11	...found that white households have 20 times the median wealth of black households. How would you address that as president?	Brian Williams	Perry

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4/CA—9/7/11	Do you agree that a president can realistically do anything about gas prices?	John Harris	Romney, Bachmann, Huntsman
4/CA—9/7/11	Do you advocate getting rid of the minimum wage? Would that create more jobs?	John Harris	Paul
4/CA—9/7/11	We understand your position that it's got funding problems now. I'd like you to explain your view that Social Security was wrong right from the beginning.	John Harris	Perry
4/CA—9/7/11	How do you have a candid question about Social Security without scaring seniors?	John Harris	Romney
4/CA—9/7/11	Let's talk about Perry's record...He's your home state governor. Is he less conservative than meets the eye?	John Harris	Paul
4/CA—9/7/11	This is an issue you have also talked about, HPV.	John Harris	Bachmann
4/CA—9/7/11	..."unprincipled" for Republicans to vote in favor of creating the Department of Homeland Security. You were one of those Republicans who voted yes. Respond.	John Harris	Santorum
4/CA—9/7/11	You want to demolish the TSA. What would exist in its place?	John Harris	Paul
4/CA—9/7/11	Federal aid, something like FEMA—if you object to what its become, how it's run, and your position is to abolish it, what happens in its absence?	John Harris	Paul
4/CA—9/7/11	Cantor has said that federal disaster aid -- this has been a big discussion of late -- shouldn't be given out unless there are kind of concurrent spending cuts to offset the cost. Do you join in on that?	John Harris	Cain, Huntsman
4/CA—9/7/11	You recently signed a budget cut for millions in education funding. You pushed for greater cuts than were in the budget that the legislature passed. You've said that education is a top priority, but explain cutting it the way you did, please.	Brian Williams	Perry
4/CA—9/7/11	This reminds of "Race to the Top," the Obama Administration education program. You supported it, Governor Perry opted out, some people don't like it. What did you like about it?	Brian Williams	Gingrich
4/CA—9/7/11	What specifically, in your mind, would make the border secure?	Jose Diaz-Balart	Perry, Romney
4/CA—9/7/11	Your perception on immigration reform? And you've been, I think, in some ways, a little different on your initial positions.	John Harris	Gingrich, Santorum
4/CA—9/7/11	So there are 11 million people that -- fait accompli. They're here. What do you do with them if you are able to secure the border?	John Harris	Bachmann, Cain, Huntsman, Paul
4/CA—9/7/11	Governor Romney, are you a member of the Tea Party?	Brian Williams	Romney
4/CA—9/7/11	At the previous debate, everyone on stage raised their hand to say they would not have accepted a debt deal that included \$10 in spending cuts for every \$1 in tax increases. We've been anxious to get you on the record now that you have jumped into this. Would you take that deal?	Brian Williams	Perry, Bachmann, Huntsman
4/CA—9/7/11	I want to go back to your comments on 9/11 to ask kind of an obvious follow-up. Do you think we're safer today?	Brian Williams	Huntsman
4/CA—9/7/11	Governor Romney, would you agree that there's a crisis of confidence in the United States right now?	Brian Williams	Romney
4/CA—9/7/11	Looking back, do you think President George W. Bush was too quick to launch military intervention without thinking through the risks?...Where are some of the places where you think we've seen military adventurism?	John Harris	Perry

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4/CA—9/7/11	To be clear, are you advocating a shift away from the George W. Bush freedom agenda with its emphasis on removing dictators from power and promoting human rights?...And the question is, what role does the U.S. have, including militarily, to promote democracy and topple dictators?	John Harris	Bachmann
4/CA—9/7/11	Your reaction to Congresswoman Bachmann's stand on what we're watching take place in Libya right up until tonight.	Brian Williams	Santorum
4/CA—9/7/11	We're now here face to face. Tell us which one of these people are saying crazy or inane things.	John Harris	Huntsman
4/CA—9/7/11	Just recently in New Hampshire, you said that weekly and even daily scientists are coming forward to question the idea that human activity is behind climate change. Which scientists have you found most credible on this subject?	John Harris	Perry
4/CA—9/7/11	Were you quoted correctly -- and do you stand by it -- as wanting to drill in the Everglades in Florida?	Brian Williams	Bachmann
4/CA—9/7/11	The chairman of the Federal Reserve, Ben Bernanke, will come to the end of his term in 2014. Would you reappoint Ben Bernanke?	Brian Williams	Gingrich, Romney
4/CA—9/7/11	...47 percent of Americans pay no federal income tax, and the promised effort underway soon, at least, in Washington to correct that. Isn't some of this argument semantics? And won't the effort to correct that be a de facto tax increase?	Brian Williams	Romney
4/CA—9/7/11	Governor Perry, a question about Texas. Your state has executed 234 death row inmates, more than any other governor in modern times. Have you struggled to sleep at night with the idea that any one of those might have been innocent?	Brian Williams	Perry
4/CA—9/7/11	The General Electric Corporation last year -- this is a prominent case -- made \$14.2 billion in profits worldwide, but paid no U.S. taxes. Perfectly legal, but does it strike you as fair?	John Harris	Cain
4/CA—9/7/11	Do you think that is any more -- providing nutrition at schools for children -- a role of the federal government?	Brian Williams	Paul
5/FL—9/12/11	How will you convince senior citizens that Social Security and Medicare need to be changed and get their vote?	Voter	Bachmann, Perry
5/FL—9/12/11	You said that Governor Perry's position on Social Security is, quote, unacceptable and could even obliterate the Republican Party. Are you saying he could not, as Republican nominee, beat Barack Obama?	Wolf Blitzer	Romney
5/FL—9/12/11	Do you agree with Governor Perry that Social Security is a Ponzi scheme?	Wolf Blitzer	Paul, Cain
5/FL—9/12/11	When it comes to reforming Social Security, is anything from your perspective off the table?	Wolf Blitzer	Huntsman
5/FL—9/12/11	Speaker Gingrich, would you raise the retirement age for Social Security recipients?	Wolf Blitzer	Gingrich, Santorum
5/FL—9/12/11	What is your plan to balance the budget and get this spending under control so that my children's share of the debt is erased without compromising my retired mother's already tenuous financial future?	Voter	Gingrich
5/FL—9/12/11	Would you repeal prescription drug benefits for seniors under Medicare?	Wolf Blitzer	Santorum, Perry, Romney, Paul, Bachmann
5/FL—9/12/11	My question is, what would you do to get the economy moving forward? Do you have a plan? And, if so, what is it?	Voter	Huntsman

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5/FL—9/12/11	Governor Perry, the president in his new plan has a lot of tax cuts, payroll tax cuts, middle-class tax cuts, tax credits for hiring veterans, tax credits for hiring long-term unemployed people. Are those things you would support?	Wolf Blitzer	Perry, Bachmann, Cain
5/FL—9/12/11	So does Governor Perry deserve any credit for all those jobs that were created in Texas?	Wolf Blitzer	Romney, Paul
5/FL—9/12/11	If you were president, would you work with the Democrats, assuming they were the majority in the House or the Senate? Would you compromise with them on some of these gut issues?	Wolf Blitzer	Gingrich
5/FL—9/12/11	All of you profess to be pro-business candidates for president. Can you be pro-worker at the same time?	Voter	Cain
5/FL—9/12/11	Governor Huntsman, you have experience in the business community, in government. Why would you be more effective in creating jobs than any of your rivals on this stage?	Wolf Blitzer	Huntsman
5/FL—9/12/11	What is your position on the Federal Reserve? Should it indeed be audited and be held accountable by the American people?	Voter	Santorum, Cain
5/FL—9/12/11	You know that Governor Perry has suggested that Ben Bernanke, the head of the Federal Reserve, potentially should be tried for treason for what he's doing. Do you agree?	Wolf Blitzer	Bachmann, Romney
5/FL—9/12/11	My question is, out of every dollar that I earn, how much do you think that I deserve to keep?	Voter	Huntsman
5/FL—9/12/11	Speaker Gingrich, some of the biggest companies in the United States, the oil companies, they got -- I guess some would call government handouts in the form of tax breaks, tax exemptions, loopholes. They're making billions and billions of dollars. Is that fair?	Wolf Blitzer	Gingrich
5/FL—9/12/11	Would any of you be willing to support the fair tax?	Voter	Romney
5/FL—9/12/11	Under what circumstances should a president sign an executive order? And how frequently should such an order be signed?	Voter	Paul
5/FL—9/12/11	Governor Perry, as you well know, you signed an executive order requiring little girls 11 and 12-year-old girls to get a vaccine to deal with a sexually transmitted disease that could lead to cervical cancer. Was that a mistake?	Wolf Blitzer	Perry
5/FL—9/12/11	Congresswoman Bachmann, do you have anything to say about what Governor Perry just said? You're a mom.	Wolf Blitzer	Bachmann
5/FL—9/12/11	Health insurance is expensive because health care is expensive. What is your plan to reduce the cost of health care so that our insurance premiums and other related costs can also be reduced?	Voter	Cain
5/FL—9/12/11	A lot of the Tea Party supporters here and around the country have a real serious problem with the health care mandate that you got through in Massachusetts. Is there anything you want to say to them to revise or amend? Do you stand by what you did?	Wolf Blitzer	Romney
5/FL—9/12/11	Governor Perry, you're a firm believer in states' rights. Can a state like Massachusetts go ahead and pass health care reform, including mandates? Is that a good idea, if Massachusetts wants to do it?	Wolf Blitzer	Perry
5/FL—9/12/11	A healthy 30-year-old young man has a good job, makes a good living, but decides, you know what? I'm not going to spend \$200 or \$300 a month for health insurance because I'm healthy, I don't need it. But something terrible happens, all of a sudden he needs it. Who's going to pay if he goes into a coma, for example? Who pays for that?	Wolf Blitzer	Paul, Bachmann

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5/FL—9/12/11	What would you do to remove the illegal immigrants from our country?	Voter	Santorum, Perry
5/FL—9/12/11	What are the candidates doing to attract the Latino voters?	Voter	Santorum
5/FL—9/12/11	But you did sign legislation giving some illegal immigrants in Texas the opportunity to have in-state tuition at universities in Texas, explain what that was.	Wolf Blitzer	Perry
5/FL—9/12/11	Congresswoman Bachmann, is that basically the DREAM Act that President Obama wants as well?	Wolf Blitzer	Bachmann
5/FL—9/12/11	You also signed legislation in Utah that gave driving privileges to illegal immigrants. Was that a good idea?	Wolf Blitzer	Huntsman
5/FL—9/12/11	The American people have been told for decades that energy independence is a top priority. What will you do in your first 100 days in office to assure the American people that energy independence will finally become reality?	Voter	Cain
5/FL—9/12/11	Do you plan to decrease defense spending to balance spending? Or do you believe high spending is essential to security?	Voter	Gingrich, Paul, Santorum
5/FL—9/12/11	As the next president of the United States, what will you do to secure safety and protection for the women and the children of Afghanistan from the radicals?	Voter	Huntsman
5/FL—9/12/11	To Governor Perry, \$2 billion a week, is that money well spent by U.S. taxpayers in Afghanistan?	Wolf Blitzer	Perry
5/FL—9/12/11	What would you bring to the White House if you were the next president of the United States?	Wolf Blitzer	Santorum, Gingrich, Huntsman, Romney, Perry, Bachmann, Cain, Paul
6/FL—9/22/11	I'm wondering what each one of our candidates would propose to do as president to help incentivize small businesses like mine to hire new employees and to confidently grow our business in this troublesome economic environment.	Voter	Perry
6/FL—9/22/11	Where is your jobs plan?	Bret Baier	Perry
6/FL—9/22/11	A Wall Street Journal editorial recently called your 59-point economic plan, quote, "surprisingly timid and tactical considering our economic predicament"...How do you respond to that criticism?	Bret Baier	Romney
6/FL—9/22/11	After the last debate, a young member of the California Tea Party said he didn't feel he had had his question fully answered...And the question was, quote, "Out of every dollar I earn, how much do you think that I deserve to keep?"	Megyn Kelly	Bachmann
6/FL—9/22/11	Would you support some form of a federal right-to-work law, allowing all workers to choose whether or not to join a union?	Voter	Santorum
6/FL—9/22/11	If you were president today, would you extend unemployment benefits? And if not, how do you justify that to the millions of unemployed Americans who are looking in earnest and whose families are depending on those checks?	Megyn Kelly	Gingrich
6/FL—9/22/11	In June, you said that as president you would subsidize natural gas companies. How is that different from the Obama administration, which gave the solar panel company Solyndra a half-a-billion dollars in federal loan guarantees, and as we all know, that company ended up bankrupt, and we taxpayers ended up on the hook?	Chris Wallace	Huntsman

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
6/FL—9/22/11	Isn't there a danger with your 999 plan, with these three taxes, that some government down the road after President Cain is going to increase three forms of taxation on Americans?	Chris Wallace	Cain
6/FL—9/22/11	If you're elected president how do you plan to restore the 10th amendment, hold the federal government only to those enumerated powers in the Constitution and allow states to govern themselves?	Voter	Paul, Johnson
6/FL—9/22/11	Governor Perry, Governor Romney has been hammering you on your idea of turning Social Security back to the states, repeatedly. Can you explain specifically how 50 separate Social Security systems are supposed to work?	Megyn Kelly	Perry
6/FL—9/22/11	Do you, Governor Romney, believe that President Obama is a socialist?	Megyn Kelly	Romney
6/FL—9/22/11	Is there any scenario under which you could side with the 66 percent of people who believe that it is a good idea to raise taxes on millionaires?	Megyn Kelly	Huntsman
6/FL—9/22/11	If you were forced to eliminate one department from the federal government, which one would you eliminate and why?	Voter	Cain
6/FL—9/22/11	But given the resistance that we've seen in Washington, how can you possibly slash spending by 40 percent? How can you do it?	Megyn Kelly	Gingrich
6/FL—9/22/11	What as president would you seriously do about what I consider a massive overreach of big government into the classroom?	Voter	Johnson, Santorum, Gingrich, Paul, Perry, Romney, Bachmann, Cain, Huntsman
6/FL—9/22/11	Would you support each state enforcing the immigration laws since the federal government is not?...And if your answer is yes, how do you square that with the constitution which says that congress has the power to establish a uniform rule of naturalization?	Voter	Bachmann
6/FL—9/22/11	Struggling U.S. workers continue to compete with millions of illegal aliens. Do you support legislation to require all employers to use E-Verify in order to ensure that the people that they hire are actually legally authorized to work in the U.S.? And will you impose penalties against employers who continue to hire illegal workers?	Voter	Gingrich
6/FL—9/22/11	In Massachusetts, you vetoed legislation to provide interstate tuition rates to the children of illegals. Governor Perry of course signed the Texas Dream Act to do exactly that. But what about Governor Perry's argument that it's better to get these kids an education and to get them jobs than to consign them just to being a burden on the state?	Chris Wallace	Romney
6/FL—9/22/11	Now, last year, more than 16,000 children of illegals, young people in Texas, took advantage of your in-state tuition rate. Speak to that issue. And just, generally, how do you feel being criticized by a number of these other candidates on the stage for being too soft on immigration, sir?	Chris Wallace	Perry
6/FL—9/22/11	Question: Is he soft on illegal immigration?	Chris Wallace	Santorum
6/FL—9/22/11	Here's what you said, sir. I want to quote it: "There's capital controls and there's people control. So every time you think of a fence keeping all those bad people out, think about those fences maybe being used against us, keeping us in." Question, Congressman, do you know a lot of Americans who want to take their money and flee the United States of America?	Chris Wallace	Paul

