Principles of Taxation for Business and Investment Planning 2025 Edition 1st edition Jones Solutions Manual

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Chapter 1: Taxes and Taxing Jurisdictions

Questions and Problems for Discussion

1. Tax payments differ from government fines and penalties because they aren't intended to deter or punish unacceptable behavior. Tax payments differ from fees or user charges because they don't entitle the payer to a specific government good or service, such as a postage stamp or a driver's license. Tax payments also differ from fees or user charges because they are compulsory.

2. This payment has characteristics of a tax, a penalty, and a user fee. The compulsory payment is not specifically punitive but does apply selectively to those companies most likely responsible for the polluted condition of Green River. However, these same companies may be the entities that benefit most from the environmental clean-up.

3. This payment more closely resembles a fee for a government service than a transaction-based tax because the transaction occurs between a private party and the jurisdiction itself, rather than between private parties engaging in a market transaction. The payment also entitles the payer to a specific benefit (the right to marry under law).

4. To the extent that the decline in exterior maintenance reduces the value of Mr. Powell's apartment complex, he bears the incidence of the increased property tax. To the extent that the decline reduces the value of adjoining properties or makes the neighborhood less attractive, the owners of the adjoining properties and the neighborhood residents share the incidence of the tax increase.

5. People who don't directly use public schools (such as Mr. and Mrs. Ahern or people who don't have children) indirectly benefit from a public education system for the general population. Arguably, public education contributes to a skilled workforce and improves the cultural and social environment in which Mr. and Mrs. Ahern live. Based on this argument, Mr. and Mrs. Ahern should not be exempt from the local property tax.

6. The consumers who pay the same price for a smaller bar of soap of lesser quality bear the incidence of the new gross receipts tax.

7. Real property can't be hidden or moved, and its ownership (legal title) is a matter of public record. In contrast, personal property is mobile and may be easily concealed. Moreover, jurisdictions may not have an effective means to discover or trace ownership of personal property.

8. Arguably, private golf courses beautify the locality and are environmentally more desirable than other commercial activities. They also may require more acreage than other businesses and, therefore, would be at a competitive disadvantage without a preferential real property tax rate.

9. Many jurisdictions that levy property taxes provide an exemption for public institutions, such as state universities or private colleges. If University K is entitled to such an exemption, every commercial building or residence acquired by the University reduces the local jurisdiction's property tax base.

10. Excise taxes are imposed on a much narrower range of consumer goods and services than sales taxes. Consequently, people can more readily avoid purchasing the specific good or service subject to excise tax.

11. The tax increase may have reduced the aggregate demand for consumer goods and, consequently, municipal residents are buying fewer goods. A second possibility is that municipal

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residents are traveling to other jurisdictions with lower tax rates or making more purchases through mail order catalogs or online.

12. From a political perspective, liquor and cigarettes sales make an excellent tax base because consumption of the two products is purely discretionary, and any decline in consumption because of the tax is socially desirable. From an economic perspective, these sales are a good tax base because the demand for liquor and cigarettes is relatively price inelastic. In other words, people who drink and smoke on a regular basis buy these products regardless of a heavy excise tax.

13. The federal income tax has the broader base. The federal payroll tax is imposed on wages, salaries, and other forms of compensation earned by employees. The federal income tax is imposed on all types of compensation as well as net business profit, investment income, and any other income item from whatever source derived.

14. A property tax is a periodic (usually annual) tax levied on the *ownership* of property and based on the value of the property on a particular assessment date. A transfer tax is a transaction-based tax levied on the *transfer* of property from one party to another. A transfer tax is based on the value of the property at date of transfer.

15. If the federal government could “piggyback” a national sales tax on existing state sales tax collection systems, the federal government could avoid creating a new federal agency for collecting the tax. In contrast, the federal government would have to create a new collection system for a national VAT. However, a national VAT would be less likely to cause jurisdictional conflict between the federal government and the states because states don’t depend on VATs as a source of revenue.

16. The Internal Revenue Code is federal statutory law, enacted by Congress and signed by the President. Technically, Treasury regulations only interpret and explain the statute and aren’t laws in their own right. Thus, regulations are less authoritative than the Code itself. However, because Congress authorized the Treasury to write regulations, they are the government’s official interpretation of statutory law. Practically, the regulations carry considerable authoritative weight.

