## SOLUTIONS FOR

QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS

## CHAPTER 1

## THE INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX RETURN

## Group 1 - Multiple Choice Questions

| 1. D | (LO 1.1) | 9. C | (LO 1.5) | 18. A | (LO 1.8) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2. A | (LO 1.1) | 10. D | (LO 1.5) | 19. E | \$25,000 = \$280,000 - |
| 3. D | (LO 1.2) | 11. E | (LO 1.6) |  | \$290,000 - \$35,000) (LO 1.8) |
| 4. B | (LO 1.2) | 12. A Because the daughter's income exceeds $\$ 4,050$. (LO 1.6) |  | 20. B | \$44,000 = \$47,000 - |
| 5. C | (LO 1.3) |  |  | \$3,000 (LO 1.8) |
| 6. B | (LO 1.3) | 13. C | (LO 1.6) |  | 21. B | (LO 1.9) |
| 7. A | \$98,000 - \$19,000 - | 14. B | (LO 1.6) | 22. C | (LO 1.9) |
|  | \$4,050 = \$74,950 (LO 1.4) | 15. B | (LO 1.7) | 23. B | (LO 1.10) |
| 8. C | \$6,350 + \$4,050 = \$10,400 | 16. B | (LO 1.7) | 24. A | (LO 1.10) |
|  | (LO 1.4) | 17. D | (LO 1.8) | 25. D | (LO 1.11) |

## 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. $\$ 36,700=\$ 41,000+\$ 700-\$ 5,000$.
b. $\$ 12,700$, the greater of itemized deductions or the standard deduction of $\$ 12,700$.
c. $\$ 15,900=\$ 36,700-\$ 12,700-(2 \times \$ 4,050)$. (LO 1.3)
3. a. $\$ 24,000$.
b. $\mathbf{\$ 6 , 3 5 0}$, the greater of total itemized deductions or the standard deduction amount.
c. $\$ 13,600=\$ 24,000-\$ 6,350-\$ 4,050$. (LO 1.3)
4. a. $\$ 52,300=\$ 53,300+\$ 1,600+\$ 400-\$ 3,000(\$ 7,000$ capital loss limited to $\$ 3,000)$
b. $\mathbf{\$ 6 , 3 5 0}$
c. $\mathbf{\$ 4 , 0 5 0}$
d. $\$ 41,900=\$ 52,300-\$ 6,350-\$ 4,050$. (LO 1.3 and 1.8)
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. $\$ 48,730=\$ 47,230+\$ 3,500-\$ 2,000$.
b. $\$ 12,700$, the greater of itemized deductions or the standard deduction of $\$ 12,700$.
c. $\$ 27,930=\$ 48,730-\$ 12,700-(2 \times \$ 4,050)$.
d. \$3,256 (Tax Table) (LO 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, and 1.7)
7. Adjusted gross income

Less: Itemized deductions One exemption
Taxable income
\$17,400
$-2,250$
-4,050
$\$ 11,100$

Ulysses' tax liability from the Tax Table is $\mathbf{\$ 1 , 2 0 3}$. Note: because they are married and filing separately and Ulysses' spouse Penelope itemizes her deductions, Ulysses must also itemize his deductions, even though the itemized deductions total less than the standard deduction he would be otherwise entitled to. (LO 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, and 1.7)
8. Adjusted gross income ( $\$ 13,200+\$ 1,450)$

Less: Standard deduction
Exemption
Taxable income
(LO 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, and 1.7)
(Note: See Chapter 6 for the tax computation for dependent college students under age 24.)
9. a. $\$ 35,900=\$ 46,300-\$ 6,350-\$ 4,050$.
b. Taxpayers with income up to $\$ 100,000$ must use the tax tables.
c. $\$ 4,923$. (LO $1.3,1.5,1.6$, and 1.7)
10. a. $\$ 67,625=\$ 49,500+\$ 10,125+\$ 5,000+\$ 3,000$.
b. $\$ 64,425=\$ 67,625-\$ 3,200$.
c. $\$ 13,200$, the greater of itemized deductions or the standard deduction of $\$ 12,700$.
d. 5. Two personal and three dependency exemptions.
e. $\$ 30,975=\$ 64,425-\$ 13,200-\$ 20,250(5 \times \$ 4,050)$.
f. $\$ 3,714$ (LO 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, and 1.7)
11. a. $\$ 88,500=\$ 84,600+\$ 3,900$.
b. $\$ \mathbf{8 , 1 0 0}=2 \times \$ 4,050$.
c. $\$ 67,600=\$ 88,500-\$ 12,800-\$ 8,100$. (LO 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, and 1.7)
12. Taxable income is: $\mathbf{\$ 3 0 , 3 5 0}=\$ 40,750-\$ 6,350-\$ 4,050$. Tax liability from the tax tables not the tax rate schedules: $\$ 4,090$. (LO $1.3,1.5,1.6$, and 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 $\$ 4,050$ exemption plus the $\$ 6,350$ standard deduction.
b. Yes. Unearned income was more than $\$ 1,050$. Also, gross income is more than the larger of $\$ 1,050$ or $\$ 1,900$ (earned income of $\$ 1,550$ plus $\$ 350$ ).
c. No. Their income is under $\$ 22,050$, the total of personal exemptions ( $2 \times \$ 4,050$ ) and the standard deduction ( $\$ 12,700+\$ 1,250$ (over 65 years old)).
d. No. Gross income is less than $\$ 20,800$, the total of personal exemptions and the standard deduction.
e. Yes. His earnings exceeded the $\$ 400$ limit for self-employed persons.
(Note: All answers can be found in the figures in LO 1.4.)
15. Allen $\$ 2,688$.

