

**Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions**

1. Noncash items received as income must be included in income at their fair market value.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Easy

**QUESTION TYPE:** True / False

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-01 - LO:2-01

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

2. Awards, bonuses, and gifts are all included in gross income.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** False

**RATIONALE:** Gifts are excluded from gross income.

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Easy

**QUESTION TYPE:** True / False

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-01 - LO:2-01

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

3. Disability benefits are generally taxable to the individual receiving the amounts.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** False

**RATIONALE:** Disability benefits are generally excluded from gross income.

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Easy

**QUESTION TYPE:** True / False

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-01 - LO:2-01

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

4. Which of the following amounts must be included in the gross income of the recipient?

- a. Child support payments
- b. Welfare payments

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

- c. Gifts
- d. Royalties
- e. All of the above are included in gross income

**ANSWER:** d  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Easy  
**QUESTION TYPE:** Multiple Choice  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-01 - LO:2-01  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Comprehension

5. All of the following amounts must be included in gross income, *except*:
- a. Gambling winnings
  - b. Partnership income
  - c. Accident insurance proceeds
  - d. Dividends
  - e. Jury duty fees

**ANSWER:** c  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Easy  
**QUESTION TYPE:** Multiple Choice  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-01 - LO:2-01  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Comprehension

6. All of the following amounts are excluded from gross income, *except*:
- a. Tips and gratuities
  - b. Child support payments
  - c. Scholarship grants for tuition
  - d. Gifts
  - e. Veterans' benefits

**ANSWER:** a  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Easy  
**QUESTION TYPE:** Multiple Choice  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-01 - LO:2-01  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

7. Which of the following is generally excluded from gross income?

- a. Dividends
- b. Rewards
- c. Disability benefits
- d. Passive income
- e. None of the above

*ANSWER:* c

*POINTS:* 1

*DIFFICULTY:* Easy

*QUESTION TYPE:* Multiple Choice

*HAS VARIABLES:* False

*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-01 - LO:2-01

*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Knowledge

8. Which of the following is excluded from gross income?

- a. Prizes
- b. Scholarships for tuition
- c. Hobby income
- d. Rental income
- e. All of the above are included in gross income

*ANSWER:* b

*POINTS:* 1

*DIFFICULTY:* Easy

*QUESTION TYPE:* Multiple Choice

*HAS VARIABLES:* False

*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-01 - LO:2-01

*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Knowledge

9. Which of the following is classified as nontaxable income?

- a. Unemployment compensation
- b. Dividend income
- c. Income from real estate rental property
- d. Welfare payments
- e. None of the above

*ANSWER:* d

*POINTS:* 1

*DIFFICULTY:* Easy

*QUESTION TYPE:* Multiple Choice

*HAS VARIABLES:* False

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-01 - LO:2-01

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

10. In the tax law, the definition of gross income is:
- All cash payments received unless excluded by the tax code
  - All cash payments received for services performed
  - All income from whatever source derived
  - All income of any kind unless the income is earned illegally

**ANSWER:** c

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Easy

**QUESTION TYPE:** Multiple Choice

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-01 - LO:2-01

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

11. Which of the following is *not* taxable income?
- Dividends
  - Income from relief of debt
  - Interest
  - Royalties
  - Welfare benefits

**ANSWER:** e

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Easy

**QUESTION TYPE:** Multiple Choice

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-01 - LO:2-01

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

12. All of the following amounts are taxable income to the recipient *except*:
- Prizes
  - Unemployment compensation
  - Salaries
  - Farm income
  - Gifts

**ANSWER:** e

**POINTS:** 1

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

*DIFFICULTY:* Easy  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Multiple Choice  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-01 - LO:2-01  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Knowledge

13. Mary received the following items during 2015:

Christmas bonus from her employer	\$600
Christmas gift from her father	\$100
Unemployment compensation	\$35

What is the total amount of the above items that must be included in Mary's 2015 gross income?

- a. \$0
- b. \$100
- c. \$135
- d. \$600
- e. \$635

*ANSWER:* e  
*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Easy  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Multiple Choice  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-01 - LO:2-01  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Comprehension

14. As a Christmas thank you for being a good employee, Ed's TV Repair gave 62-year-old Edwina three shares of its stock worth \$20 per share. Edwina then received dividends of \$1 per share related to the stock. How much should be included in Edwina's gross income?