Application Problems

1.

a. The statement of facts identifies three taxpayers: Mr. Josh Kenney, JK Services, and JK Realty.

b. The government of the locality in which Mr. Kenney resides, the state government of Vermont, and the U.S. government have jurisdiction to tax Mr. Kenney. The local governments of the four counties in which JK Services conducts business, the state government of Vermont, and the U.S. government have jurisdiction to tax JK Services. The city of Boston, the state government of Massachusetts, and the U.S. government have jurisdiction to tax JK Realty.

2.

a. The United States has jurisdiction to tax Mrs. May because she is a permanent resident.

b. The United States has jurisdiction to tax Mrs. May only on the U.S. source rental income generated by the Manhattan real estate.

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c. The United States does not have jurisdiction to tax Mrs. May.

d. The United States has jurisdiction to tax Mrs. May because she is a U.S. citizen.

3.

a. The United States has jurisdiction to tax Mr. Tompkin because he is a U.S citizen.

b. The United States has jurisdiction to tax Mr. Tompkin only on the U.S. source rental income generated by the Buffalo real estate.

c. The United States has jurisdiction to tax Mr. Tompkin because he is a permanent resident.

d. The United States has jurisdiction to tax Mr. Tompkin on his share of the U.S. source business income generated by Sophic Partnership.

4. State A:

Volume of sales before rate increase	$800,000,000
Original tax rate	.05
Revenue before rate increase	$40,000,000
Volume of sales after rate increase	$710,000,000
New tax rate	.06
Revenue after rate increase	$42,600,000
Additional revenue ($42,600,000 − $40,000,000)	$2,600,000

State Z:

Volume of sales added to tax base	$50,000,000
Tax rate	.05
Additional revenue	$2,500,000

5.

a. The property tax is $8,300 ($415,000 × 2%).

b. The property tax is $19,000 ([$500,000 × 2%] + [$225,000 × 4%]).

6.

a. The property tax is $39,000 ($1.3 million × 3%).

b. The property tax is $85,000 ([$2 million × 3%] + [$2.5 million × 1%]).

7.

Increase in County G's aggregate assessed property tax value	$23,000,000
Assessed value of Lexon's new facility	(20,000,000)
Net increase in County G's tax base	$3,000,000
Tax rate	.04
Net effect on County G's current year revenue	$120,000

8.

a.

Value of property purchased in State K	$600,000
Use tax rate in State H	.06
Pre-credit use tax	$36,000
Sales tax paid to State K	(18,000)
Use tax owed to State H	$18,000

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b. Value of property purchased in State L $750,000
Use tax rate in State H .06
Pre-credit use tax $45,000
Sales tax paid to State L (48,750)
Use tax owed to State H -0-

9.

a. Value of property purchased in State B $90,000
Use tax rate in State V .05
Pre-credit use tax $4,500
Sales tax paid to State B (5,400)
Use tax owed to State V -0-

b. Value of property purchased in State D $200,000
Use tax rate in State V .05
Pre-credit use tax $10,000
Sales tax paid to State D (7,000)
Use tax owed to State V $3,000

10.

a. Mrs. Palencia owes $658 in Rhode Island use tax ($9,400 × 7%).

b. Mrs. Palencia owes no Rhode Island use tax because her $823 New York sales tax ($9,400 × 8.75%) exceeds $658.

c. Mrs. Palencia owes $188 in Rhode Island use tax ($658 − $470 credit for Wisconsin sales tax [$9,400 × 5%]).

11.

a. Ms. Pike owes $1,450 in California use tax ($20,000 × 7.25%).

b. Ms. Pike owes $425 in California use tax ($1,450 − $1,025 credit for New Mexico sales tax [$20,000 × 5.125%]).

12.

a. State R residents who purchase property out-of-state (i.e., through the mail) but use and consume the property in State R owe the 6 percent use tax.

b. The fact that Correll must *collect* the State R use tax does not affect the legal liability of State R residents to *pay* the tax. However, very few people actually pay a *self-assessed* use tax. Thus, State R might collect as much as $1,080,000 additional revenue (6 percent of $18 million sales to State R customers) if Correll was required to collect use tax at point of sale and remit the tax to State R.

13.

a. Mr. and Mrs. Ruiz aren't required to pay sales tax on the purchase of inventory goods because they aren't the final consumers of the goods. The hardware store's retail customers must pay the sales tax when they purchase goods. Mr. and Mrs. Ruiz are required to collect this tax at point of sale.