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
6/FL—9/22/11	As president, how would you approach the new reality in the Middle East, specifically with regards to our ally, Israel, and the existential threats it faces from Iran, Hamas, Hezbollah, and now the Palestinian Authority?	Voter	Romney
6/FL—9/22/11	Mr. Cain, this week, the Palestinian Authority brought their bid for statehood to the United Nations. How would you respond to the unilateral declaration of a Palestinian state?	Bret Baier	Cain
6/FL—9/22/11	Governor Perry, if you were president, and you got a call at 3 am telling you that Pakistan had lost control of its nuclear weapons, at the hands of the Taliban, what would be your first move?	Bret Baier	Perry
6/FL—9/22/11	If the security situation were to fall apart in Iraq in 2012, would you support sending U.S. troops back to the region to stabilize the gains made?	Bret Baier	Santorum
6/FL—9/22/11	When are we gonna get someone in the White House that can stand up to these other countries and say you are not getting any more of our money? This is stupid. We send billions of dollars overseas to countries that hate us.	Voter	Gingrich
6/FL—9/22/11	Governor Johnson, here in Florida, charter flights from Ft. Lauderdale to Havana, Cuba, have resumed. Is there a problem with that? And what are your thoughts on U.S.-Cuba policy?	Bret Baier	Johnson
6/FL—9/22/11	In 2006, you said that public schools are, "teaching children that there is separation of church and state," and said, "I am here to tell you that's a myth." Do you believe that there is a limit on government's ability to inject religion into the public square? And if so, what is that limit?	Megyn Kelly	Bachmann
6/FL—9/22/11	My question is, under one of your presidencies, do you intend to circumvent the progress that's been made for gay and lesbian soldiers in the military?	Voter	Santorum
6/FL—9/22/11	Congressman Paul, you have said that you believe that life begins at conception and that abortion ends an innocent life. If you believe that, how can you support a rape exception to abortion bans, and how can you support the morning-after pill? Aren't those lives just as innocent?	Megyn Kelly	Paul
6/FL—9/22/11	But what are the other differences that you can cite between you and President Bush? And what say you about these reports that there is some bad blood between the two of you?	Megyn Kelly	Perry
6/FL—9/22/11	You say if Obamacare had been in effect when you were first being treated, you would dead now. Why?	Chris Wallace	Cain
6/FL—9/22/11	If were you elected, would you work as is the stated position of your party to repeal this reform? And if so, are we supposed to pray really hard that our ailments don't prevent us from going to class?	Voter	Huntsman
6/FL—9/22/11	But the American Academy of Pediatrics has looked at it and says that the HPV vaccine has an excellent safety record. So my question to you is, do you stand by your statement that the HPV vaccine is potentially dangerous? And if not, should you be more careful when you're talking about public health issue?	Chris Wallace	Bachmann
6/FL—9/22/11	So the question is, isn't Texas' uninsured problem because of decisions made by Texas?	Chris Wallace	Perry
6/FL—9/22/11	Governor Romney, the other day Governor Perry called Romneycare socialized medicine. He said it has failed in western Europe and in Massachusetts. And he warns that Republicans should not nominate his words, Obama-lite. How do you respond?	Chris Wallace	Romney

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
6/FL—9/22/11	Now, I'm not asking for your jobs plan here. What I'm asking for is, how are you going to turn this country around?	Bret Baier	Johnson, Santorum, Gingrich, Paul, Perry, Romney, Bachmann, Cain, Huntsman
6/FL—9/22/11	If you had to choose one of your opponents on the stage tonight to be your running mate in the 2012 election, who would you choose, and why? And why would this person help you make the country better?	Voter	Johnson, Santorum, Gingrich, Paul, Perry, Romney, Bachmann, Cain, Huntsman
6/FL—9/22/11	Governor Romney, I hate to follow up here, but you called Governor Perry unelectable based on his Social Security.	Bret Baier	Romney
7/NH—10/11/11	As you know, when Standard & Poor's downgraded American credit, they noted not only the economic difficulties, but the political dysfunction. So we begin this evening with the question: What would you do specifically to end the paralysis in Washington?	Charlie Rose	Cain, Romney
7/NH—10/11/11	Even though you have said you want to make Washington inconsequential, to go to Washington and, as Ronald Reagan did, compromise on spending cuts and taxes in order to produce results?	Charlie Rose	Perry
7/NH—10/11/11	You've had two months to produce a plan, an economic plan. He's had a 59-point plan. What's the plan? What will you say specifically?	Charlie Rose	Perry
7/NH—10/11/11	Do you think it's right that no Wall Street executives have gone to jail for the damage they did to the economy?	Karen Tumulty	Bachmann
7/NH—10/11/11	So, Congressman Paul, where do you come down this?	Karen Tumulty	Paul
7/NH—10/11/11	You've said that when you were growing up in a steel town in Pennsylvania, 21 percent of the country was involved in manufacturing. Now it's down to 9 percent. Can those jobs ever return? And what would you do to create jobs now?...So what would you do right now to create jobs?	Juliana Goldman	Santorum
7/NH—10/11/11	Innovation is what's always fueled economic recovery. So shouldn't the focus now be on trying to create the innovative jobs of tomorrow? And what do you think those are?	Juliana Goldman	Huntsman
7/NH—10/11/11	Medicare is going broke...much of this money is going to treatments and interventions that do nothing to prolong life, or to improve it. In fact, some of it does the opposite. Do you consider this wasteful spending? And if so, should the government do anything about it?	Karen Tumulty	Gingrich
7/NH—10/11/11	Do you think that Americans are getting the most for their money in Medicare spending? And how can we make sure that the money that is being spent is being spent on the treatments and the — and the preventive treatments that do the most?	Karen Tumulty	Bachmann
7/NH—10/11/11	Tell me, Governor Huntsman, whose advice do you seek on economic issues? And who — what's the profile of the kind of person you'd like to have advising you in your White House?	Charlie Rose	Huntsman
7/NH—10/11/11	When you mentioned the flat tax, does that mean that you look with some favor upon 9-9-9 that Herman Cain mentioned at the beginning of this conversation?	Charlie Rose	Huntsman

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7/NH— 10/11/11	Mr. Cain, who do you turn to for political advice and for economic advice?	Karen Tumulty	Cain
7/NH— 10/11/11	The European debt crisis has worsened, countries are defaulting, Europe's largest banks are on the verge of bankruptcy, contagion has spread to the U.S., and the global financial system is on the brink. What would you do differently than what President Bush, Henry Paulson and Ben Bernanke did in 2008?	Juliana Goldman	Romney
7/NH— 10/11/11	You agree with Speaker Gingrich about Ben Bernanke, the chairman of the Fed?	Charlie Rose	Romney
7/NH— 10/11/11	Mr. Cain, back in 2008, you wrote that the Wall Street bailout was a win-win for the taxpayer. You just heard Governor Romney. Do you agree?	Juliana Goldman	Cain
7/NH— 10/11/11	What would you do — would you get the federal government out of housing?	Charlie Rose	Paul
7/NH— 10/11/11	"The single-most important question facing us tonight is, do we reduce deficits and interest rates by raising revenue from those who are not now paying their fair share, or do we accept bigger budget deficits, higher interest rates and higher unemployment simply because we disagree on certain features of a legislative package"...Do you agree with the former president?	Charlie Rose	Perry
7/NH— 10/11/11	If in fact they can't find an agreement, you're going to have a trigger with automatic cuts, including defense. So doesn't that demand some kind of compromise, as Reagan suggested?	Charlie Rose	Romney
7/NH— 10/11/11	Could we get back to the actual choice that is likely to confront Congress at the end of the year, which is some mix of revenues and cuts or these draconian automatic spending cuts that would include defense. Which of those two, if that is the choice, would you prefer?	Karen Tumulty	Romney, Gingrich, Bachmann
7/NH— 10/11/11	But Bloomberg Government has run the numbers, and your plan would have raised no more than \$2 trillion. And even with that shortfall, you'd still be slapping a 9 percent sales tax on food and medicine.	Juliana Goldman	Cain
7/NH— 10/11/11	Congresswoman Bachmann, you're a former IRS lawyer. Do you agree?	Juliana Goldman	Bachmann
7/NH— 10/11/11	If China is indeed keeping its currency low, that means that everything they sell in this country is artificially cheap and everything that our companies try to sell in China is artificially expensive. So what do you say to people who ask, aren't we already in a trade war with China?	Karen Tumulty	Huntsman
7/NH— 10/11/11	Voters have heard candidates talk tough on China before — George W. Bush did it, Barack Obama did it — only to see that, once elected, the president takes a much more cautious approach, because of the complexity of the relationship and the fact that this is our biggest creditor. Why should voters believe that you would be any different?	Karen Tumulty	Romney, Perry
7/NH— 10/11/11	What would be on your American competitiveness agenda?	Voter	Santorum
7/NH— 10/11/11	You went on to increase spending in Texas by over 50 percent, and you financed that spending by increasing bond debt by over 137 percent. That's exactly what Barack Obama has been doing: increasing debt by trillions of dollars. How can we trust you to not go down the Obama way and overspend and pay for that spending with indebtedness on the backs of the next generation?	Bachmann	Perry

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
7/NH— 10/11/11	My question is to Governor Romney. Can you name all 59 points in your 160-page plan? And does it satisfy that criteria of being simple, transparent, efficient, fair and neutral?	Cain	Romney
7/NH— 10/11/11	Now, as a businessman, you know that you actually lose economic effectiveness if you limit capital-gains tax cuts only to people who don't get capital gains. So I'm curious: What was the rationale for setting an even lower base mark than Obama had?	Gingrich	Romney
7/NH— 10/11/11	Since you were number 47 as governor of the state of Massachusetts — where we were number one for example — and the whole discussion around this campaign is going to be job creation, how can you win that debate given your background?	Huntsman	Romney
7/NH— 10/11/11	Mr. Cain, in the past, you've been rather critical of any of us who would want to audit the Fed.... So do you still stick by this, that this is frivolous? Or do you think it's very important? Sixty-four percent of the American people want a full audit of the Fed on a regular basis.	Paul	Cain
7/NH— 10/11/11	He said that "Romneycare" was "Obamacare." And "Romneycare" has driven the cost of small business insurance premiums up by 14 percent over the national average in Massachusetts...how would you respond to his criticism of your signature legislative achievement?	Perry	Romney
7/NH— 10/11/11	What would you do, beyond the tax policies you described, to get people back to work?	Romney	Bachmann
7/NH— 10/11/11	Since I think Herman Cain is giving naively a tool in his 9-9-9 plan of giving Washington a huge new tax — tax opportunity to get money through a sales tax, why can we trust you that, with your lack of experience, that you won't continually give Washington the ability to take freedom away from freedom-loving people here in the Live Free or Die State?	Santorum	Cain
7/NH— 10/11/11	Explain to me what you think the difference is about your health care ideas and Governor Romney's health care ideas and how you see mandates and how he sees mandates and the Constitution, because not only has there been some exchange here, Governor Christie got involved today.	Charlie Rose	Perry
7/NH— 10/11/11	Texas has had 16 waivers for Medicaid. So how can you say that the problem is that the federal government has not given Texas enough flexibility?	Karen Tumulty	Perry
7/NH— 10/11/11	But one of the most important appointments that you're going to have to make your first year, should you be president, would be Fed chairman. So which Federal Reserve chairman, over the last 40 years, do you think has been most successful and might serve as a model for that appointment?	Juliana Goldman	Cain, Paul
7/NH— 10/11/11	Businesses like mine have great difficulty obtaining credit. What specifically would you do to make bank lending more accessible to small businesses?	Voter	Romney, Bachmann, Cain, Paul
7/NH— 10/11/11	Taxpayers stand to lose half a billion dollars in the collapse of Solyndra, which is a solar energy firm that was a centerpiece of the Obama green jobs initiative. Do you think there were inadequate safeguards there, or do you think this is just the risk we run when the government gets involved in subsidizing new industries and technologies?	Karen Tumulty	Perry
7/NH— 10/11/11	Speaker Gingrich, is the American dream of owning a home no longer a realistic dream? And is it too easy in America?	Charlie Rose	Gingrich