- a. \$0
- b. \$3
- c. \$60
- d. \$63
- e. None of the above

*ANSWER:* d  
*RATIONALE:* Gifts from an employer are almost always taxable income unless a service award meeting certain requirements.  
*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Moderate  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Multiple Choice  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-01 - LO:2-01

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-07 - LO:2-07

*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Comprehension

15. Which of the following is nontaxable income to the recipient for tax purposes?

- a. Salary income
- b. Income from real estate rental property
- c. Income from tips
- d. Inheritances
- e. None of the above

*ANSWER:* d

*POINTS:* 1

*DIFFICULTY:* Easy

*QUESTION TYPE:* Multiple Choice

*HAS VARIABLES:* False

*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-01 - LO:2-01  
ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-07 - LO:2-07

*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Knowledge

16. Andy landscaped his friend's house in return for a couch set and an HD television worth \$8,000. How much income must Andy report on his tax return for his services?

*ANSWER:* The noncash payment of \$8,000 for services performed is taxable income to Andy. The tax law states that taxable income is "all income from whatever source derived." There is no exception in the law for noncash items received in exchange for services.

*POINTS:* 1

*DIFFICULTY:* Moderate

*QUESTION TYPE:* Subjective Short Answer

*HAS VARIABLES:* False

*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-01 - LO:2-01

*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Comprehension

17. Jack is a lawyer and Jeri is a child psychologist. Jack prepares Jeri's estate planning at no charge and Jeri agrees to counsel Jack's daughter six times at no charge in return for the estate planning. The value of the estate planning is \$1,000 and the value of the therapy sessions is \$1,000.

- a. How much income does Jack have? Why?
- b. How much income does Jeri have? Why?

*ANSWER:* a. **\$1,000.** Taxable income includes "all income from whatever source derived." The value of the therapy for his child is income to him for the performances of services. There is no taxable income exception in the tax law for "barter income."

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

b. **\$1,000.** Taxable income includes “all income from whatever source derived.” The value of the estate planning is income to her for the performances of services. There is no taxable income exception in the tax law for “barter income.”

*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Moderate  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Subjective Short Answer  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-01 - LO:2-01  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Comprehension

18. Barry has a successful methamphetamine laboratory. Producing methamphetamine is illegal under federal law. Is Barry required by law to report the income from his lab on his tax return? Why?

*ANSWER:* Yes. Illegal income is still taxable income since there is no exception excluding it in the tax code. When there is no explicit exception, taxable income is “all income from whatever source derived.”

*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Easy  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Subjective Short Answer  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-01 - LO:2-01  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Comprehension

19. Bonnie receives salary income of \$32,000, unemployment compensation of \$4,400, and interest income of \$1,200 and a gift of \$7,000 in cash from her aunt. How much total income does Bonnie have?

*ANSWER:* **\$37,600** = \$32,000 + \$1,200 + \$4,400  
*RATIONALE:* Unemployment compensation is taxable but gifts are not.

*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Moderate  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Subjective Short Answer  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-01 - LO:2-01  
ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-02 - LO:2-02  
ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-07 - LO:2-07  
ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-12 - LO:2-12  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Comprehension

20. Indicate whether each item below would be included in or excluded from the income of the recipient.

- a. Payment for laboratory assistant position at University of California State
- b. A \$1,000 scholarship for tuition
- c. College books paid for by grandma and grandpa

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

- d. A \$1,000 college loan
- e. A scholarship for room and board
- f. A new car given to recruit a basketball player
- g. A scholarship used for supplies and equipment that are required for courses

**ANSWER:** a. Included  
b. Excluded  
c. Excluded  
d. Excluded  
e. Included  
f. Included  
g. Excluded

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate

**QUESTION TYPE:** Subjective Short Answer

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-01 - LO:2-01  
ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-07 - LO:2-07  
ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-08 - LO:2-08

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

Indicate whether each of the items listed below would be (a) included in gross income or (b) excluded from gross income for the 2015 tax year.

