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SOLUTIONS FOR
QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS

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## CHAPTER 1

## THE INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX RETURN

## Group 1 - Multiple Choice Questions

| 1. D | (LO 1.1) | 7. C (LO 1.5) | 15. A | (LO 1.8) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2. D | (LO 1.2) | 8. E (LO 1.6) | 16. E | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 25,000=\$ 275,000- \\ & (\$ 285,000-\$ 35,000)(\text { LO } 1.8) \end{aligned}$ |
| 3. A | (LO 1.3) | 9. C (LO 1.6) |  |  |
| 4. C | (LO 1.3) | 10. C (LO 1.6) | 17. C | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 45,000=\$ 48,000-\$ 3,000 \\ & (\text { LO 1.8) } \end{aligned}$ |
| 5. B | \$98,000 - \$19,000-\$3,800 | 11. B (LO 1.6) |  |  |
|  | $=\$ 75,200$ (LO 1.3) | 12. B (LO 1.7) | 18. D | (LO 1.10) |
| 6. C | \$5,950 + \$3,800 $=\$ 9,750$ | 13. B (LO 1.7) |  |  |
|  | (LO 1.4) | 14. E (LO 1.8) |  |  |

## Group 2 - Problems

1. a. Raising revenue to operate the government.
b. Furthering economic goals such as reducing unemployment.
c. Furthering social goals such as encouraging contributions to charities. (LO 1.1)
2. a. $\$ \mathbf{3 6 , 5 0 0}=\$ 41,000+500-5,000$.
b. $\mathbf{\$ 1 1 , 9 0 0}$, the greater of itemized deductions or the standard deduction of $\$ 11,900$.
c. $\mathbf{\$ 1 7 , 0 0 0}=\$ 36,500-11,900-(2 \times \$ 3,800)$. (LO 1.3)
3. a. $\$ \mathbf{2 3}, \mathbf{0 0 0}$.
b. $\mathbf{\$ 5 , 9 5 0}$, the greater of total itemized deductions or the standard deduction amount.
c. $\mathbf{\$ 1 3 , 2 5 0}=\$ 23,000-5,950-3,800$. (LO 1.3)
4. a. $\$ \mathbf{5 2 , 7 0 0}=\$ 54,000+1,700-3,000(\$ 7,000$ capital loss limited to $\$ 3,000)$
b. $\mathbf{\$ 5 , 9 5 0}$
c. $\$ \mathbf{3 , 8 0 0}$
d. $\$ 42,950=\$ 52,700-5,950-3,800($ LO 1.3)
5. Gross income

- Deductions for adjusted gross income
= Adjusted gross income
- Greater of itemized deductions or standard deduction
- Exemptions
$=$ Taxable income (LO 1.3)

6. a. $\$ \mathbf{4 8 , 0 7 9}=\$ 46,479+3,500-1,900$.
b. $\mathbf{\$ 1 1 , 9 0 0}$, the greater of itemized deductions or the standard deduction of $\$ 11,900$.
c. $\mathbf{\$ 2 8 , 5 7 9}=\$ 48,079-11,900-(2 \times 3,800)$.
d. $\mathbf{\$ 3 , 4 1 6}$ (Tax Table) (LO 1.3 and 1.5)
7. Adjusted gross income $\$ 17,400$

Less: Itemized deductions $\quad-2,250$
One exemption $\quad \underline{-3,800}$
Taxable income
\$11,350
Ulysses' tax liability from the Tax Table is $\mathbf{\$ 1 , 2 7 1}$. (LO 1.3 and 1.5)

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8. Adjusted gross income $(\$ 13,000+1,400)$