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b. Mr. and Mrs. Ruiz should time their purchases to minimize their inventory on hand as of December 31 of each year, thereby minimizing the book value on which the personal property tax is based.

14. Querrey Inc.:

Sales revenue ($9 × 12.4 million units)	$111,600,000
Cost of sales ($6 × 12.4 million units)	(74,400,000)
Value added by Querrey Inc.	$37,200,000
Tax rate	.03
VAT	$1,116,000

Ronno Inc.:

Sales revenue ($10 × 12.4 million units)	$124,000,000
Material cost of sales ($9 × 12.4 million units)	(111,600,000)
Value added by Ronno Inc.	$12,400,000
Tax rate	.03
VAT	$372,000

15.

Sales revenue ($7.50 × 8.3 million units)	$62,250,000
Material cost of sales ($5 × 8.3 million units)	($41,500,000)
Value added by Wallis Company	$20,750,000
Tax rate	.15
VAT	$3,112,500

Issue Recognition Problems

1. Are Mr. and Mrs. Julius required to pay the property tax for a full year even though they lived in the home for only three months of the year? Is there any mechanism for allocating the property tax attributable to the period January 1 through October 5 to the former owners?

2. Are the lighting and fences permanent improvements to real property (corporate headquarters) so that their value adds to the real property tax base, or can they qualify as personalty that is exempt from real property tax?

3. How does each jurisdiction in which the plane is temporarily stored define or identify business tangibles subject to tax? Is jurisdiction based on a minimum number of days of physical presence in the state? Is the annual personal property tax prorated to reflect the number of days that property is used or stored in the state?

4. Does State A have jurisdiction to tax the retirement income that Mrs. Otis earned while she was a resident of State A but that she receives while she is a resident of State K?

5. Did the sale of the furniture from Vendor V to Yarrow occur in State V or in State Q? Does State V have jurisdiction to tax the transaction even though the office furniture was shipped out of state?

6. Do Acme Corporation's activities in States X, Y, and Z give all three states jurisdiction to tax Acme's business income? How much of Acme's net profit can be taxed by each state with jurisdiction?

7. Which of the 14 states has jurisdiction to tax Mr. Wycomb's professional income? How much of this total prize money is subject to each state's personal income tax?

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8. Does the abatement agreement require BBB Company to repay any of the foregone property taxes or incur any penalty if it terminates its business activity in County K before the end of the abatement period?

9. Does the fact that Dempsey Corporation sells goods to U.S. customers give the United States jurisdiction to tax the Canadian corporation? Is the income generated by Dempsey's sales to U.S. customers considered U.S. source income subject to federal income tax?

10. When Mr. Imhoff dies, can the United States government claim jurisdiction to impose the federal estate tax on his net worth? Can an individual who has been a U.S. citizen escape federal taxation by renouncing his citizenship and moving to a foreign country?

Research Problems

The first three research problems for Chapter 1 are designed to encourage students to explore websites that contain a wealth of information on local, state, and federal taxes. Problem 4 is an exercise to increase students' awareness of their state's sales tax and the items on which the tax is imposed.

Answers to these questions will vary from student to student and depend in part on the student's state of residence.

Tax Planning Cases

1. Nixon's management must compare the tax costs of operating in each jurisdiction.

Value of tangible business property	$10,000,000
Jurisdiction F's property tax rate	.04
	$400,000
Annual gross receipts	$2,000,000
Jurisdiction F's gross receipts tax rate	.15
	$300,000
Tax cost of operating in Jurisdiction F	$700,000
Annual gross receipts	$2,000,000
Jurisdiction G's gross receipts tax rate	.30
Tax cost of operating in Jurisdiction G	$600,000

Based solely on the comparative tax costs, Nixon should locate its new branch in Jurisdiction G.

2. Before the tax increase, KTR's taxable income was $200 million ($10 profit per unit × 20 million units), its income tax cost was $40 million, and its after-tax profit was $160 million. If KTR's taxable income does not change, the rate increase from 20 percent to 22 percent would increase the income tax cost to $44 million and decrease after-tax profit to $156 million. If KTR increases its profit per unit to $10.20, but sells only 19 million units, its taxable income will decrease to $193.8 million. Its tax on this income will be $42.636 million, and its after-tax profit will be $151.164 million. Thus, KTR's owners will maximize after-tax profit if they don't raise the price of their product.

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