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
7/NH— 10/11/11	So are you telling the 14 million unemployed Americans that it's their fault that they don't have a job?	Juliana Goldman	Cain
7/NH— 10/11/11	If the payroll tax cut is not extended, that would mean a tax increase for all Americans. What would be the consequences of that?	Juliana Goldman	Romney
7/NH— 10/11/11	The income of the wealthiest 1 percent of Americans has grown by more than 300 percent. And yet, we have more people living in poverty in this country than at any time in the last 50 years. Is this acceptable? And what would you do to close that gap?	Karen Tumulty	Perry, Santorum
7/NH— 10/11/11	What is it about you that you want to connect with the American people in their both despair and in their hope for the future that says something essentially about who you are?	Charlie Rose	Bachmann, Santorum, Gingrich, Cain, Romney, Paul, Perry, Huntsman
8/NV— 10/18/11	What's your position on replacing the federal income tax with a federal sales tax?	Voter	Bachmann
8/NV— 10/18/11	A lot of prominent conservatives now are coming forward saying that your 9-9-9 plan would actually raise taxes on middle-class voters, on lower-income voters.	Anderson Cooper	Cain
8/NV— 10/18/11	Will his plan raise taxes?	Anderson Cooper	Santorum, Perry, Paul
8/NV— 10/18/11	Governor Romney, you have your own 59-point plan. In the last debate, Mr. Cain suggested it was too complicated. Is simpler better?	Anderson Cooper	Romney
8/NV— 10/18/11	Speaker Gingrich, you have said in recent days that Mr. Cain's 9-9-9 plan would be a harder sell than he lets on. How so?	Anderson Cooper	Gingrich
8/NV— 10/18/11	You also said at the last debate that everyone should pay something. Does that mean that you would raise taxes on the 47 percent of Americans who currently don't pay taxes?	Anderson Cooper	Bachmann
8/NV— 10/18/11	You have said that Governor Romney was an abject failure in creating jobs when he was governor of Massachusetts. If you've read his 59-point plan, has it changed your mind?	Anderson Cooper	Perry, Santorum
8/NV— 10/18/11	Speaker Gingrich, you've also been very critical of Mitt Romney's plan, not only on "Obamacare."	Anderson Cooper	Gingrich
8/NV— 10/18/11	Is there any aspect of "Obamacare" that you would like to keep, whether it's keeping kids to stay on their parents' insurance until they're 26, or no pre-existing conditions?	Anderson Cooper	Paul, Cain
8/NV— 10/18/11	Governor Romney pointed out that Texas has one of the highest rates of uninsured children in the country, over 1 million kids. You did not get an opportunity to respond to that. How do you explain that?	Anderson Cooper	Perry
8/NV— 10/18/11	As president, will you order completion of the physical border fence along the entire border between the U.S. and Mexico?	Voter	Cain, Perry, Bachmann
8/NV— 10/18/11	We have 50 million Latinos and not all of us are illegal. What is the message from you guys to our Latino community?	Voter	Gingrich, Paul
8/NV— 10/18/11	The 14th Amendment allows that anybody born in the United States is an American citizen. Should that change?	Anderson Cooper	Cain, Perry, Bachmann, Santorum
8/NV— 10/18/11	Do you support opening the national nuclear repository at Yucca Mountain?	Voter	Gingrich, Paul, Romney, Perry

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8/NV—10/18/11	Yeah, my question is those of us who own property here in Nevada have been devastated by the real estate bubble. What would you do as president to help fix the overall problem of real estate and foreclosures in America?	Voter	Santorum, Bachmann
8/NV—10/18/11	How do you explain the Occupy Wall Street movement happening across the country, and how does it relate with your message?	Voter	Cain, Paul
8/NV—10/18/11	Governor Romney, you originally called the protests dangerous. You said it was class warfare. You recently sounded more sympathetic. Where do you stand now? What is your message to those people protesting?	Anderson Cooper	Romney
8/NV—10/18/11	With the controversy surrounding Robert Jeffress, is it acceptable to let the issue of a candidate's faith shape the debate?	Voter	Santorum, Gingrich
8/NV—10/18/11	Mitt Romney asked you to repudiate the comments of that pastor who introduced you on that stage. He didn't make the comments on the stage. He made them afterward in an interview. Will you repudiate those comments?	Anderson Cooper	Perry
8/NV—10/18/11	Currently there's a deficit reduction measure to cut defense spending by \$500 billion. Would you support such a reduction in defense spending? And if elected president, how will you provide a strong national defense?	Voter	Bachmann, Gingrich
8/NV—10/18/11	Congressman Paul, you just proposed eliminating the Departments of Commerce, Education, Energy, Interior, Housing and Urban Development. (Laughter.) You say it'll save a trillion dollars — (whistles, cheers) — in one year. You're proposing a 15-percent cut to the Defense Department. Can you guarantee national security will not be hurt by that?	Anderson Cooper	Paul
8/NV—10/18/11	Given that Israel has just negotiated with Palestine for a soldier, would any of you negotiate for a hostage?	Voter	Cain, Santorum
8/NV—10/18/11	The American people are suffering in our country right now. Why do we continue to send foreign aid to other countries when we need all the help we can get for ourselves?	Voter	Perry, Romney, Paul
8/NV—10/18/11	Would you cut aid to Israel?	Anderson Cooper	Paul, Bachmann
8/NV—10/18/11	To Senator Santorum, you got 1 percent. Why shouldn't Republican voters go with the candidate they feel they can best beat — that can best beat President Obama?	Anderson Cooper	Santorum
8/NV—10/18/11	Herman Cain, you're tied with Governor Romney in some of the polls for the top leadership position right now. Are they the ones — are either Governor Perry or Governor Romney — the ones who should be president?	Anderson Cooper	Cain
9/MI—11/9/11	The reason: Italy is on the brink of financial disaster. It is the world's seventh-largest economy. As president, what will you do to make sure their problems do not takedown the U.S. financial system?	Maria Bartiromo	Cain, Romney
9/MI—11/9/11	But the U.S. does contribute to the International Monetary Fund, and the IMF has given \$150 billion to the eurozone. Are you saying the U.S. should stop contributing to the IMF?	Maria Bartiromo	Romney
9/MI—11/9/11	I'm on the front lines of the stock market. We were down 400 points today. We're not going to be done going down if this keeps going up, if Italy keeps — the rate keeps going up. Surely you must recognize that this is a moment-to-moment situation for people who have 401(k)s and IRAs and the like, and you wouldn't just let it fail, just go away and take our banking system with it.	Jim Cramer	Paul

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9/MI—11/9/11	But if this goes, the world banking system could shut down. Doesn't that involve our banks, too?	Jim Cramer	Huntsman
9/MI—11/9/11	Now that the companies are profitable again after a bailout supported by your Republican governor here in Michigan, you said, well, actually, President Obama implemented my plan all along, or he gravitated to my plan. With a record like that, of seeming to be on all sides of the issue, why should Republicans be confident in the steadiness of your economic leadership?	John Harwood	Romney
9/MI—11/9/11	Your opponents have said you've switched positions on many issues. It's an issue of character — not personal, but political...What can you say to Republicans to persuade them the things you say in the campaign are rooted in something deeper than the fact that you're running for office?	John Harwood	Romney
9/MI—11/9/11	From the flipside, Ronald Reagan raised taxes when the deficit got too big. George W. Bush supported TARP and the auto bailout when he thought we might face a second Great Depression. Does that, examples like that, tell you that good, effective leaders need to show the kind of flexibility that Governor Romney has showed on some issues?	John Harwood	Perry
9/MI—11/9/11	Many of you have come up with tax reform plans. Why is tax reform the path to job creation? And if it's not the only path, what else can you implement to get people back to work?	John Harwood	Gingrich, Bachmann
9/MI—11/9/11	I understand the sentiment behind that, and the state of Michigan's lost hundreds of thousands of manufacturing jobs over the last few decades. Isn't that the kind of distortion in the tax code that people want to get away from in order to get rates down — flatter, simpler, fairer?	John Harwood	Santorum
9/MI—11/9/11	You know that shareholders are reluctant to hire a CEO where there are character issues. Why should the American people hire a president if they feel there are character issues?	Maria Bartiromo	Cain
9/MI—11/9/11	When you were at Bain Capital, you purchased a lot of companies. You could fire the CEO and the management team, or you could keep them. Would you keep a CEO — are you persuaded by what Mr. Cain has said? Would you keep him on if you had bought his company?	John Harwood	Romney
9/MI—11/9/11	Do you consider something wrong with the structure of our economy and the income inequality that it produces? Is that something government should do something about?	John Harwood	Huntsman
9/MI—11/9/11	So, Governor, you agree with Governor Romney that the bailout that Governor Snyder supports in Michigan was a mistake?	John Harwood	Huntsman
9/MI—11/9/11	Do you believe public companies have any social responsibility to create jobs? Or do you believe, as Nobel laureate Milton Friedman, the most influential conservative economist of the 20th century held, that corporations should exist solely to create maximum profit for their shareholders?	Jim Cramer	Romney, Perry, Gingrich
9/MI—11/9/11	I just came back from North Dakota. We have made the largest oil discovery in a generation there. Not only is it a big step toward creating energy independence, it stands to create as many as 300,000 jobs. But what the guys tell me up there is that they can't handle the rush without federal help. Would you favor incentives — incentives to get workers and businesses to where the jobs are — to support this boom?	Jim Cramer	Santorum
9/MI—11/9/11	Why now, when the higher-income group is doing better than the rest of America, is the time to switch to the same rate for all of us?	Maria Bartiromo	Cain
9/MI—11/9/11	How do you ensure that when the government needs more revenue, that the sales tax doesn't go up and that plan doesn't turn into 19-19-19?	Maria Bartiromo	Cain

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9/MI—11/9/11	You're proposing to preserve the Bush era tax rates. What is wrong with the idea that we should go to one rate? Why do you believe in a progressive tax system?	John Harwood	Romney
9/MI—11/9/11	Governor Romney is accepting the premises of the Democratic argument that you have to have a fair approach to taxation that preserves different rates for different people. Why is he wrong?	John Harwood	Bachmann
9/MI—11/9/11	Congressman Ron Paul, you have said you want to close down agencies. Tell us about your tax plan, as well as closing agencies, federal agencies. Where do those jobs go?	Maria Bartiromo	Paul
9/MI—11/9/11	So you think the economy would be stronger if interest rates were higher right now?	Maria Bartiromo	Paul
9/MI—11/9/11	Governor Romney has said that the government should let the foreclosure process play out, so that the housing market can recover and the free markets can work...is Governor Romney right?	Maria Bartiromo	Gingrich, Bachmann
9/MI—11/9/11	Not one of your 59 points in your economic plan mentions or addresses housing. Can you tell us why?	Maria Bartiromo	Romney
9/MI—11/9/11	If we keep going the way we're going, in four or five years, we'll be at 1999 price levels. The \$7 trillion figure that Maria mentioned could almost double. Are you willing to let that happen in America?	Steve Liesman	Romney
9/MI—11/9/11	Every quarter I get the report, the GDP figures, and it's a negative number for housing. And we've lost some 2 million construction jobs. Housing creates jobs as well; doesn't it?	Steve Liesman	Perry
9/MI—11/9/11	Your firm was paid \$300,000 by Freddie Mac in 2006. What did you do for that money?	John Harwood	Gingrich
9/MI—11/9/11	What would you do with these — with Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac? Would you shut them down even though it could mean higher interest rates for Americans and make it even harder than it is right now for Americans to get home loans?	Steve Liesman	Cain
9/MI—11/9/11	The 10 biggest bank holding companies in this country now hold nearly 90 percent of all the assets in the banking system, up from 75 percent in 2006. So what would you do? Would you break up the banks to remove the risk or diminish the risk for American taxpayers?	John Harwood	Huntsman
9/MI—11/9/11	You have all said that you will repeal President Obama's health care legislation. Down the line, 30 seconds: If you repeal "Obamacare," what's the answer?	Maria Bartiromo	Huntsman, Paul, Perry, Cain, Romney, Gingrich, Bachmann, Santorum
9/MI—11/9/11	You said a few moments ago that you thought that states should have the responsibility for insuring the uninsured. Of course, in Massachusetts, you enacted an individual mandate and subsidies to have people who didn't have insurance get it. So you think there's a pretty large role for government in this area.	John Harwood	Romney
9/MI—11/9/11	How will you put our country ahead of your political party and solve the issues that are so critical for Americans?	Voter	Santorum
9/MI—11/9/11	You raised fees to balance the budget and you used that as an argument to get the credit rating of your state upgraded. Independent voters might like that. Should Republican primary voters be nervous about it?	John Harwood	Romney
9/MI—11/9/11	Governor Perry, you play only home games in Texas. Do you give him points for winning on the road?	John Harwood	Perry

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9/MI—11/9/11	Seriously? Is EPA the one you were talking about?...But you can't — but you can't name the third one?	John Harwood	Perry
9/MI—11/9/11	Mr. Cain, right now there is a situation with the EPA getting aggressive, the National Labor Relations Board getting aggressive, wanting to shut down a plant in South Carolina. What would you tell Boeing to do?	Maria Bartiromo	Cain
9/MI—11/9/11	What about manufacturing? Zero tax rate for one sector of the economy.	Maria Bartiromo	Cain
9/MI—11/9/11	And the area they cut were payroll taxes, the main funding for Social Security. If we continue that — and there seems to be some agreement on both sides of the aisle to extend that tax cut — for 2011 and 2012, the cumulative amount will be closer to 260 billion (dollars). Are all tax cuts created equal? Is this a tax cut that you would back?	Rick Santelli	Gingrich, Romney
9/MI—11/9/11	Does any candidate on this stage disagree — does any candidate disagree and oppose extension of the payroll tax cut?	John Harwood	Bachmann
9/MI—11/9/11	Our federal government still owns 500 million shares of GM stock; guarantees trillions — trillions with a "T" — dollars of mortgages. And you consider the Federal Reserve. The Federal Reserve has purchased 2.62 trillion (dollars) — again with a T — of Treasury securities, agency securities, and mortgage securities. If you were president, how would your administration reverse these obligations?	Rick Santelli	Huntsman
9/MI—11/9/11	So Congressman Paul, you've already talked about the fact that you want to get rid of the Department of Education. You've said that you want to get rid of federal student loans. So how would you make college more accessible, more affordable for these students and students around the country?	Sharon Epperson	Paul
9/MI—11/9/11	Unlike other types of debt, student loan debt does not have the same type of consumer protections. It cannot be wiped out in bankruptcy, by law. There's really little way to refinance it. Are you worried about student loan debt becoming the next government bailout?	Sharon Epperson	Gingrich
9/MI—11/9/11	Governor Perry, name the top programs that you would cut in terms of long-term deficit reduction. Include Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, and defense spending in the order you see fit.	Maria Bartiromo	Perry
9/MI—11/9/11	Speaking of young people, quick answer: Do you agree with Congressman Paul that we should kill the federal student loan program?	John Harwood	Perry
9/MI—11/9/11	Under a Republican governor, the state of California hired a company in China to build major portions of the new San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge; created thousands of jobs in China. And California did that because it was cheaper. Is that smart purchasing by government in a global economy, or is there something wrong with that?	John Harwood	Cain, Romney
9/MI—11/9/11	How would you crack down on China?	Maria Bartiromo	Romney
9/MI—11/9/11	Multinational companies want to try to get a foothold in China and sell to the billion and a half people there. They can only do joint ventures. They are not getting a fair shake in terms of selling to that 1 1/2 billion-person population. How would you move the needle?	Maria Bartiromo	Gingrich, Bachmann
9/MI—11/9/11	Are you saying Governor Romney's pandering [on China]?	John Harwood	Huntsman