Less: Standard deduction Exemption
Taxable income
\$14,400
-5,950
$-3,800$
(LO 1.3 and 1.5)
(Note: See Chapter 6 for the tax computation for dependent college students under age 24.)
9. a. $\mathbf{\$ 3 5 , 2 5 0}=\$ 45,000-5,950-3,800$.
b. Taxpayers with incomes up to $\$ 100,000$ must use the tax tables.
c. $\mathbf{\$ 4 , 8 5 6}$. (LO 1.3 and 1.5 )
10. a. $\$ \mathbf{6 8 , 0 0 0}=\$ 50,000+10,000+5,000+3,000$.
b. $\quad \$ \mathbf{6 4 , 8 0 0}=\$ 68,000-3,200$.
c. $\mathbf{\$ 1 2 , 0 0 0}$.
d. 5. Two personal and three dependency exemptions.
e. $\mathbf{\$ 3 3 , 8 0 0}=\$ 64,800-12,000-19,000(5 \times 3,800)$.
f. $\quad \$ 4,204$ (LO 1.3, 1.5, 1.6 and 1.7)
11. a. $\$ 87,000=\$ 83,000+4,000$.
b. $\quad \$ 7,600=2 \times \$ 3,800$.
c. $\mathbf{\$ 6 7 , 4 0 0}=87,000-12,000-7,600 .($ LO 1.3, 1.5, 1.6 and 1.7)
12. Taxable income is: $\mathbf{\$ 3 0 , 2 5 0}=\$ 40,000-5,950-3,800$. Tax liability: $\$ 4,106$. (LO 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7)
13. Yes. Since Nicoula owes social security taxes on the unreported tips, she must file an income tax return. (LO 1.4)
14. a. No. Income is less than the sum of the $\$ 3,800$ exemption plus the $\$ 5,950$ standard deduction.
b. Yes. Gross income is more than the larger of $\$ 950$ or $\$ 1,850$ (earned income of $\$ 1,550$ plus $\$ 300$ ).
c. No. Their income is under $\$ 20,650$, the total of personal exemptions and the standard deduction.
d. No. Gross income is less than $\$ 19,500$, the total of personal exemptions and the standard deduction.
e. Yes. His earnings exceeded the $\$ 400$ limit for self-employed persons. (LO 1.4)
(Note: All answers can be found in the figures in LO 1.4.)
15. Allen $\quad \$ 2,719$.

Boyd $\quad \$ 3,244$.
Caldwell $\quad \$ 4,496$.
Dell $\quad \$ 3,501$.
Evans $\quad \$ 7,286$. (LO 1.5)
16. a. D
b. D
c. A
d. A
e. B or C (LO 1.5)
17. a. Because their income exceeds $\$ 100,000$, the tax rate schedules must be used.
b. $\mathbf{\$ 1 7 , 5 6 0}=\$ 9,735+7,825(25 \%(102,000-70,700))$. (LO 1.5)
18. They may file either as married filing joint or married filing separately. They must file married, since they were married by year-end. (LO 1.5)
19. Head of household. Maggie's parents meet the tests to qualify as her dependents. Maggie is single. Additionally, she provides a home for her parents. Parents are the only exception to the requirement that dependents must live in the same household as the taxpayer to qualify the taxpayer for head of household status. (LO 1.5)

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20. Single. Unmarried with no dependents

Head of household. Single or abandoned spouse, with qualifying dependents
Qualifying widow(er). Spouse died within the past 2 years; qualifying dependents. (LO 1.5)
21. a. Yes, her son qualifies as a dependent.
b. No. Her son must live in the same household as Mary, so Mary cannot use the head of household filing status. (LO 1.5 and 1.6)
22. a. 2. One personal and one dependency.
b. 2. Two personal. The sister does not qualify as a dependent.
c. 2. One personal and one dependency.
d. 2. One personal and one dependency.
e. 2. Two personal. (LO 1.6)
23. $\$ 11,400$. 3 exemptions at $\$ 3,800$ each. (LO 1.6)
24. No. Because Charles is self-supporting, his parents may not claim him as a dependent. The self-support test is applied to both children and relatives who otherwise qualify, so Charles is disqualified either way. (LO 1.6)
25. No. Phillip cannot be claimed as a dependent because he is not a citizen. (LO 1.6)
26. The standard deduction is an amount that varies with filing status, age and vision, but not by type of individual deduction. Total itemized deductions depend on the amount and type of items, with some items having limitations based on AGI. They include medical expenses, certain taxes, certain interest expense, charitable contributions and miscellaneous deductions
A taxpayer should claim the larger of the standard deduction or the total allowed itemized deductions to reduce the taxpayer's income subject to tax as much as possible. (LO 1.7)
27. The answer will vary depending on the date the problem is assigned and completed. The purpose of the problem is to familiarize the student with the Internet sites. (LO 1.9)
28. The blank forms are not reproduced here. By the time the student is assigned this problem, the current year's forms should be available. (LO 1.9)
29. Instructions are not reproduced here. Current year's instructions should be available. (LO 1.9)
30. As of the date this solutions manual was prepared, the answers were:
a. www.ftb.ca.gov/
b. www.tax.state.ny.us (LO 1.9)