- a. Included
- b. Excluded

**DIFFICULTY:** Easy

**QUESTION TYPE:** Matching

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-01 - LO:2-01

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

21. Alimony

**ANSWER:** a

**POINTS:** 1

22. Lottery winnings

**ANSWER:** a

**POINTS:** 1

23. Life insurance proceeds received upon the death of a family member

**ANSWER:** b

**POINTS:** 1

24. Child support payments



## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

ANSWER: b

POINTS: 1

25. Reimbursement of hospital expenses from a health insurance plan

ANSWER: b

POINTS: 1

26. Municipal bond interest

ANSWER: b

POINTS: 1

27. Unemployment compensation

ANSWER: a

POINTS: 1

28. Scholarships for tuition and books

ANSWER: b

POINTS: 1

29. Wages

ANSWER: a

POINTS: 1

30. Farm income

ANSWER: a

POINTS: 1

31. Inheritances

ANSWER: b

POINTS: 1

32. Craig, a single taxpayer, received the following items in 2015: dividends of \$450, wages of \$32,000, child support from his ex-spouse of \$400 per month, a new television worth \$1,200 from a door prize at a conference he attended, a gift of \$3,000 from Craig's parents, and \$200 of interest on bonds issued by the State of Arizona. Craig set aside \$4,000 of his wages (the \$4,000 has not been deducted from the \$32,000 of wages listed previously) to cover childcare for his dependent children. He also receives a reimbursement of \$270 per month to pay for public transportation passes each month (also not deducted from the \$32,000 of wages reported previously). Based on the above, what is Craig's gross income in 2015?

ANSWER: Gross income equals  
\$28,090.

Item	Amount	Explanation
Dividends	\$450	Included
Wages	\$32,000	Included
Child Support	\$0	Excluded
Door Prize	\$1,200	Included
Gift	\$0	Excluded
Muni Bond Interest	\$0	Excluded

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

Child Care	(\$4,000)	Excluded up to \$5,000
Public Transportation	(\$1,560)	Excluded up to \$130 per month
Gross Income	\$28,090	

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate

**QUESTION TYPE:** Objective Short Answer

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-01 - LO:2-01  
ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-02 - LO:2-02  
ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-03 - LO:2-03  
ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-04 - LO:2-04  
ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-07 - LO:2-07  
ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-13 - LO:2-13

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Comprehension

**NOTES:** Mass transit might be increased to \$250 by a 2015 tax law extension.

33. Interest income received by a cash basis taxpayer is generally reported in the tax year it is received.

a. True

b. False

**ANSWER:** True

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Easy

**QUESTION TYPE:** True / False

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-02 - LO:2-02

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

34. Interest on U.S. Treasury Bonds is not taxable.

a. True

b. False

**ANSWER:** False

**RATIONALE:** Interest on U.S. Treasury Bonds is taxable.

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Easy

**QUESTION TYPE:** True / False

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-02 - LO:2-02

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

35. Taxpayers must report interest income on Series EE savings bonds as the interest accrues.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** False

**RATIONALE:** Taxpayers report the interest in the year the bonds are cashed or mature, whichever is earlier, or taxpayers may elect to report the increase in the redemption value each year.

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate

**QUESTION TYPE:** True / False

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-02 - LO:2-02

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

36. A gift received from a financial institution for opening a bank account is not taxable income to the recipient.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** False

**RATIONALE:** The fair market value of gifts or services a taxpayer receives for opening a bank account is taxable income.

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate

**QUESTION TYPE:** True / False

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-02 - LO:2-02

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

37. In 2015, Uriah received the following interest payments:

Interest of \$300 on an overpayment of 2014 Federal income taxes

Interest of \$400 from his bank certificate of deposit.

Interest of \$1,000 on municipal bonds

Interest of \$1,500 on United States savings bonds (Series HH)

What amount, if any, should Uriah report as taxable interest income on his 2015 individual income tax return?

- a. \$0
- b. \$700
- c. \$2,200
- d. \$3,200
- e. None of the above

**ANSWER:** c

**RATIONALE:** (\$300 + \$400 + \$1,500)

**POINTS:** 1

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate  
**QUESTION TYPE:** Multiple Choice  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-02 - LO:2-02  
ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-11 - LO:2-11  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Analysis

38. Elmer received the following distributions from Virginiana Mutual Fund for the calendar year 2015:

Ordinary dividends	\$250
Capital gain distributions	\$170
Nontaxable distributions	\$ 80

Elsie, Elmer's wife, did not own any of the Virginiana Mutual Fund shares, but she did receive \$1,475 in interest on a savings account at the Moss National Bank and \$175 in interest on California Municipal Bonds. Elmer and Elsie filed a joint income tax return for 2015. What amount is reportable as taxable interest income?