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9/MI—11/9/11	Our stock market has turned into a casino, with high-frequency computerized trading comprising 70 percent of all transactions, and hedge-fund speculation resulting in volatile market swings. Before privatizing Social Security, how would you make the stock market safer for individual investors?	Voter	Cain, Perry
9/MI—11/9/11	Congressman Paul, Governor Perry was just talking about the culture of Washington. His critics in the state of Texas — you're a congressman from Texas — say crony capitalism is what he's practiced as governor. Are they right?	John Harwood	Paul
10/SC—11/12/11	This week, a U.N. nuclear watchdog agency provided additional credible evidence that Iran is pursuing a nuclear weapon. If you were president right now, what would you do specifically that this administration is not doing to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon?...You say assisting the opposition, would you entertain military assistance and opposition?	Major Garrett	Cain
10/SC—11/12/11	Would it be worth goin' to war to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon?...How do you prevent them from obtaining a nuclear weapon? Is it worth going to war to prevent that?	Scott Pelley	Romney, Paul
10/SC—11/12/11	Is this the right way to look at this question, war or not war? Or do you see other options, diplomatically, or other non-war means that the United States has in its possession to deal with Iran that it has not employed?	Major Garrett	Gingrich
10/SC—11/12/11	Governor Perry, what's your appraisal of the combat situation on the ground in Afghanistan today, and what would you change?	Scott Pelley	Perry
10/SC—11/12/11	The Taliban said earlier this summer quote, "The Afghans have an endless stamina for a long war." If you were commander in chief, would you have endless stamina for victory in Afghanistan? And would you, this evening, define victory in Afghanistan for the American people? And please weigh in, I know you do want to, on Iran.	Major Garrett	Santorum
10/SC—11/12/11	Do you think the 30,000 surge troops in Afghanistan have made a difference, and if so, where?	Scott Pelley	Bachmann
10/SC—11/12/11	We are seeing spikes in casualties in Afghanistan, in new places. Can you explain to me what's happening there and how you would change that as commander in chief?	Scott Pelley	Huntsman
10/SC—11/12/11	Governor Romney, a much smaller footprint in Afghanistan? Do you support that? And secondarily, sir, is it time or would it ever be time for the United States to negotiate with the Taliban?	Major Garrett	Romney
10/SC—11/12/11	Mr. Speaker, how do you achieve peace in Afghanistan if you don't negotiate with the Taliban?	Scott Pelley	Gingrich
10/SC—11/12/11	You have said about foreign policy, "America needs to be clear about who its friends are and who its foes are." So this evening, sir, Pakistan, friend or foe?	Major Garrett	Cain
10/SC—11/12/11	Governor Perry, why is Pakistan playing a double game, saying that it supports the United States one moment and then supporting terrorists who are killing American troops the next? What's going on there?	Scott Pelley	Perry
10/SC—11/12/11	Congresswoman Bachmann, you serve on the Intelligence Committee. I'd like to get your assessment of what you think is happening in Pakistan, especially with the Hikani Network...So I want to know if you agree with the governor on that question, starting at zero. And also your assessment of the intelligence situation in Pakistan, and what we should do about it.	Major Garrett	Bachmann

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10/SC—11/12/11	And I remember covering in 1995 the intervention on behalf of the Mexican peso. You have seen, at times, the proper role of the United States through foreign aid and other interventions. I want to know if you agree with Governor Perry about starting at zero?	Major Garrett	Gingrich
10/SC—11/12/11	I just want to know, if you were president, if the aid that we currently provide on an annualized basis to Egypt would be completely rethought and possibly eliminated, if you were president?	Major Garrett	Gingrich
10/SC—11/12/11	If a Pakistani nuclear weapon goes missing, what do you do?...How do you make friends out of Pakistan?	Scott Pelley	Santorum
10/SC—11/12/11	Based on the arc of this campaign and perhaps what you've heard tonight, would you care to evaluate Governor Romney's ability to think outside the box and change United States national security or foreign policy perspectives?	Major Garrett	Gingrich
10/SC—11/12/11	If you were president, how would you think outside the box about some of the issues we've discussed here tonight?	Major Garrett	Gingrich
10/SC—11/12/11	Mr. Cain, you've often said that you'll listen to your generals for their advice before making decisions as commander in chief. How will you know when you should overrule your generals?	Scott Pelley	Cain
10/SC—11/12/11	Senator Santorum, this is really a question about how you build a leadership model. How, sir, would you decide when it was necessary for you as commander in chief to overrule the advice you get from either your civilian advisors or your military advisors?	Major Garrett	Santorum
10/SC—11/12/11	If you could prioritize one or two points, maybe more if you'd like, what your key agenda is on national security?	Scott Pelley	Santorum
10/SC—11/12/11	If you eliminate the Department of Energy, what do you do with the nuclear weapons?	Scott Pelley	Perry
10/SC—11/12/11	I served on an aircraft carrier during the Vietnam War. I believe that torture is always wrong in all cases. What is your stance on torture?	Voter	Cain, Bachman, Paul, Huntsman
10/SC—11/12/11	Is it appropriate for the American president on the president's say-so alone to order the death of an American citizen suspected of terrorism?	Scott Pelley	Romney, Gingrich
10/SC—11/12/11	According to U.S. officials, China is using cyber-attacks to steal billions of dollars of intellectual property that is critical to this nation's economic success. Are we, sir, engaged in financial warfare with China?	Major Garrett	Perry
10/SC—11/12/11	Governor Romney, I wonder, how would you manage China to avoid a 21st century Cold War?... you talked about all the things that China should be doing. How do you affect that as commander in chief? How do you make China do these things?	Scott Pelley	Romney
10/SC—11/12/11	You've been in China. You were the ambassador for our nation there under President Obama. What's your reaction?	Major Garrett	Huntsman
10/SC—11/12/11	Does Governor Perry's Foreign Aid Starts at Zero include Israel?	Voter	Perry
10/SC—11/12/11	Almost half of the federal budget goes to military-related expenditures. Should we increase spending, especially in a debt crisis?	Voter	Bachmann
10/SC—11/12/11	Can you name a weapon system that you think should be ended for fiscal reasons? And when you talk about tri-care, that's the military medical system. What do you mean when you say, "Reform," does that mean cuts in benefits?	Major Garrett	Bachmann

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10/SC— 11/12/11	Mr. Cain, would you describe what you think is happening in the Arab Spring? And how, as president, can you affect that to make it work for the United States and not against us?	Scott Pelley	Cain
10/SC— 11/12/11	At least 3,500 civilians have been slaughtered in Syria. Today, the Arab League voted to suspect Syria. If the opposition, and you were commander in chief, requested military assistance, covert smuggling, or a no-fly zone, would you authorize either or both?	Major Garrett	Gingrich, Paul
10/SC— 11/12/11	Governor Romney, if I may ask you a 30 second follow-up to that. Is it time for the Assad dictatorship to end? Would you use military force to do that?	Scott Pelley	Romney
10/SC— 11/12/11	Within days of taking office, President Obama, by executive order, stopped the CIA from using classified enhanced interrogation techniques that are not water-boarding. There's a presumption that every person at Gitmo, under the Obama administration, should go into civilian court, not military commission. And the Obama administration recently said that any future captors in the war on terror would not go to Gitmo. Would you continue these policies? If you would change them, why?	Lindsay Graham	Cain, Santorum, Paul
10/SC— 11/12/11	What federal functions will you eliminate or return to the states in order to balance our budget?	Jim Demint	Romney, Huntsman, Gingrich, Bachmann
10/SC— 11/12/11	U.S. forces are coming under attack daily now from the enemy crossing over the border from Pakistan. As president, as commander in chief, would you order U.S. forces into Pakistan to clear out those safe havens of the enemy?	Scott Pelley	Cain, Romney
10/SC— 11/12/11	Are Pakistanis comfortable with our using drones?	Scott Pelley	Romney
10/SC— 11/12/11	If you were commander in chief, and intelligence came to you that one of those nuclear weapons was lost or possibly in the hands of terrorists, how would you respond?	Major Garrett	Santorum, Gingrich
10/SC— 11/12/11	There is a crisis in Europe over debt, particularly in Italy and in Greece. And there is the threat of contagion onto Wall Street and U.S. banks. How do you prevent the Euro crisis from becoming a problem in the United States?	Scott Pelley	Huntsman, Perry
11/DC— 11/22/11	Shouldn't we have a long range extension of the investigative powers contained in that act [Patriot Act] so that our law enforcement officers can have the tools that they need?	Ed Meese	Gingrich, Paul, Bachmann, Huntsman
11/DC— 11/22/11	TSA pat-downs: violation of civil liberty or a necessity to ensure national security?	Voter	Romney, Perry
11/DC— 11/22/11	Senator Santorum, under certain circumstances in the past, you've supported profiling. Is that correct?...Congressman Paul?...Herman Cain, let's bring you into this conversation. Are you with Senator Santorum when he says that there should be religious profiling?	Wolf Blitzer	Santorum, Paul, Cain
11/DC— 11/22/11	Do you think that an expanded drone campaign in Pakistan would be sufficient to defeat al-Qaeda and to secure our interests in Pakistan?	Fred Kagan	Huntsman
11/DC— 11/22/11	Do you think, as Governor Perry has said, that Pakistan should no longer receive U.S. aid because they've shown they're not a good friend, ally of the United States?	Wolf Blitzer	Bachmann, Perry

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
11/DC— 11/22/11	Is the money that we've drawn back from U.S. troops in Afghanistan really worth the risk of allowing Taliban to expand territories, and Al Qaida to grow safe sanctuaries?	Israel Ortega	Romney, Huntsman, Gingrich, Santorum
11/DC— 11/22/11	If Israel attacked Iran to prevent Tehran from getting nuclear weapons, would you help Israel launch the attack or support it otherwise?	Mike Gonzalez	Cain, Paul
11/DC— 11/22/11	Iran is probably less than a year away from getting a nuclear weapon. Do you believe that there is any set of sanctions that could be put in place that would stop Iran from getting a nuclear weapon?	Danielle Pletka	Perry, Gingrich, Bachmann
11/DC— 11/22/11	Under George W. Bush, who was a conservative Republican, the United States spent billions of dollars to fight AIDS and malaria in Africa and elsewhere and set up the Millennium Challenge Corporation to encourage governments of poor countries to pursue policies that promote economic growth and job creation. Do you believe those are still wise expenditures? Or do you think we can no longer afford them?	Paul Wolfowitz	Santorum, Cain, Paul, Romney
11/DC— 11/22/11	The next president will have to make some very, very tough choices in order to solve the nation's spending and debt crisis. Would you be willing to say that our national security is so paramount that cuts to the defense budget are unacceptable?	Alison Acosta Fraser	Gingrich, Hunstman
11/DC— 11/22/11	Mr. Speaker, would you, if you were president of the United States, bomb Iran's nuclear facilities to prevent it from becoming a nuclear power?	Wolf Blitzer	Gingrich
11/DC— 11/22/11	If you were president of the United States, would you compromise with Democrats in Congress in order to avoid that Washington gridlock that, if you believe the polls, the American people hate?	Wolf Blitzer	Perry
11/DC— 11/22/11	If you got 75 percent or 80 percent of what you wanted, would you make a deal with Democrats, increase some taxes in order to move on and fight the next battle the next day?	Wolf Blitzer	Santorum
11/DC— 11/22/11	To strengthen our economy, to strengthen our country, what entitlement reform proposals would you make to address our long-term structural deficit?	Alex Brill	Gingrich, Bachmann
11/DC— 11/22/11	As all of you know, the drug-related crimes and violence are getting heavier and heavier in that area. First, do you consider that to be a national interest threat? And, secondly, what could we be doing with the Mexican government to help stop these drug cartels?	Phil Truluck	Perry, Paul, Cain
11/DC— 11/22/11	I just want you to clarify. When you say cancel the war on drugs, does that mean legalize all these drugs?	Wolf Blitzer	Paul
11/DC— 11/22/11	What would you do to ensure that the United States is as welcoming as possible to the world's skilled immigrants and entrepreneurs?	Voter	Santorum
11/DC— 11/22/11	Some called it amnesty then; they still call it amnesty now. What would you do if you were President of the United States, with these millions of illegal immigrants, many of whom have been in this country for a long time?	Wolf Blitzer	Gingrich, Bachmann, Romney, Perry
11/DC— 11/22/11	Syria borders a major ally of the United States, NATO ally, Turkey, and three other friendly countries, Israel, Jordan and Iraq. In your view, what are the interests of the United States in this region and what would you do to protect them?	David Addington	Cain, Perry
11/DC— 11/22/11	So many people view the Arab Spring as a good thing. Given the recent violence in Egypt, do you worry this can go bad?	Voter	Huntsman
11/DC— 11/22/11	What can the United States do to prevent Al Shabab from posing the same threat that al Qaeda did from Afghanistan 10 years ago?	Katherine Zimmerman	Paul, Romney