## Group 3 - Writing Assignments

## 1. Research Solution:

Whittenburg, Gill, and Altus-Buller, CPAs
San Diego, CA
February 20, 20xx
Mr. and Mrs. William Carson
3276 Lakeline Drive
San Diego, CA

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Dear William and Sheila,
Thanks for requesting my advice concerning the tax treatment of your brother Jerry. I have researched your question and am sorry to say that you cannot claim Jerry as a qualifying child.
Although Jerry meets the relationship, domicile, joint return, citizenship, and self-support test, he does not meet the age test. Even though he is a full-time student and under the age of 24 , in order to be your qualifying child, he must be younger than at least one of you.
Although you can't claim him as a qualifying child, there is a possibility that you could claim Jerry as a qualifying relative if he makes less than $\$ 3,800$.
My conclusion is based upon the facts that you have provided me. I'm sorry that the news was not more favorable. If you have any questions or would like further explanation, please don't hesitate to call.
Sincerely,
Trevor Malcolm
for Whittenburg, Gill, and Altus-Buller, CPAs

## 2. Ethics Solution:

Individuals who are married as of the last day of the tax year are considered to be married. Married taxpayers have only two filing status options: married filing joint or married filing separate. In order to file single, taxpayers must be unmarried or legally separated from their spouse as of the last day of the tax year. Not only would it be unethical for Jason and Mary to file single, it would be against the law.

## Group 4 - Comprehensive Problems

The 2012 Form 1040 and many other schedules and forms are not available as we go to press. The solutions presented here show 2012 tax calculations on 2011 forms and schedules. For solutions updated to 2012 forms and schedules, please see the Web site for the text at www.cengage.com/taxation/whittenburg.

1. See page 31.

2A. See pages 32 and 33 .
2B. See pages 34 and 35 .

## Group 5-Cumulative Software Problem

The solution to the Cumulative Software Problem is posted on the Internet site for the text at http://www.cengage.com/taxation/whittenburg.

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Solutions for Questions and Problems - Chapter 1

Comprehensive Problem 1


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Chapter 1 - The Individual Income Tax Return

Comprehensive Problem 2A


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Solutions for Questions and Problems - Chapter 1

Comprehensive Problem 2A, cont.


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Chapter 1 - The Individual Income Tax Return

Comprehensive Problem 2B


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Solutions for Questions and Problems - Chapter 1

Comprehensive Problem 2B, cont.


# Key Number Tax Return Summary <br> Chapter 1 

| Comprehensive Problem 1 |  |
| ---: | :---: |
| Adjusted Gross Income (Line 4) | 19,400 |
| Taxable Income (Line 6) | 9,650 |
| Tax Liability (Line 10) | 1,016 |
| Tax Overpaid (Line 11a) | 1,984 |

Comprehensive Problem 2A

Adjusted Gross Income (Line 21)
50,000
Deductions (Line 24) $\qquad$
Exemptions (Line 26) $\qquad$
Tax Liability (Line 35) $\qquad$
Tax Overpaid (Line 42) $\qquad$

Comprehensive Problem 2B
Adjusted Gross Income (Line 21) $\qquad$ 42,730

Deductions (Line 24) $\qquad$
8,700
Exemptions (Line 26)
7,600

Tax Liability (Line 35) $\qquad$
Tax Overpaid (Line 42)
1,816