- a. \$0
- b. \$175
- c. \$1,475
- d. \$1,650
- e. None of the above

**ANSWER:** c  
**RATIONALE:** The dividends are reported as dividend income, not interest. The municipal bond interest is exempt.  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate  
**QUESTION TYPE:** Multiple Choice  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-02 - LO:2-02  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Analysis

39. Elsie received the following distributions from Virginiana Mutual Fund for the calendar year 2015:

Ordinary dividends (nonqualifying)	\$250
Capital gain distributions	\$170
Nontaxable distributions	\$ 80

Elmer, Elsie's husband, did not own any of the Virginiana Mutual Fund shares, but he did receive \$1,600 in interest on a savings account at the Moss National Bank. Elmer and Elsie filed a joint income tax return for 2015. What portion *of the distributions from Virginiana Mutual Fund* is taxable as ordinary income on their 2015 individual income tax return?

- a. \$0
- b. \$250
- c. \$420
- d. \$500
- e. None of the above

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

**ANSWER:** b  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate  
**QUESTION TYPE:** Multiple Choice  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-02 - LO:2-02  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

40. Tim receives \$500 of qualified dividends from Exxon in 2015. He is in the 10 percent ordinary tax bracket. Tim's tax on the dividends will be:

- a. \$0
- b. \$25
- c. \$50
- d. \$75
- e. \$100

**ANSWER:** a  
**RATIONALE:** For taxpayers in the 10% of 15% tax brackets, the qualifying dividend rate is 0%.  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate  
**QUESTION TYPE:** Multiple Choice  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-02 - LO:2-02  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Comprehension

41. Arthur, age 19, is a full-time student at Gordon College and is a candidate for a bachelor's degree. During 2015, he received the following amounts:

Tuition scholarship	\$2,400
Loan from college financial aid office	\$1,000
Cash support from parents	\$2,000
Ordinary cash dividend	\$ 200
Cash prize awarded in contest	\$ 300

What is his adjusted gross income for 2015?

- a. \$300
- b. \$500
- c. \$2,300
- d. \$2,500
- e. None of the above

**ANSWER:** b  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Easy

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

*QUESTION TYPE:* Multiple Choice  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-02 - LO:2-02  
ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-04 - LO:2-04  
ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-07 - LO:2-07  
ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-08 - LO:2-08  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Knowledge

42. Qualified dividends are given special tax treatment. Describe how they are taxed.

*ANSWER:* Qualified dividends are taxed at 0 percent, 15 percent, or 20 percent. The 0 percent rate applies to taxpayers in the ordinary income tax brackets of 10 percent and 15 percent. The 15 percent rate applies to taxpayers in the ordinary income tax brackets of 25 percent through 35 percent. The 20 percent rate applies to taxpayers in the 39.6 percent ordinary income tax bracket. An additional 3.8 percent Medicare surtax may apply for high-income taxpayers.

*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Moderate  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Subjective Short Answer  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-02 - LO:2-02  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Comprehension

43. If a taxpayer holding EE bonds makes an election with respect to the taxation of the bonds, how is the interest which accrues on the bonds, but is not paid, taxed each year?

*ANSWER:* If an election is made, the annual increase in the redemption value of the bond (or interest accrual as it is commonly called) is included in taxable income each year.

*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Moderate  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Subjective Short Answer  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-02 - LO:2-02  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Knowledge

44. In 2015, what rate would a taxpayer pay on qualified dividend income:

- a. If in the 33 percent bracket?
- b. If in the 10 percent bracket?

*ANSWER:* a. **15 percent**  
b. **0 percent**

*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Moderate  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Subjective Short Answer

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

*HAS VARIABLES:* False

*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-02 - LO:2-02

*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Knowledge

45. Child support payments are deductible by the spouse making the payments.

a. True

b. False

*ANSWER:* False

*RATIONALE:* Payments made for child support are *not* deductible.

*POINTS:* 1

*DIFFICULTY:* Easy

*QUESTION TYPE:* True / False

*HAS VARIABLES:* False

*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-03 - LO:2-03

*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Knowledge

46. If a divorce agreement executed in the current year specifies that a portion of the amount of an alimony payment is contingent upon the status of a child, that portion is considered to be a child support payment.

a. True

b. False

*ANSWER:* True

*POINTS:* 1

*DIFFICULTY:* Easy

*QUESTION TYPE:* True / False

*HAS VARIABLES:* False

*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-03 - LO:2-03

*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Knowledge

47. Under a divorce agreement executed in the current year, periodic payments of either cash or property must be made at regular intervals to be deductible as alimony.

a. True

b. False

*ANSWER:* False

*RATIONALE:* To be deductible, alimony payments must be made in cash.