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
11/DC— 11/22/11	During the 200 [sic] presidential debates, Governor George W. Bush was never asked about the threat from Al Qaida, yet the battle with Al Qaida dominated his presidency. What national security issue do you worry about that nobody is asking about, either here or in any of the debates so far?	Mark Teese	Santorum, Paul, Perry, Romney, Cain, Gingrich, Bachmann, Huntsman
12/IA— 12/10/11	What is your distinguishing idea, distinguishing, from all of the others on this stage, about how to create jobs in this create, how to bring jobs back from overseas. And if you will, how many jobs do you think you can create and how long will that take?	Diane Sawyer	Gingrich, Romney, Paul, Perry, Bachmann, Santorum
12/IA— 12/10/11	We know that you are a tax attorney, and you're familiar with these issues. Should this [payroll] tax cut go?	Diane Sawyer	Bachmann, Romney, Perry, Paul
12/IA— 12/10/11	Who has the most consistent conservative candidate among you, and which of you is best able to defeat President Obama?	George Stephanopoulos	Romney, Gingrich
12/IA— 12/10/11	This is a quote from your ad, "serial hypocrisy." Why do you think Speaker Gingrich is a hypocrite?...you make similar accusations against Speaker Gingrich. You called him a "poster boy of crony capitalism." Did he answer your concerns?	George Stephanopoulos	Paul, Bachmann
12/IA— 12/10/11	I wonder which side you come down on [on individual mandate].	George Stephanopoulos	Perry, Romney, Gingrich
12/IA— 12/10/11	Should voters consider marital fidelity in making their choices for president?	George Stephanopoulos	Gingrich, Romney, Paul, Perry, Bachmann, Santorum
12/IA— 12/10/11	I'm gonna come back to you because you have talked about citizen review boards to review individual cases, that treated them in individual basis. You mentioned the fact that someone who's been here 25 years, served the community, should get special consideration under this board. How many years is the threshold for your-- is it five years-- has served the community under the criteria that you've set out before?	Diane Sawyer	Gingrich
12/IA— 12/10/11	How many people should be sent back home to their countries? Should they be tracked down to establish who they are, sent back home to their country?	Diane Sawyer	Romney
12/IA— 12/10/11	Governor Perry, there is a case, or there are a number of these cases, of people who have signed up for the military, the U.S. military, who have been undocumented but nonetheless go and sign up. What should happen with them?	Diane Sawyer	Perry
12/IA— 12/10/11	Speaker Gingrich caused something of a stir overnight in the Middle East with comments he made in interview with the Jewish channel in which he called the Palestinians an invented people...Do you agree with that characterization, that the Palestinians are an invented people?	George Stephanopoulos	Paul, Romney, Bachmann
12/IA— 12/10/11	When is the last time you had a personal financial strain that forced you, not only to give up a luxury, but also to cut back on necessity? And what were the consequences you faced?	Voter	Gingrich, Romney, Paul, Perry, Bachmann, Santorum

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
12/IA— 12/10/11	You've said you've always been against a federal mandate; you supported it in the State of Massachusetts. Where there has been some ambiguity, at least in the past, is whether you think that other states should try the mandate. Back in 2007, you said that you thought it would be good for most states to try it; now you say you wouldn't encourage other states to try. Can you explain that?	Voter	Romney
12/IA— 12/10/11	As late as May of this year, you supported some form of the mandate when everyone else had-- had come out against it. What finally tipped you over and convinced you that it was unconstitutional?	George Stephanopoulos	Gingrich
12/IA— 12/10/11	The pharmacists were talking about a big driver of health care costs. And they specifically mentioned habits, unhealthy habits that we all need to learn to be better on at a young age. They talked about obesity, they talked about exercise. If I can ask you, Congressman Paul: Anything government should do on these fronts?	Diane Sawyer	Paul
12/IA— 12/10/11	Tell us the one thing you've learned from someone else, one of your challengers, on stage.	George Stephanopoulos	Gingrich, Romney, Paul, Perry, Bachmann, Santorum
13/IA— 12/15/11	They say that you're smart, that you're a big thinker. At the same time, many of those same Republicans worry deeply about your electability in a general election, saying perhaps Governor Romney is a safer bet. Can you put to rest once and for all the persistent doubts that you are, indeed, the right candidate on this stage to go up and beat President Obama?	Bret Baier	Gingrich
13/IA— 12/15/11	Some very fervent supporters and probably the most organized ground campaign here in Iowa. But there are many Republicans inside and outside of this state who openly doubt whether you can be elected president. How can you convince them otherwise? And if you don't wind up winning this nomination, will you pledge here tonight that you will support the ultimate nominee?	Megyn Kelly	Paul
13/IA— 12/15/11	You have visited every county in the state. And yet while we have seen no fewer than four Republican candidates surge in the polls, sometimes in extraordinary ways, so far your campaign and you have failed to catch fire with the voters. Why?	Megyn Kelly	Santorum
13/IA— 12/15/11	Because many of our viewers tell us that they are supporting Newt Gingrich because they think that he will be tougher than you in taking the fight to Barack Obama in next fall's debates. Why would you be able to make the Republican case against the president more effectively than the speaker?	Chris Wallace	Romney
13/IA— 12/15/11	What about your appeal to independents who are so crucial in a general election? If you are fortunate enough to become the Republican nominee, how would you counter the efforts by the Barack Obama campaign to paint you as too conservative to moderate voters?	Chris Wallace	Bachmann
13/IA— 12/15/11	You have said as much, and downplayed debating skills in general. But if you were to become your party's nominee, you would be going up against an accomplished debater in Barack Obama. There are many in this audience tonight, sir, who fear that possibility. And don't think you are up to the fight. Allay them of their concerns.	Neil Cavuto	Perry
13/IA— 12/15/11	Many question your ability to galvanize Republicans, and energize the conservative base of the party. They are especially leery of your refusal to sign on to a no-tax-hike pledge. How can you reassure them tonight?	Neil Cavuto	Huntsman

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
13/IA— 12/15/11	If you're president, as is the case now, and you are at loggerheads with one chamber of congress, how would you handle this situation?	Neil Cavuto	Gingrich, Romney, Paul, Perry, Bachmann, Santorum, Huntsman
13/IA— 12/15/11	But his comments dovetail with arguments you hear from Democrats that your belief in, what's called, the creative destruction of capitalism, shows a hardheartedness. What do you think of what Speaker Gingrich had to say about you? And are you vulnerable to that kind of attack?	Chris Wallace	Romney
13/IA— 12/15/11	Now that it turns out that you were on the Freddie Mac payroll to the tune of more than \$1.6 million, how do you answer critics who say that you're being hypocritical?	Chris Wallace	Gingrich
13/IA— 12/15/11	You are all over Iowa TV these days with a negative ad about Speaker Gingrich. You accuse him of selling access and playing the corrupt revolving door game. What about the explanation that you just heard, that he's in the private sector and this is free enterprise?	Chris Wallace	Paul
13/IA— 12/15/11	Congresswoman Bachmann, because you accused Speaker Gingrich of peddling his influence with congressional Republicans to help the companies that paid him tens of millions of dollars since he's left office. Given his denial over time and again tonight that he's — denies ever having lobbied, what is your evidence, hard evidence that he engaged in influence-peddling?	Chris Wallace	Bachmann
13/IA— 12/15/11	But earlier on, this might have confused Congressman Ryan and others for whom you had said was the initial Medicare fix that it was right wing social engineering. Later on you backed off that comment, said there was much you could find in Mr. Ryan's plan to like. Can you blame Governor Romney for saying you have a consistency problem on this issue?	Neil Cavuto	Gingrich
13/IA— 12/15/11	...the spending that you call out of control. But haven't you contributed to that spending problem yourself, sir, supporting over the years earmarks that have benefited your district and your state?	Neil Cavuto	Paul
13/IA— 12/15/11	But as Texas agriculture commissioner, you oversaw a loan guarantee program that, as The Austin American-Statesman reported at the time, had so many defaults that the state had to stop guaranteeing bank loans to start-ups in the agribusiness, and eventually bailed out the program with the tax-payer money. So aren't you guilty of the same behavior you rail against as a presidential candidate?	Neil Cavuto	Perry
13/IA— 12/15/11	Now as a former ambassador to China and one who has argued for an adult conversation with Beijing, how would you respond to what some are calling a childish move on the part of a country that routinely flouts international trade rules?	Neil Cavuto	Huntsman
13/IA— 12/15/11	Senator Santorum, right now American companies have trillions parked overseas because of the very high tax rates here. Would you support a tax holiday to bring that money back, but only under, as some Democrats have suggested, the condition that these companies hire workers with that money?	Neil Cavuto	Santorum
13/IA— 12/15/11	Over the next 10 years, in what sector or industries will most of the new jobs be created?	Voter	Romney

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
13/IA— 12/15/11	You have proposed a plan to subpoena judges to testify before Congress about controversial decisions that they make. In certain cases, you advocate impeaching judges or abolishing courts altogether. Two conservative former attorneys general have criticized your plan, saying it alters the checks and balances of the three branches of government. And they used words like “dangerous,” “outrageous,” and “totally irresponsible.” Are they wrong?	Megyn Kelly	Gingrich
13/IA— 12/15/11	Do you agree that the Ninth Circuit should be abolished? And if so, what would then happen if a Democratic president came into office and we had a democratically controlled Congress that later took aim at the right-leaning federal courts. Where would it end?	Megyn Kelly	Bachmann, Paul
13/IA— 12/15/11	As governor of Massachusetts, you passed over Republicans for three quarters of the judicial vacancies you faced, instead nominating Democrats or Independents. With that track record, why should Republicans believe that you will appoint conservatives to the bench if you become president?	Megyn Kelly	Romney
13/IA— 12/15/11	With just a name, favorite Supreme Court justice.	Megyn Kelly	Gingrich, Romney, Paul, Perry, Bachmann, Santorum, Huntsman
13/IA— 12/15/11	Now, judging from your past statements, even if you had solid intelligence that Iran, in fact, was going to get a nuclear weapon, President Paul would remove the U.S. sanctions on Iran, included those added by the Obama administration. So, to be clear, GOP nominee Paul would be running left of President Obama on the issue of Iran?	Bret Baier	Paul
13/IA— 12/15/11	Iran is reportedly running exercises on closing the Strait of Hormuz, a key passage, as you know, for global trade. Now what should the U.S. response be if Iran were to take that dramatic step?	Bret Baier	Paul
13/IA— 12/15/11	Senator Santorum, you have a very different thought about the threat from Iran. For several years, according to the U.S. military leaders, Iran has provided training, funding, and lethal arms to jihadists killing American soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan. Are those acts of war?	Bret Baier	Santorum
13/IA— 12/15/11	So in this case, are President Obama’s actions inviting war?	Bret Baier	Romney
13/IA— 12/15/11	Are there any circumstances as president where you would send U.S. troops back in to Iraq?	Bret Baier	Bachmann, Paul
13/IA— 12/15/11	In a Gingrich administration, would the United States leave the UN?...Governor Huntsman, do you agree?	Bret Baier	Gingrich, Huntsman
13/IA— 12/15/11	Governor Perry, given the grim details of the recent United Nations report on the Syrian regime killing and torturing its own people, thousands of people said to be killed at the hands of the Assad regime. At what point should the U.S. consider military intervention there?	Bret Baier	Perry
13/IA— 12/15/11	As you know, the president, sir, has rejected any efforts to tie a payroll tax cut extension with the Keystone pipeline and to reopen it and to explore reopening it as well...Given his opposition and the likelihood that the Keystone issue could be up in the air for a year or more, how do you recommend Republicans deal with this to force the issue?	Neil Cavuto	Gingrich
13/IA— 12/15/11	What I’d like to ask you, Governor, is there any condition under which a President Huntsman would say the need to protect our land trumps the need to provide more jobs?	Neil Cavuto	Huntsman

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
13/IA—12/15/11	You were very critical, Congresswoman, of the extended shutdown after the BP oil spill that I believe lasted upwards of five, six months, in terms of a moratorium. I was wondering, though, Congresswoman, if you were president and there were such a disaster again, what would be an acceptable period for oil drilling to cease, for you to get to the bottom of a problem?	Neil Cavuto	Bachmann
13/IA—12/15/11	You have railed against the special treatment of Ford and Solyndra as have the other candidates here tonight. And particularly the tax code incentives for green technologies and allowances that have been made for this industry. But...in 2003, you signed a bill that reduced the tax paid by some natural gas companies that have helped them reap since, better than \$7 billion in tax savings. So I — I guess what I'm saying is, are you guilty of the same behavior as governor, favoring an industry, that you claim this president has, favoring the green industry?	Neil Cavuto	Perry
13/IA—12/15/11	...the failed federal gun tracking program Operation Fast and Furious...So far, there is no clear proof that Mr. Holder knew about the controversial aspects of this operation. And he points out that he actually helped stop it when it came to his attention. Are you and other Republicans politicizing this issue as General Holder claims?	Megyn Kelly	Perry, Santorum
13/IA—12/15/11	Why would these illegal immigrants voluntarily leave America just to apply for a chance at legal status, especially when they have your assurance that if they stay put we are not going to round them up?	Megyn Kelly	Romney, Gingrich
13/IA—12/15/11	Nearly three-quarters of Latinos agree. Given these majorities and given the growing importance of the Latino vote in the general election, does the Republican presidential candidate need to take a more moderate approach on this issue if he hopes to defeat President Obama?	Megyn Kelly	Huntsman
13/IA—12/15/11	You say keeping an open mind is a strength, but some of your critics say that every one of these moves has been to your political advantage. When you were running in Massachusetts, you took liberal positions. Running now as president, you take more conservative positions. Is that principle or is it just politics?	Chris Wallace	Romney
13/IA—12/15/11	Senator Santorum, you have campaigned on social issues as much or perhaps more than any other candidate on this stage. Are you persuaded that Governor Romney has made these changes or what he says in some cases are not changes, based on principle and not political expedience?	Chris Wallace	Santorum
13/IA—12/15/11	Congresswoman Bachmann, you say that Speaker Gingrich has a, quote, "inconsistent record on life" and you singled out comments he made recently that life begins with the implantation of a fertilized egg, not at conception. What is your concern?	Chris Wallace	Bachmann
13/IA—12/15/11	So I guess the question is, how do you balance on the one hand trying to win the nomination with on the other hand not weakening the eventual nominee to the point where he or she is less electable than President Obama?	Chris Wallace	Gingrich, Romney, Paul, Perry, Bachmann, Santorum, Huntsman
14/NH—1/7/12	Governor Romney, we'll begin with you. We just saw 200,000 new jobs created last month, and there are optimists who say this is the signal that this economy is finally turning around. Are you with those optimists?	Diane Sawyer	Romney
14/NH—1/7/12	Senator Santorum, you have said we don't need a CEO, we don't need a manager as president. What did you mean by that?	Diane Sawyer	Santorum