Boyd \$3,213.
Caldwell $\$ 4,434$.
Dell $\$ 3,454$.
Evans $\$ \mathbf{6 , 9 9 5}$. (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. $\$ 17,727.50=\$ 10,452.50+25 \% \mathrm{x}(\$ 105,000-\$ 75,900)$. (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)
20. Single. Unmarried with no dependent.

Head of household. Single or abandoned spouse, with qualifying dependent.
Qualifying widow(er). Spouse died within the past 2 years and has a qualifying dependent. (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, because her gross income was greater than $\$ 4,050$.
c. 2. One personal and one dependency.
d. 2. One personal and one dependency.
e. 2. Two personal. (LO 1.6)
23. $\mathbf{\$ 1 2 , 1 5 0}$. 3 exemptions at $\$ 4,050$ 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 U.S. citizen or a resident of the U.S., Canada, or Mexico. (LO 1.6)
26. The standard deduction is a specific dollar 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 expenses, 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. $\$ 1,520$.

$$
\begin{aligned}
\text { AGI }= & \$ 240,000 \\
& \frac{200,000}{40,000} \\
& \frac{90,000}{\$ 40,000} \times 3.8 \%(\text { LO 1.9) }
\end{aligned}
$$

Threshhold
Investment income
Lesser of above amount
28. 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 IRS website. (LO 1.10)
29. 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 1.10)
30. $\$ 600$ or more at a horse track (if that is 300 times your bet), $\$ 1,200$ or more at a slot machine or bingo game, and $\$ 5,000$ or more in poker tournament winnings. (LO 1.10)

## Group 3 - Writing Assignments

## 1. Research Solution:

Whittenburg and Gill, CPAs
San Diego, CA
February 20, 20xx
Mr. and Mrs. William Carson
3276 Lakeline Drive
San Diego, CA
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 earns less than $\$ 4,050$.
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 and Gill, CPAs

## 2. Ethics Solution:

To: JasonandMary@email.com
Subject: Inquiry on filing status: single v. married filing jointly
Jason and Mary,
Thanks for your e-mail regarding your filing status for 2017. Let me also say, I really enjoyed your wedding ceremony and reception. Thank you for inviting me.
Your e-mail stated that you had prepared your 2017 taxes as both single and married filing jointly and found that your refund would be larger if both of you filed as single. Unfortunately, the tax law is very clear on this issue. 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 jointly or married filing separately. In order to file as 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 you to file as single, it would be against the law.
The additional tax that married couples sometimes encounter is known as the "marriage penalty." Hopefully you are finding that your wedded bliss outweighs the tax penalty!
Your friend,
Trevor Malcolm
For Whittenburg and Gill, CPAs

## Group 4 - Comprehensive Problems

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 website for the textbook at www.cengage.com/login.

## Comprehensive Problem 1



Comprehensive Problem 2A


For Disclosure, Privacy Act, and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see separate instructions. Cat. No. 11327A Form 1040A (2017)

Comprehensive Problem 2A, cont.


Comprehensive Problem 2B


For Disclosure, Privacy Act, and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see separate instructions. Cat. No. 11327A Form 1040A (2017)

Comprehensive Problem 2B, cont.


# Key Number Tax Return Summary <br> Chapter 1 

Comprehensive Problem 1

| Adjusted Gross Income (Line 4) | 19,600 |
| ---: | :---: |
| Taxable Income (Line 6) | 9,200 |
| Total Tax (Line 12) | 923 |
| Tax Refund (Line 13a) | 2,017 |

Comprehensive Problem 2A

| Adjusted Gross Income (Line 21) | 50,430 |
| ---: | :---: |
| Standard Deduction (Line 24) | 12,700 |
| Exemptions (Line 26) | 12,150 |
| Total Tax (Line 39) | 2,904 |
| Amount Overpaid (Line 47) | 1,636 |

Comprehensive Problem 2B

| Adjusted Gross Income (Line 21) | 43,060 |
| ---: | :---: |
| Standard Deduction (Line 24) | 9,350 |
| Exemptions (Line 26) | 8,100 |
| Total Tax (Line 39) | 3,176 |
| Amount Overpaid (Line 47) | 1,074 |