*POINTS:* 1

*DIFFICULTY:* Moderate

*QUESTION TYPE:* True / False

*HAS VARIABLES:* False

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-03 - LO:2-03

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

48. Laura and Leon were granted a divorce in 2006. In accordance with the decree, Leon made the following payments to Laura in 2015:

Child support payments contingent on the age of the child	\$4,000
Indefinite periodic payments terminating on Laura's death	\$6,000

How much of the payments can he deduct as alimony in 2015?

- a. \$0
- b. \$6,000
- c. \$10,000
- d. \$4,000
- e. None of the above

**ANSWER:** b

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Easy

**QUESTION TYPE:** Multiple Choice

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-03 - LO:2-03

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

49. Jerry and Sally were divorced under an agreement executed July 1, 2015. The terms of the agreement provide that Jerry will transfer to Sally his interest in a rental house worth \$250,000 with a tax basis to Jerry of \$80,000. What is the amount of the gain that must be recognized by Jerry on the transfer of the property and what is Sally's tax basis in the property after the transfer, respectively?

- a. \$170,000 and \$250,000
- b. \$0 and \$250,000
- c. \$170,000 and \$170,000
- d. \$0 and \$80,000
- e. None of the above

**ANSWER:** d

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate

**QUESTION TYPE:** Multiple Choice

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-03 - LO:2-03

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Comprehension



## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

50. Richard and Alice are divorced and under the terms of their written divorce agreement signed on December 30, 2008, Richard was required to pay Alice \$1,500 per month of which \$600 was designated as child support. He made 12 such payments in 2015. Additionally, Richard voluntarily paid Alice \$1,200 per month for 12 months of 2015, no portion of which was designated as child support. Assuming that Alice has no other income, her tax return for 2015 should show gross income of:

- a. \$0
- b. \$9,600
- c. \$10,800
- d. \$18,000
- e. None of the above

**ANSWER:** c  
**RATIONALE:** [12 x (\$1,500 - \$600)]  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate  
**QUESTION TYPE:** Multiple Choice  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-03 - LO:2-03  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Comprehension

51. Steve and Laura were divorced in 2009. Laura pays Steve alimony of \$1,200 a month. The payment amount was agreed upon in the decree of divorce. To save money, Steve and Laura still live together. Are the alimony payments that Steve receives in 2015 includable in his income? Can Laura take a deduction for alimony paid?

- a. Yes, the payments meet all alimony payment requirements.
- b. Yes, alimony is always taxable.
- c. No, only some of it is tax-exempt because Laura pays Steve too much alimony.
- d. No, since Steve and Laura still live together, the payments are not considered alimony.
- e. Yes, alimony payments are not tax-exempt.

**ANSWER:** d  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate  
**QUESTION TYPE:** Multiple Choice  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-03 - LO:2-03  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

52. Roger is required under a 2005 divorce decree to pay \$500 of alimony and \$200 of child support per month for 12 years. In addition, Roger makes a voluntary payment of \$100 per month. How much of the total monthly payment is deductible by Roger?

- a. \$0
- b. \$200
- c. \$500

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

- d. \$600
- e. None of the above

*ANSWER:* c  
*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Moderate  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Multiple Choice  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-03 - LO:2-03  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Comprehension

53. Laura and Leon were granted a divorce in 2006. In accordance with the decree, Leon made the following payments to Laura in 2015:

Child support payments contingent on the age of the child	\$6,000
Annual cash payments, other than child support, specified as alimony in the divorce agreement	\$4,000
How much should Laura include in her 2015 taxable income as alimony?	

- a. \$0
- b. \$4,000
- c. \$6,000
- d. \$10,000
- e. None of the above

*ANSWER:* b  
*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Easy  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Multiple Choice  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-03 - LO:2-03  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Knowledge

54. For divorces after 1984, which of the following statements about alimony payments is not correct?
- a. The payments must be in cash and must be received by the spouse (or former spouse)
  - b. Divorced or legally separated parties can be members of the same household at the time the payments are made
  - c. The payor must have no liability to make payments for any period following the death of the spouse receiving the payments
  - d. The payments must not be designated in the written agreement as anything other than alimony

*ANSWER:* b  
*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Moderate  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Multiple Choice  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-03 - LO:2-03

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

55. Under a divorce agreement executed in 2013, Bob is required to pay his ex-wife, Carol, \$3,000 a month until their youngest daughter is 21 years of age. At that time, the required payments are reduced to \$2,000 per month.

- a. How much of each \$3,000 payment may be deducted as alimony by Bob?
- b. How much of each \$3,000 payment must be included in Carol's taxable income?