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
14/NH—1/7/12	It calls that tenure "a story of greed," that's a quote, saying that Bain made spectacular profits by, again, quote, "stripping American businesses of assets, selling everything to the highest bidder and often killing jobs for big financial rewards." Do you agree with that characterization?	George Stephanopoulos	Gingrich
14/NH—1/7/12	I've read some analysts who look at it and say that you're counting the jobs that were created but not counting the jobs that were taken away. Is that accurate?	George Stephanopoulos	Romney
14/NH—1/7/12	Is Governor Romney's record at Bain a weakness or a strength?	George Stephanopoulos	Huntsman
14/NH—1/7/12	You call him a corrupt -- a corporate lobbyist, a Washington insider with a record of betrayal. You also call him corrupt in that ad. Senator Santorum is standing right here. Are you willing to stand by those charges and explain them?	George Stephanopoulos	Paul
14/NH—1/7/12	Governor, you're saying Congressman Paul is an insider?	George Stephanopoulos	Perry
14/NH—1/7/12	You think they want a nuclear weapon. Tell us why you would be better as commander-in-chief than the other candidates on this stage?	Diane Sawyer	Huntsman
14/NH—1/7/12	Do you believe having worn a uniform, being part of a unit, better prepares you for the job of commander-in-chief than those on the state who haven't served?	Josh McElveen	Perry
14/NH—1/7/12	Dr. Paul referred to you as a chicken hawk because you didn't serve. Given what you just heard Governor Perry say about understanding the military and Dr. Paul's comments. How do you respond?	Josh McElveen	Gingrich
14/NH—1/7/12	You've said that even though they were written under your name, that you didn't necessarily know they were written, you don't necessarily stand by them. Can you really take the time now and explain to everybody what happened there, how it was possible that those kind of comments went out under your name without you knowing about it?	George Stephanopoulos	Paul
14/NH—1/7/12	Governor Romney, do you believe that states have the right to ban contraception? Or is that trumped by a constitutional right to privacy?	George Stephanopoulos	Romney
14/NH—1/7/12	Given that you oppose gay marriage, what do you want gay people to do who want to form loving, committed, long-term relationships? What is your solution?	Voter	Gingrich
14/NH—1/7/12	Governor Huntsman, you've talked about civil unions. How do you disagree with the others on this stage?	Diane Sawyer	Huntsman
14/NH—1/7/12	Your position on same-sex adoption, obviously, you are in favor of traditional families, but are you going to tell someone they belong in -- as a ward of the state or in foster care, rather than have two parents who want them?	Josh McElveen	Santorum
14/NH—1/7/12	If we have a federal constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage, what happens to the 1,800 families who have married here? Are their marriages basically illegitimate at this point?	Josh McElveen	Santorum

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
14/NH—1/7/12	...about what you would say sitting down in your living room to a gay couple who say, "We simply want to have the right to," as the -- as the person who wrote the e-mail said -- "we want gay people to form loving, committed, long-term relationships." In human terms, what would you say to them?	Diane Sawyer	Romney
14/NH—1/7/12	Congressman Paul, let me bring this to you. You're running here in the Republican primary, but you haven't promised to support the party's nominee in November. And you refuse to rule out running as a third party candidate if you fail to get the nomination. Why not rule that out?	George Stephanopoulos	Paul
14/NH—1/7/12	Governor Perry, do you think everyone on this stage should rule out third party candidacy?	Diane Sawyer	Perry
14/NH—1/7/12	Afghanistan, 90,000 troops tonight and we salute them all serving in Afghanistan. What is the earliest you think they should be brought home?	Diane Sawyer	Huntsman, Romney, Gingrich
14/NH—1/7/12	Senator Santorum, would you send troops back into Iraq right now?	Diane Sawyer	Santorum
14/NH—1/7/12	Governor Perry, we know you have differences with President Obama, but who's got the better of this argument [on Iraq] right here between Senator Santorum and Governor Huntsman?	George Stephanopoulos	Perry, Gingrich
14/NH—1/7/12	You've said that you would not send troops in right now, but give us a sense of the trigger. What would it take for you to send troops back in?	Diane Sawyer	Romney
14/NH—1/7/12	You have said that you wouldn't have authorized the raid to get Osama bin Laden. You think that a nuclear Iran is really none of our business. How do you reconcile that, when part of your job as president would be to...	Josh McElveen	Paul
14/NH—1/7/12	So the question is, again, infrastructure. With the increasing demands on our roads and bridges, and the aging roads and bridges, how committed would you be -- and we'll start with you, Governor Romney -- to invest -- not so much as a stimulus package, but a true economic growth package on our infrastructure?	Josh McElveen	Romney
14/NH—1/7/12	Speaker Gingrich, I know you agree with Governor Romney again on his views on President Obama, but how would your plans on job creation distinguish you from Governor Romney?	George Stephanopoulos	Gingrich
14/NH—1/7/12	Governor Huntsman, where is the money going to come from?	George Stephanopoulos	Huntsman
14/NH—1/7/12	Why not go to zero [taxes]?	George Stephanopoulos	Romney
14/NH—1/7/12	We hear over and over again people are hoping for a great vision for America once again, America on the move once again. Give us the great vision that is realistic given the financial situation, a realistic great vision for America.	Diane Sawyer	Paul, Perry, Huntsman
14/NH—1/7/12	Governor Romney, why not close all the loopholes, as Governor Huntsman is saying?	George Stephanopoulos	Romney
14/NH—1/7/12	You've made the case on several occasions that he's not the man to carry that message for the Republican Party. Why not?	George Stephanopoulos	Gingrich

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
14/NH—1/7/12	Governor Huntsman, vision for dealing with China, competing around the world?	Diane Sawyer	Huntsman
14/NH—1/7/12	So if you weren't here running for president, Governor Perry, what would you be doing on a Saturday night?	George Stephanopoulos	Gingrich, Romney, Paul, Perry, Santorum, Huntsman
15/NH—1/8/12	Speaker Gingrich, why shouldn't Governor Romney be the nominee of this party? What about his record concerns you most or makes him-- disqualified to be the nominee?	David Gregory	Gingrich, Perry
15/NH—1/8/12	So you've got a long Washington record. How do you address this question? Why shouldn't Governor Romney be the nominee? What is disqualifying, in your judgment?	David Gregory	Santorum
15/NH—1/8/12	Only nine years ago, during an interview with New England Cable News, he said the following. "I think people recognize that I'm not a partisan Republican. That I'm someone who is moderate and my views are progressive." Do you believe Governor Romney now when he says that he is a man of constancy and that he'll stand up for conservative principles?	David Gregory	Paul
15/NH—1/8/12	I wonder what specifically you would do to say to Americans, "These are cuts I'm going to make in federal spending that cause pain, that will require sacrifice?"...name three areas where Americans will feel real pain in order to balance the budget?	David Gregory	Huntsman, Santorum
15/NH—1/8/12	As you know, Senator Santorum thinks that current seniors-- should be moved off of that program into premium support or a voucher program. Do you agree with doing it that quickly and making current seniors-- bear the brunt of that?	David Gregory	Gingrich
15/NH—1/8/12	With more Americans on government assistance than ever before, is it un-American for Americans to feel relieved when the government helps them?	Voter	Perry
15/NH—1/8/12	...mentioned you said seniors should be affected right now. 55-plus, have them affected right now, which has been somewhat controversial. You wanna respond to that?	David Gregory	Paul
15/NH—1/8/12	Warren Buffett says, "Hey, the wealthier in this country can pay more and they should pay more. Indeed-- balancing the budget is a way for more economic growth down the line." Who knows more about the American economy, Grover Norquist or Warren Buffet?	David Gregory	Romney, Huntsman
15/NH—1/8/12	Harry Reid says he's gonna promise to make you a one term president, how would you propose to work with someone like that in order to achieve results in Washington?	David Gregory	Gingrich
15/NH—1/8/12	Anybody else have a point of view about how you actually work with the other side when they've committed to working against you? Governor?	David Gregory	Romney
15/NH—1/8/12	I want to know what Ron Paul's plan of action will be to achieve getting the House and Senate to help him do all he's promised.	Voter	Paul
15/NH—1/8/12	Washington is polarized. The country is polarized. And the American people are pretty sick of the fact that nothing gets done in Washington. Specifically how do you change that?	David Gregory	Santorum
15/NH—1/8/12	Governor Huntsman, this question of if the leader of the Democrats promised to make you a one term president, how would you go about dealing with them in a more effective way than you think the man you served, President Obama, did?	David Gregory	Huntsman

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
15/NH—1/8/12	I wonder where you would buck your party? What would you say or do to make Republicans uncomfortable?	David Gregory	Perry
15/NH—1/8/12	Yet President Obama and Congress have cut by 25% the program that helps-- helps low income people heat their homes. About a million households that were helped last year, won't be helped this year. Is this an example of pain that must be suffered? Should this program funding be restored, should it be cut more? Should this program be eliminated, perhaps? Where does this fit in?	John Distaso	Huntsman
15/NH—1/8/12	Congressman Paul, how do you feel about how do you feel about subsidies in general, for a specific energy?	John Distaso	Paul
15/NH—1/8/12	There's also a larger question about the social safety net. You talk all the time about opportunity for Americans, but what about Americans left behind? In this age of austerity, what do Americans have to learn to live with less of?	David Gregory	Romney
15/NH—1/8/12	"I think the gay community needs more support from the Republican Party, and I would be a voice in the Republican Party to foster anti-discrimination efforts." How have you stood up for gay rights and when have you used your voice to influence Republicans on this issue?	Andy Hiller	Romney
15/NH—1/8/12	Senator Santorum, would you be a voice for increasing gay rights in the party?	Andy Hiller	Santorum
15/NH—1/8/12	What if you had a son who came to you and said he was gay?	Andy Hiller	Santorum
15/NH—1/8/12	The right to work, which outlaws mandatory union membership, as you know, continues to be a major issue in the State of New Hampshire. You've spoken about the promoting-- having states pass state laws. What about on the federal level? Do you see this as a federal issue and one that you would promote as president? Or is it a state by state issue?	Andy Hiller	Perry
15/NH—1/8/12	I'd like to ask both Governor Romney quickly and Senator Santorum quickly, what positive contributions to labor unions provide in this country at this point in the 21st Century?	Andy Hiller	Romney, Santorum
15/NH—1/8/12	It was Governor Romney who made the point to a young person who approached him that, if he were president, when this person got out of college--he or she'd have a job. If President Obama has a second term, he or she will not have a job. Isn't that the kind of thing that makes people angry with politicians? Easy answers like that?	David Gregory	Gingrich
15/NH—1/8/12	Governor Romney, on this economic question, you blame President Obama for the jobs crisis, but when you look at the data, and a positive trend line, he still only gets the blame and none of the credit. How come?	David Gregory	Romney
15/NH—1/8/12	Many Senate Republicans attacked an EPA rule limiting air pollution that affects downwind states. But she and others, including Scott Brown, joined with the president and Senate Democrats to block a repeal effort. Now is this an example, this cross-state air pollution rule, of fair regulation? Something that we in the Northeast are very concerned about, in terms of pollution? Or is this over-regulation, job-killing over-regulation?	John Distaso	Romney
15/NH—1/8/12	What exactly is an "Environmental Solutions Agency"? I think a lot of people might not know or understand why you wanted to disband the EPA and set up something that kind of looks like the EPA.	John Distaso	Gingrich

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
15/NH—1/8/12	John McCain, wrote in the Washington Post in an Op-ed about a year ago, his words, "I disagree with many of the president's policies, but I believe he is a patriot sincerely intent on using his time in office to advance our country's cause. I reject accusations that his policies and belief make him unworthy to lead America or opposed to its founding ideals." Agree?	Andy Hiller	Perry
15/NH—1/8/12	Senator Santorum, when you voted for a new prescription drug benefit that did not have a funding mechanism, were you advancing socialism?	David Gregory	Santorum
15/NH—1/8/12	And I'm gonna say many Americans, particularly Democrats, believe that health care is a right. In your opinion, what services are all Americans entitled to expect to get from government?	Andy Hiller	Paul
15/NH—1/8/12	What does our state motto, "Live Free or Die"-- mean to you personally, and how would it guide you-- in the White House?	John Distaso	Huntsman
15/NH—1/8/12	I wonder why it is if America has lived with a nuclear Soviet Union, we have come to live with a nuclear North Korea. Why is it that we cannot live with a nuclear Iran? And if we can't, are you prepared to take the country to war to disarm that country?...What about Pakistan? They are an indifferent ally at best. They have nuclear weapons. Are you also prepared as president to say they must disarm or else?	David Gregory	Santorum
15/NH—1/8/12	And now you have a former campaign spokesman, who is preparing attacks against Governor Romney, calling him quote "a predator" for his involvement at the investment company, Bain. You agreed with somebody who said that Governor Romney was a liar, when he didn't take account for those attacks against you. Are you consistent now, as you're preparing to launch against Governor Romney?	David Gregory	Gingrich
15/NH—1/8/12	Senator Santorum, we've talked some about the role of government, but the presidency is often called "the bully pulpit." I wonder, as president, how you'd use the bully pulpit to try to shape American culture and values?	David Gregory	Santorum, Paul
16/SC—1/16/12	Speaker Gingrich, on a debate stage in September, you vowed to, quote, "repudiate every effort of the news media to get Republicans to fight each other to protect Barack Obama, who deserves to be defeated," close quote. And yet in recent days, you and your campaign have cited numerous outlets, from the New York Times to Salon.com, to attack Governor Romney's business record, the exact line of attack the Obama campaign is using. Why?	Bret Baier	Gingrich
16/SC—1/16/12	Speaker Gingrich, the Wall Street Journal editorial page calls your attacks crude and damaging caricatures of modern business and capitalism. And they write that you are embarrassing yourself by taking the Obama line...How do you respond to that?	Bret Baier	Gingrich
16/SC—1/16/12	Governor Perry, you have gone so far as to call what Mitt Romney did at Bain vulture capitalism. But you've also said regulations in America are killing America. In fact, you said we should repeal the most recent financial regulations law, Dodd-Frank. So what specific regulations would you put in place to curb vulture capitalism?	Bret Baier	Perry
16/SC—1/16/12	Bain Capital though, took \$100 million in profits and fees. Does that show a flaw in the Bain Capital model? Or is that just the rough and tumble of America capitalism?	Gerald Seib	Romney
16/SC—1/16/12	You have been particularly scathing in your ads against the other candidates up here on stage tonight. Do you agree with Governor Huntsman that these attacks should be abandoned?	Kelly Evans	Paul

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
16/SC—1/16/12	Should these barbed personal attacks against fellow Republicans be abandoned by the candidates?	Juan Williams	Santorum
16/SC—1/16/12	I want to support Mitt Romney, but considering his changing views, convince me you won't change again.	Voter	Romney
16/SC—1/16/12	Governor Perry, are you suggesting on this Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, that the federal government has no business scrutinizing the voting laws of states where minorities were once denied the right to vote?	Juan Williams	Perry
16/SC—1/16/12	In December, Congress authorized an additional 20 weeks of jobless benefits. Benefits being paid by the federal government in many cases because states can't afford them. Do you support extending these benefits when they expire at the end of the month? Why or why not?	Bret Baier	Santorum, Gingrich
16/SC—1/16/12	Governor Romney, core European nations have just been downgraded, and several are only able to raise funds because of help from central banks. As president, you could immediately be faced with another financial crisis, perhaps this time sparked in Europe. This is not some imaginary event. How far would you be willing to go to keep the financial system functioning?	Kelly Evans	Romney
16/SC—1/16/12	Congressman Paul, South Carolina has seven major military bases, and thousands of people employed in the defense industry. But you want to make major cuts in defense spending, several hundred billion dollars in the coming years, that inevitably would cost South Carolina jobs. What do you say to people in this state who worry that your military plans would hurt the national security and cost South Carolina jobs?	Gerald Seib	Paul
16/SC—1/16/12	What is the highest federal income tax any American should have to pay? We are looking for a number.	Bret Baier	Perry, Santorum, Romney, Gingrich, Paul
16/SC—1/16/12	Governor, will you release your income tax records?	Kelly Evans	Romney
16/SC—1/16/12	You have taken the hardest line of anyone on this stage on immigration reform, including opposition to key parts of the DREAM Act, which is supported by 80 percent of Latinos in this country. Are you alienating Latino voters that Republicans will need to win the general election?	Juan Williams	Romney
16/SC—1/16/12	The Obama administration has not specifically addressed high levels of joblessness and a 25 percent poverty rate in black America. They say they want to fix the economy for all, but given the crisis situation among a group of historically disadvantaged Americans, do you feel the time has come to take special steps to deal with the extraordinary level of poverty afflicting one race of America?	Juan Williams	Santorum
16/SC—1/16/12	Do you see racial disparities in drug-related arrests and convictions as a problem? And if so, how would you fix it?	Juan Williams	Paul
16/SC—1/16/12	You also said poor kids lack a strong work ethic and proposed having them work as janitors in their schools. Can't you see that this is viewed, at a minimum, as insulting to all Americans, but particularly to black Americans?	Juan Williams	Gingrich
16/SC—1/16/12	So to be clear, you believe international law should have constrained us from tracking down and killing the man responsible for the most brazen attack on the U.S. since Pearl Harbor?	Bret Baier	Paul

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
16/SC—1/16/12	If you received, Speaker Gingrich, actionable intelligence about the location of Taliban leader Mullah Mohammed Omar inside Pakistan would you authorize a unilateral operation, much like the one that killed bin Laden, with or without the Pakistani government knowing, even if the consequence was an end to all U.S.-Pakistani cooperation?	Bret Baier	Gingrich
16/SC—1/16/12	Governor Romney, should the United States negotiate with the Taliban to end the fighting in Afghanistan?	Bret Baier	Romney
16/SC—1/16/12	Mitchell Rice, who I believe is one of your top foreign policy advisers, said that the Taliban may well be, quote, "our enemy and our negotiating partner." He said this means that some type of negotiated solution is the best near-term bet to halt the fighting. Is he wrong?	Bret Baier	Romney
16/SC—1/16/12	Now, in Syria, at the hands of Bashar al Assad, it's estimated that some 5,000 people have been killed. The country appears to be sliding into civil war and Arab League peace monitors seem to be failing. How would President Santorum, deal with this international crisis?	Bret Baier	Santorum
16/SC—1/16/12	Governor Perry, since the Islamist-oriented party took over in Turkey, the murder rate of women has increased 1,400 percent there. Press freedom has declined to the level of Russia. The prime minister of Turkey has embraced Hamas and Turkey has threatened military force against both Israel and Cypress. Given Turkey's turn, do you believe Turkey still belongs in NATO?	Bret Baier	Perry
16/SC—1/16/12	As president, would you have signed the National Defense Act as written?	Kelly Evans	Romney, Santorum
16/SC—1/16/12	What measures would you immediately take to improve the housing market? Or do you consider any such intervention to be an overreach of government?	Kelly Evans	Perry
16/SC—1/16/12	Would you reduce the cost of these programs by raising the retirement age for Social Security, by raising the eligibility age for Medicare, or by reducing benefits for seniors with higher incomes?	Gerald Seib	Romney
16/SC—1/16/12	The plan that you have endorsed for addressing Social Security, you suggest also that younger workers should be allowed to put their tax money into private accounts rather than into the government program. But that plan also says that if those private accounts don't pay out as much as the government program would, Washington should cut a check to make up the difference. Is that really a free market outcome if the government guarantees the outcome?	Bret Baier	Gingrich
16/SC—1/16/12	Senator Santorum, in your jobs program you propose to eliminate the corporate income tax for manufacturers, but not for other businesses. Isn't that picking winners and losers in the same way the Obama administration did when it gave grants to one solar energy company, Solyndra, and it went bankrupt?	Bret Baier	Santorum
16/SC—1/16/12	You signed the nation's first ban on assault weapons in Massachusetts and steeply increased fees on gun owners in that state, in fact by 400 percent. How can you convince gun owners that you will be an advocate for them as president?	Juan Williams	Romney
16/SC—1/16/12	Senator Santorum, you voted in support of requiring trigger locks on handguns. You also voted for background checks on firearm purchases made at gun shows. These positions have led your rivals to question your second amendment bona fides. What can you say tonight to reassure gun owners that you will stand with them?	Juan Williams	Santorum

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
16/SC— 1/16/12	A super PAC supporting Governor Romney is running an ad here citing a pro-life's group charge that you voted for a bill in Congress, co-sponsored by Nancy Pelosi, that supported China's one-child policy. And they say that means you provided government funding for abortion, but you oppose abortion. What's your response to that charge?	Gerald Seib	Gingrich
16/SC— 1/16/12	So Governor Romney, in the general election, if you are the nominee you would like to see Super PACs ended?	Bret Baier	Romney
16/SC— 1/16/12	Governor, wouldn't we be better off not spending more money on border walls?	Kelly Evans	Perry
16/SC— 1/16/12	Has No Child Left Behind been a success or a failure? If the latter, what needs to be done to change it?	Voter	Gingrich
17/SC— 1/19/12	As you know, your ex-wife gave an interview to ABC News and another interview with The Washington Post, and this story has now gone viral on the Internet. In it, she says that you came to her in 1999, at a time when you were having an affair. She says you asked her, sir, to enter into an open marriage. Would you like to take some time to respond to that?	John King	Gingrich
17/SC— 1/19/12	Speaker Gingrich doesn't believe this is an issue; Governor Perry says this is not an issue. I just want to start with you, sir, and go down. Do you believe it is?	John King	Santorum, Romney, Paul
17/SC— 1/19/12	Do you believe we need specific federal programs to put the American people back to work?	Voter	Paul, Gingrich
17/SC— 1/19/12	...pretty sharp criticism of Governor Romney's tenure as the CEO of Bain Capital. I want you to be specific: What do you think he did wrong that makes you question his ability as a president to create jobs?	John King	Gingrich
17/SC— 1/19/12	You have said 120,000 jobs that you can tie back to decisions you made at Bain Capital. I want you to take your time, sir, and do the math. Do the math in how you get to 100,000 or 120,000 jobs.	John King	Romney
17/SC— 1/19/12	Specifically to the initial question from Jane, what should the federal government be doing? And do you believe in specific programs? And I also want to ask you if you share the speaker's concern about Governor Romney's tenure at Bain.	John King	Santorum
17/SC— 1/19/12	Should the federal government be specifically targeting that part, our veterans coming back, saying the unemployment rate is so high among that subgroup that the federal government should offer a tax incentive to employers, or take other steps to help them, to incentivize the economy to help them get jobs?	John King	Paul
17/SC— 1/19/12	Senator Santorum, you started to shake your head. Again, specifically it's a role-of-government question. Should the question be stepping in and saying we need to help this subgroup in the economy that's hurting, the veterans?	John King	Santorum
17/SC— 1/19/12	How do you do it? How -- what specifically do you do to help the veterans?	John King	Romney, Gingrich
17/SC— 1/19/12	Do any of you sincerely believe that "Obamacare" can either be repealed or reversed in its entirety?	Voter	Romney, Gingrich
17/SC— 1/19/12	Do you trust them, if one of them is the Republican Party's nominee, and potentially the next president of the United States, to repeal this law?	John King	Santorum, Paul
17/SC— 1/19/12	He suggested perhaps Governor Perry and Senator Santorum should get out of the race. In suggesting that, he said this: You don't have, quote, "any of the knowledge for how to do something on this scale." What do you say to that?	John King	Santorum

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17/SC— 1/19/12	But also, as I do, you put an ad on the air, paid by your campaign -- this is not one of the super PAC ads, your campaign -- calling the speaker an unreliable leader. Why?	John King	Romney
17/SC— 1/19/12	Gentlemen, when will you release your tax returns, specifically?	Voter	Santorum, Romney, Paul, Gingrich
17/SC— 1/19/12	He released them for not one year, but for 12 years. And when he did that, he said this: One year could be a fluke, perhaps done for show. When you release yours, will you follow your father's example?	John King	Romney
17/SC— 1/19/12	Apple Computer is a breathtakingly important American company...It employs about 500,000 people in China. It is based in the United States, has some employees here, about 40-something-thousand, I think 46,000, most of them in retail stores and at the headquarters; 500,000 of them are in China. As a president of the United States, what do you do about that?	John King	Santorum
17/SC— 1/19/12	Congressman Paul, how do you revive made in America?	John King	Paul
17/SC— 1/19/12	What is your take on SOPA, and how do you believe it affects Americans?	Voter	Santorum, Romney, Paul, Gingrich
17/SC— 1/19/12	If there's one thing, just one thing in this campaign you could do over, what would it be?	John King	Santorum, Romney, Paul, Gingrich
17/SC— 1/19/12	On the issue of amnesty of the illegal aliens, how would you secure that the American citizens would get the jobs in line first for them?	Voter	Santorum, Romney, Paul, Gingrich
17/SC— 1/19/12	What about individuals? About a quarter of the illegal immigrants in the country work for individuals. If this is a problem, if I hired an illegal immigrant, say, to clean my home, should I be prosecuted for doing that?	John King	Paul
17/SC— 1/19/12	Your campaign sent out a mailing to South Carolina Republicans across this state, essentially questioning Governor Romney's commitment on this issue, saying that he has changed his position on the abortion issue...Mr. Cain, who was with us at the time, said case-closed, and I paused. No one else took the opportunity to speak up. If it was case closed then, why is it a legitimate issue now?	John King	Gingrich
17/SC— 1/19/12	South Carolina essentially faces this decision: not so fast, let's continue the race; or embrace Governor Romney. Make your case to the people of South Carolina in these final hours.	John King	Santorum, Romney, Paul, Gingrich
18/FL — 1/23/12	Governor Romney, was out today calling you erratic, a failed leader, and warning that your nomination for this party could perhaps result in what he called an "October surprise a day." So given the fact that he went after you today on this topic of electability, your response tonight, Mr. Speaker?	Brian Williams	Gingrich
18/FL — 1/23/12	And even Chris Christie, one of the most popular politicians in this country, speaking on your behalf, said this weekend your challenge is "going to be how to connect with people." Same question to you about electability.	Brian Williams	Romney
18/FL — 1/23/12	Governor Romney, to your electability, let's talk about the southern base of the GOP. Among those who describe themselves as very conservative, only one in five have gone your way. How is that going to bode well for the longer campaign?	Brian Williams	Romney

Debate Number, Location, Date	Question	Asker	To Whom (or to whom it was directed by moderator)
18/FL— 1/23/12	Senator Santorum, you have labeled this choice as being between an erratic and a moderate. You come in here tonight with one victory in Iowa. Where is your path to the top here?	Brian Williams	Santorum
18/FL— 1/23/12	So that begs the question about your path and when you will give an honest answer about perhaps your third-party plans going forward. Are you in this regardless of the outcome to your right here on this stage?...Will you run as a third- party candidate?	Brian Williams	Paul
18/FL— 1/23/12	Would you support a Newt Gingrich as nominee of the GOP?	Brian Williams	Paul
18/FL— 1/23/12	So, prior to tomorrow, can you tell us tonight what's in there that's going to get people talking? What's in there that's going to be controversial? What's in there that you may find yourself defending?	Brian Williams	Romney
18/FL— 1/23/12	More broadly, Governor, just an aside, have you been surprised at the degree to which your wealth has become an issue?	Brian Williams	Romney
18/FL— 1/23/12	Your company was paid \$25,000 a month, \$300,000 for the year. But it didn't provide a further explanation of services for Freddie Mac. Why one year's worth? Governor Romney today used the expression "work product." He wants to see your work product, and the word "lobbying" has been thrown around, and you strongly disagree with that.	Brian Williams	Gingrich
18/FL— 1/23/12	Since we've been nibbling around the edges of the foreclosure crisis, since, what, 40 percent of homeowners in this state are underwater, 53 percent of the homes in Tampa, Florida, are worth less today than before this crisis. Was it too easy? Did vehicles of the U.S. government make it too easy to own a home in America?	Brian Williams	Santorum
18/FL— 1/23/12	To help these homeowners or not?	Brian Williams	Santorum, Romney, Paul, Gingrich
18/FL— 1/23/12	Do you really think the financial system is overregulated?	Brian Williams	Gingrich, Romney
18/FL— 1/23/12	And there are credible people in the Pentagon who predict upwards of half a million Cubans may take that as a cue to come to the United States. What do you do?	Brian Williams	Romney
18/FL— 1/23/12	As a practical matter, along the Florida coast, though, you know the policy, so called wet foot/dry foot. What do you do if folks start arriving in the United States?	Brian Williams	Gingrich, Paul
18/FL— 1/23/12	If there was a strong lobby of Chinese dissidents living in a state as politically important of -- as Florida, do you think we'd have a trade policy with China that looks more like the trade policy with Cuba?	Brian Williams	Santorum
18/FL— 1/23/12	Governor Romney, last night, the Abe Lincoln, U.S. aircraft carrier and a couple other attendant U.S. Navy vessels passed through the Strait of Hormuz into the Persian Gulf. If Iran was able to fulfill, carry out that threat to shut down the strait, would you consider that an act of war? What would you do about it as president?	Brian Williams	Romney
18/FL— 1/23/12	Speaker Gingrich if you accept that bedrock definition that it is an act of war, how do you gauge the appetite on the part of the American people after the better part of a decade of warfare, fighting dual wars overseas for something like that?	Brian Williams	Gingrich
18/FL— 1/23/12	Governor Romney, how do you end a war in Afghanistan without talking to the Taliban?	Brian Williams	Romney