**ANSWER:**  
a. **\$2,000**  
b. **\$2,000**

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate

**QUESTION TYPE:** Subjective Short Answer

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-03 - LO:2-03

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Comprehension

56. Under the terms of a property settlement executed during the current year, Cindy transferred a house worth \$350,000 to her ex-husband, Carl. The property has a tax basis to Cindy of \$300,000.

- a. How much taxable gain or loss must be recognized by Cindy at the time of the transfer?
- b. What is Carl's tax basis in the property he received from Cindy?

**ANSWER:**  
a. **\$0**  
b. **\$300,000**

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Easy

**QUESTION TYPE:** Subjective Short Answer

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-03 - LO:2-03

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Comprehension

57. Peter is required by his divorce agreement to pay alimony of \$4,000 a month and child support of \$6,000 a month to his ex-wife Stella. What is the tax treatment of these two payments?

To Peter?

To Stella?

**ANSWER:** Peter may deduct the alimony of \$4,000 per month on his tax return. He cannot deduct the child support.

Stella must report the alimony of \$4,000 per month as income on her tax return. The child support is not income to Stella.

**POINTS:** 1

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

***DIFFICULTY:*** Easy  
***QUESTION TYPE:*** Subjective Short Answer  
***HAS VARIABLES:*** False  
***LEARNING OBJECTIVES:*** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-03 - LO:2-03  
***NATIONAL STANDARDS:*** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
***STATE STANDARDS:*** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
***KEYWORDS:*** Bloom's: Knowledge

58. As part of the property settlement related to their divorce, Stella must give Peter the house that they have been living in, while she gets 100 percent of their savings accounts. The house was purchased in Texas 15 years ago for \$100,000 and is now worth \$110,000. How much gain must Stella recognize on the transfer of the house to Peter? What is Peter's tax basis in the house for calculating any future sale of the house?

***ANSWER:*** No gain is taxable to Stella on the transfer of the house since it is part of a property settlement related to a divorce. Peter has a basis of \$100,000 in the house for calculating tax on any future sale of the house.

***POINTS:*** 1  
***DIFFICULTY:*** Moderate  
***QUESTION TYPE:*** Subjective Short Answer  
***HAS VARIABLES:*** False  
***LEARNING OBJECTIVES:*** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-03 - LO:2-03  
***NATIONAL STANDARDS:*** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
***STATE STANDARDS:*** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
***KEYWORDS:*** Bloom's: Comprehension

59. An auto that is received as a prize should be included in the taxpayer's income at its list price rather than its fair market value.

- a. True
- b. False

***ANSWER:*** False  
***RATIONALE:*** If a prize or award is received in property instead of cash, the fair market value of the property is included in the taxpayer's income.

***POINTS:*** 1  
***DIFFICULTY:*** Easy  
***QUESTION TYPE:*** True / False  
***HAS VARIABLES:*** False  
***LEARNING OBJECTIVES:*** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-04 - LO:2-04  
***NATIONAL STANDARDS:*** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
***STATE STANDARDS:*** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
***KEYWORDS:*** Bloom's: Knowledge

60. Dr. J's outstanding player award is not includible in income, since the award is in recognition of his outstanding performance.

- a. True
- b. False

***ANSWER:*** False

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

<i>RATIONALE:</i>	Awards are taxable income to the recipient unless they meet qualifications for certain employee length of service or safety awards.
<i>POINTS:</i>	1
<i>DIFFICULTY:</i>	Moderate
<i>QUESTION TYPE:</i>	True / False
<i>HAS VARIABLES:</i>	False
<i>LEARNING OBJECTIVES:</i>	ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-04 - LO:2-04
<i>NATIONAL STANDARDS:</i>	United States - BUSPROG: Analytic
<i>STATE STANDARDS:</i>	United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting
<i>KEYWORDS:</i>	Bloom's: Comprehension

61. Marie had a good year. She received the following prizes and awards:

- an iPad from The Oprah Show with a fair market value of \$500
- lottery winnings of \$1,000 received in cash
- a plaque worth \$25 plus \$100 of Godiva chocolate in recognition for 100 days on the job without an accident
- a \$10,000 cash prize from American Idol

How much of her prizes and awards should Marie report on her tax return?

- a. None, they are all excluded from income
- b. \$11,000; only cash prizes and awards are included
- c. \$11,500; the award from her job is excluded
- d. \$11,700; the plaque may be excluded
- e. \$11,725; everything is included at the highest amount

<i>ANSWER:</i>	c
<i>RATIONALE:</i>	(\$500 + \$1,000 + \$10,000)
<i>POINTS:</i>	1
<i>DIFFICULTY:</i>	Moderate
<i>QUESTION TYPE:</i>	Multiple Choice
<i>HAS VARIABLES:</i>	False
<i>LEARNING OBJECTIVES:</i>	ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-04 - LO:2-04
<i>NATIONAL STANDARDS:</i>	United States - BUSPROG: Analytic
<i>STATE STANDARDS:</i>	United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting
<i>KEYWORDS:</i>	Bloom's: Comprehension

62. Which of the following gifts or prizes would be considered taxable income to the person receiving the gift?

- a. \$5,000 given to the taxpayer by his friend
- b. A mobile home given to the taxpayer by his mother
- c. A ski boat won by the taxpayer on the Price is Right game show
- d. A Mustang GT given to the taxpayer by his brother
- e. None of the above would be considered taxable

<i>ANSWER:</i>	c
<i>POINTS:</i>	1
<i>DIFFICULTY:</i>	Easy
<i>QUESTION TYPE:</i>	Multiple Choice
<i>HAS VARIABLES:</i>	False

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-04 - LO:2-04

ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-07 - LO:2-07

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

63. Rob is 8 years old and won a sports car valued at \$30,000 in a drawing at Disneyland. How much income, if any, must Rob report on his 2015 tax return? Why?

**ANSWER:** **\$30,000.** Prizes are taxable income, valued at fair market value.

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Easy

**QUESTION TYPE:** Subjective Short Answer

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-04 - LO:2-04

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

64. State whether each of the following is taxable or nontaxable.

a. Susan won a jackpot of \$50,000 gambling at a casino.

b. Sarah received a Christmas ham from her employer.

c. Jonathan won a car in a supermarket raffle valued at \$25,000.

d. Gary received a scholarship for tuition of \$5,000 a year.

e. Eric is given lodging valued at \$1,000 a month on the oil rig where he is employed since it is impossible for Eric to go home during the period of time he is assigned to work on the rig.

**ANSWER:**

- a. Taxable
- b. Nontaxable
- c. Taxable
- d. Nontaxable
- e. Nontaxable

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate

**QUESTION TYPE:** Subjective Short Answer

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-04 - LO:2-04

ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-08 - LO:2-08

ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-10 - LO:2-10

ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-13 - LO:2-13

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Comprehension

65. If an annuitant, whose annuity starting date was January 1, 2001, dies before recovering his or her investment in the annuity, any unrecovered investment is recognized as a loss on the annuitant's tax return for the year of death.

a. True

b. False

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

**ANSWER:** True  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Challenging  
**QUESTION TYPE:** True / False  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-05 - LO:2-05  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

66. Payments made to a qualified retirement plan by an employer are considered part of the employee's investment in the contract for calculation of the annuity exclusion ratio.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** False  
**RATIONALE:** Since payments made to a qualified retirement plan by an employer are not taxable when made, they are not part of the investment in the contract.  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate  
**QUESTION TYPE:** True / False  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-05 - LO:2-05  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

67. When calculating the exclusion ratio for an annuity, the ratio should be revised when there is a significant change in the taxpayer's status or health.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** False  
**RATIONALE:** Once calculated, the exclusion ratio for an annuity remains constant even if the annuitant's situation changes.  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Easy  
**QUESTION TYPE:** True / False  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-05 - LO:2-05  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

68. Richard, who retired on April 30, 2015, receives a monthly employee annuity benefit of \$1,400 payable for life, beginning May 1, 2015. During his years of employment, Richard contributed \$29,400 to the company's plan. Richard's age on May 1 is 66. Using the simplified method, how much of the annuity payment amounts received during 2015

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

(\$11,200) may Richard exclude from gross income?

- a. \$427
- b. \$1,120
- c. \$1,680
- d. \$11,200
- e. None of the above

ANSWER: b

RATIONALE: Simplified method:

$$\text{\$29,400} \div 210 \text{ (factor for age 66)} = \$140 \times 8 \text{ months} = \$1,120$$

POINTS: 1

DIFFICULTY: Challenging

QUESTION TYPE: Multiple Choice

HAS VARIABLES: False

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-05 - LO:2-05

NATIONAL STANDARDS: United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

STATE STANDARDS: United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

KEYWORDS: Bloom's: Analysis

NOTES: The simplified method worksheet may be needed for students to complete this problem.

69. Martin retired in May 2015. His pension is \$1,000 per month from a qualified retirement plan to which he contributed \$42,000, and to which his employer contributed \$12,000. Martin was 67 when the plan payments started. During 2015, he received 8 months of payment for a total of \$8,000 from the plan.