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18/FL – 1/23/12	Any appetite on this stage to negotiate with the Taliban?	Brian Williams	Paul
18/FL – 1/23/12	The problem with that, so many in the military tell you, is the target list. Where do you limit it -- the air strikes that some estimate would begin at 30 to 60 days sustained, taking out air defenses, all of that familiar language the American people have just been through for a decade?	Brian Williams	Santorum
18/FL – 1/23/12	Senator Santorum, here in Florida, BP is still airing apologetic appeals on television, but there are proposals to expand offshore oil drilling. The state's most optimistic estimates say more drilling would create 5,000 jobs, but an oil spill would threaten Florida's tourism industry, which employs nearly 1 million people. Is that worth the risk?	Beth Reinhard	Santorum
18/FL – 1/23/12	All of you favor making English the official language of the United States, which could mean that ballots and other government documents would not be available in Spanish. But, Speaker Gingrich, you're sending out press releases in Spanish; Governor Romney, you're advertising in Spanish. Why is it OK for you to court voters in Spanish, but not OK for the government to serve them in Spanish?	Beth Reinhard	Santorum, Romney, Paul, Gingrich
18/FL – 1/23/12	The Dream Act, which, as you know, would provide a pathway to citizenship for children who have been brought to the U.S. illegally if they attend college or enroll in the military...Now, Governor Romney and Senator Santorum have both said they would veto this legislation. Would you do the same?	Beth Reinhard	Gingrich
18/FL – 1/23/12	You say you don't want to go and round up people and deport them, but you also say that they would have to go back to their home countries and then apply for citizenship. So, if you don't deport them, how do you send them home?	Adam Smith	Romney
18/FL – 1/23/12	Senator Santorum, is self-deportation, is that a valid concept?	Adam Smith	Santorum
18/FL – 1/23/12	Here in Florida, sugar is a very important industry, and it's subsidized, as well, with import restrictions, quotas. There's a conservative movement to do away with these programs. In the case of sugar, critics say it -- it adds billions of dollars to -- to consumers' grocery bills every year. What would you do about that?	Adam Smith	Gingrich, Romney
18/FL – 1/23/12	Florida's Everglades provide one in three Floridians with their drinking water. It affects thousands of jobs. Right now, there's a joint federal-state program to save what's left of the Everglades. Would you commit to continuing that federal financing of the Everglades preservation?	Adam Smith	Paul
18/FL – 1/23/12	Senator Santorum, in 2005, Florida was in the middle of a huge national debate over Terri Schiavo, whether her feeding tube should be removed after the courts had ruled that she had been in a vegetative state for years. You were at the center, at the front of advocating congressional intervention to keep her alive. You even came down here, came to her bedside after a fund-raiser. Why should the government have more say in medical decisions like that than a spouse?	Adam Smith	Santorum
18/FL – 1/23/12	What was your view of the Terri Schiavo case?	Adam Smith	Paul, Gingrich
18/FL – 1/23/12	America right now has no way to put people into space except to hitch a ride with the Russians. Meanwhile, the Chinese are ramping up their space program. At a time when you all want to shrink federal spending, should space exploration be a priority?	Beth Reinhard	Romney, Gingrich

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18/FL – 1/23/12	You've talked about the millions of jobs created by the Reagan tax cuts. If tax cuts create jobs, why didn't the Bush tax cuts work?	Beth Reinhard	Gingrich
18/FL – 1/23/12	The question is, about that soul, what have you done to further the cause of conservatism as a Republican leader?	Brian Williams	Romney, Gingrich
18/FL – 1/23/12	Romney seeks to link Gingrich to foreclosure crisis. And here's a second one: The verdict is in, Mitt Romney's Bain Capital problem is real. What's the net effect of all this, of the tax release tomorrow, of the Freddie Mac release tonight on your party, say your candidacy, as you try to go forward?	Brian Williams	Santorum
18/FL – 1/23/12	Are the two men in the middle insufficiently conservative for you?	Brian Williams	Paul
18/FL – 1/23/12	What scares you about the presidency if you made it to the job you want?	Brian Williams	Gingrich
18/FL – 1/23/12	Governor Romney, you talk about restoring America's greatness. Given that, in your view when was America last great?	Brian Williams	Romney
19/FL – 1/26/12	Can you tell me what specific actions you'll take to address the costly consequences of illegal immigration while preserving the rights of those who seek to immigrate legally?	Voter	Santorum
19/FL – 1/26/12	You've suggested that self- deportation as advocated by Governor Romney is in your words, "An Obama level fantasy." Why?...What makes you think that program could work?	Wolf Blitzer	Gingrich, Romney, Paul
19/FL – 1/26/12	Speaker Gingrich, you had an ad, but you pulled it this week, in which you described Governor Romney as the most anti-immigrant candidate. Why did you do that?	Wolf Blitzer	Gingrich
19/FL – 1/26/12	You had an ad running saying that Speaker Gingrich called Spanish "the language of the ghetto."	Wolf Blitzer	Romney
19/FL – 1/26/12	What would each of you do as president to more deeply engage in Latin America and, importantly, to support the governments and the political parties that support democracy and free markets?	Voter	Paul, Santorum
19/FL – 1/26/12	How would you phase out Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac? Does the private mortgage industry need additional regulation?	Voter	Romney, Gingrich
19/FL – 1/26/12	It seems they both [Romney, Gingrich] acknowledge they both made money from Fannie and Freddie. Should they return that money?	Wolf Blitzer	Paul, Santorum
19/FL – 1/26/12	Earlier this week, you said Governor Romney, after he released his taxes, you said that you were satisfied with the level of transparency of his personal finances when it comes to this. And I just want to reiterate and ask you, are you satisfied right now with the level of transparency as far as his personal finances?	Wolf Blitzer	Gingrich
19/FL – 1/26/12	Under your proposed tax plan, he would pay zero taxes. Explain that.	Wolf Blitzer	Gingrich
19/FL – 1/26/12	Most of the polls, almost all of the polls, want the wealthiest Americans to pay more in taxes in order to balance the budget. Why are they wrong, in your opinion?	Wolf Blitzer	Santorum, Paul
19/FL – 1/26/12	You're 76 years old. You would be the oldest president of the United States if you were elected. Are you prepared to release your medical records so voters out there know what your health is?	Wolf Blitzer	Paul
19/FL – 1/26/12	My question is, what would your plan be for the future of manned space flight and the future of NASA?	Voter	Romney, Santorum, Paul

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19/FL – 1/26/12	Speaker Gingrich, how do you plan to create a base on the moon while keeping taxes down in eight years?	Voter	Gingrich
19/FL – 1/26/12	And for the Republican presidential candidates, my question is, I'm currently unemployed and I found myself unemployed for the first time in 10 years and unable to afford health care benefits. What type of hope can you promise me and others in my position?	Voter	Santorum, Romney, Paul, Gingrich
19/FL – 1/26/12	We have many qualified, Hispanic leaders. Which of our Hispanic leaders would you consider to serve in your cabinet?	Voter	Santorum, Romney, Paul, Gingrich
19/FL – 1/26/12	I want to ask each of these gentlemen why they think their wife would make a great first lady.	Wolf Blitzer	Santorum, Romney, Paul, Gingrich
19/FL – 1/26/12	So the question is, do you think you can claim the Reagan mantle more?	Wolf Blitzer	Romney, Gingrich
19/FL – 1/26/12	What would be your position as president toward the island of Cuba?	Voter	Santorum, Romney, Paul, Gingrich
19/FL – 1/26/12	How would a Republican administration help bring peace to Palestine and Israel when most candidates barely recognize the existence of Palestine or its people? As a Palestinian-American Republican, I'm here to tell you we do exist.	Voter	Romney, Gingrich
19/FL – 1/26/12	My question to you is, where do you stand for Puerto Rico to become a state? And secondly, how do you -- where do you stand on domestic trade between Florida and Puerto Rico, between Tampa Bay and Ponce ports which have been neglected?	Voter	Santorum
19/FL – 1/26/12	My question, how would your religious beliefs, if you're elected, impact the decisions that you make in the office of the presidency?	Voter	Santorum, Romney, Paul, Gingrich
19/FL – 1/26/12	I want you to tell voters who are watching or are here on this campus right now why you are the one person on this stage that is most likely to beat Barack Obama.	Wolf Blitzer	Santorum, Romney, Paul, Gingrich
20/AZ – 2/22/12	Since the first time in 65 years our national debt exceeds our gross national product, what are you going to do to bring down the debt?	Voter	Santorum, Romney, Paul, Gingrich
20/AZ – 2/22/12	You've questioned the conservative -- fiscal conservative credentials of all these gentlemen but particularly this week Senator Santorum. You have a new television ad that labels him a fake. Why?	John King	Paul
20/AZ – 2/22/12	Governor Romney, you said recently that as governor you're a severely conservative governor of Massachusetts. What did you mean by that?	John King	Romney
20/AZ – 2/22/12	When deficit reduction and economic growth are priorities at the same time, some people see a collision...is it consistent -- and it's a tough one sometimes -- with spurring economic growth at a time this state and other states are looking for jobs? But as you have Gilbert's (ph) question, also looking to make sure the next president works on the deficit?	John King	Gingrich
20/AZ – 2/22/12	Senator, you have said there are good earmarks and bad earmarks. And you have talked about your earmarks in the past. Any that you specifically regret? And why have you criticized -- why do you think the money that went to Governor Romney for security at the Olympics, why was that a bad earmark?	John King	Santorum

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20/AZ—2/22/12	Why was George W. Bush wrong in his efforts to save the auto industry and why was Barack Obama wrong to continue the effort?	Voter	Santorum, Romney
20/AZ—2/22/12	Congressman Paul, as you join the conversation, the criticism of President Obama here, but I also want you to address the state's current Republican governor, Rick Snyder, who supports Mitt Romney, but that's irrelevant to this point. He says, "The bailout actually was something that really worked." Is that Republican governor wrong?	John King	Paul
20/AZ—2/22/12	Since birth control is the latest hot topic, which candidate believes in birth control, and if not, why?	John King	Santorum, Romney, Paul, Gingrich
20/AZ—2/22/12	Governor Romney, both Senator Santorum and Speaker Gingrich have said during your tenure as governor, you required Catholic hospitals to provide emergency contraception to rape victims. And Mr. Speaker, you compared him to President Obama, saying he infringed on Catholics' rights. Governor, did you do that?	John King	Romney
20/AZ—2/22/12	It seems that Arizona has come under federal attack just for wanting to secure its southern border. What will you and your administrations do to fix the situation? To secure our border and to protect the American people?	Voter	Paul
20/AZ—2/22/12	You signed a pledge to construct a double fence. Why is Governor Perry wrong?	John King	Gingrich
20/AZ—2/22/12	You've talked to the governor about self-deportation, if businesses do their job, asking for the right documents, the people will leave. What about arresting? Should there be aggressive, seek them out, find them and arrest them as the Sheriff Arpaio advocates?	John King	Romney
20/AZ—2/22/12	What about the homeowner who hires somebody as a household cleaning worker, as a nanny, perhaps? Does that person -- if you're going to be consistent, have enforcement across the board, should that person be sanctioned?	John King	Santorum
20/AZ—2/22/12	You would be our commander-in-chief. The Pentagon recently announced plans to open up 14,000 new jobs to women, putting them closer and close to the front lines of combat. Senator Santorum says he sees a lot of things wrong with this. What do you think?	John King	Santorum, Romney, Paul, Gingrich
20/AZ—2/22/12	How do you plan on dealing with the growing nuclear threat in Iran?	Voter	Santorum, Romney, Paul, Gingrich
20/AZ—2/22/12	If the prime minister of Israel called you, said he wanted to go forward and questioned, Sir do you agree -- Mr. President do you agree with your chairman of the joint chiefs? Would you say, yes, Mr. Prime Minister, please stand down? Or would you give Israel the green light?	John King	Gingrich
20/AZ—2/22/12	As we have this showdown, confrontation, call it what you will, with Iran. Should our leadership, including the current president of the United States and the four gentlemen here with me tonight, be prepared to look the American people in the eye and say — and I want to hear everybody's plans — over the long run I think I can bring down the price of gasoline, or I can't if that's your plan.	John King	Santorum, Romney, Paul, Gingrich
20/AZ—2/22/12	In regards to Syria, should the United States intervene and should we arm the rebellion?	Voter	Santorum, Romney, Paul, Gingrich
20/AZ—2/22/12	What is your stand on education reform and the No Child Left Behind Act?	Voter	Santorum, Romney

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20/AZ— 2/22/12	What is the proper role of the federal government in the education issue?	John King	Gingrich, Paul
20/AZ— 2/22/12	Help the voters who still have questions about you. What is the biggest misconception about you in the public debate right now?	John King	Santorum, Romney, Paul, Gingrich