- a. Using the simplified method, calculate Martin's taxable income for 2015 from the retirement plan distributions.
- b. If Martin's contributions to the plan had been \$25,200, instead of \$42,000, using the simplified method, how much taxable income would he have to report in 2015 from the plan distributions?

ANSWER:

- a. **\$6,400.**  $\text{\$42,000} \div 210 \text{ (factor for age 67)} = \$200 \times 8 \text{ months} = \$1,600. \$8,000 - \$1,600 = \$6,400$
- b. **\$7,040.**  $\text{\$25,200} \div 210 = \$120 \times 8 \text{ months} = \$960. \$8,000 - \$960 = \$7,040$

POINTS: 1

DIFFICULTY: Challenging

QUESTION TYPE: Subjective Short Answer

HAS VARIABLES: False

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-05 - LO:2-05

NATIONAL STANDARDS: United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

STATE STANDARDS: United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

KEYWORDS: Bloom's: Analysis

70. Cynthia, age 64, retired in June. Starting in July, Cynthia received \$2,000 per month from an annuity. She has contributed \$260,000 to the annuity. Her life expectancy is 20 years. How much is excluded from income using the simplified method? Use 260 as the factor to divide by.

1. Enter total amount received this year



## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

2. Enter cost in plan at the annuity starting date
3. Factor at annuity starting date 260
4. Divide line 2 by line 3
5. Multiply line 4 by the number of monthly payments this year
6. Amount, if any, recovered tax free in prior years
7. Subtract line 6 from line 2
8. Enter the smaller of line 5 or 7
9. Taxable amount this year. Subtract line 8 from line 1

**ANSWER:** \$6,000 is excluded from income. See calculation below.

1. Enter total amount received this year: \$12,000
2. Enter cost in plan at the annuity starting date: \$260,000
3. Factor at annuity starting date: 260
4. Divide line 2 by line 3: \$1,000
5. Multiply line 4 by the number of monthly payments this year: \$6,000
6. Amount, if any, recovered tax free in prior years: \$0
7. Subtract line 6 from line 2: \$260,000
8. Enter the smaller of line 5 or 7: \$6,000
9. Taxable amount this year. Subtract line 8 from line 1: \$6,000

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Challenging

**QUESTION TYPE:** Subjective Short Answer

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-05 - LO:2-05

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Analysis

71. If a life insurance policy is transferred to the insured's partnership for valuable consideration, the insurance proceeds are taxable when received by the partnership.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** False

**RATIONALE:** If a life insurance policy is transferred to the insured's partnership for valuable consideration, the insurance proceeds are *not* taxable when received by the partnership.

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate

**QUESTION TYPE:** True / False

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-06 - LO:2-06

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

72. Sam died on January 15, 2005 and left his wife, Terry, an insurance policy with a face value of \$100,000. Terry elected to receive the proceeds over a 10-year period (\$10,000 plus interest each year). This year Terry receives \$11,500

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

(\$10,000 proceeds plus \$1,500 interest) from the insurance company. How much income must Terry report from this payment?

- a. \$0
- b. \$500
- c. \$1,500
- d. \$11,500
- e. None of the above

**ANSWER:** c

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Easy

**QUESTION TYPE:** Multiple Choice

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-06 - LO:2-06

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

73. Seymore named his wife, Penelope, the beneficiary of a \$100,000 insurance policy on his life. The policy provided that, upon his death, the proceeds would be paid at a rate of \$4,000 per year plus interest over a 25-year period. Seymore died June 25, 2014, and in 2015 Penelope received a payment of \$5,200 from the insurance company. What amount should she include in her gross income for 2015?

- a. \$200
- b. \$1,200
- c. \$4,000
- d. \$5,200
- e. None of the above

**ANSWER:** b

**RATIONALE:** \$5,200 - \$4,000 (only the portion designated as interest income)

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Easy

**QUESTION TYPE:** Multiple Choice

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-06 - LO:2-06

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Comprehension

74. Which of the following would result in life insurance proceeds that are taxable to the recipient?

- a. A life insurance policy transferred to a creditor in payment of a debt
- b. A life insurance policy in which the insured is the daughter of the taxpayer and the beneficiary is the taxpayer
- c. A life insurance policy transferred by a shareholder to a corporation
- d. A life insurance policy purchased by a taxpayer insuring his or her business partner
- e. A life insurance policy purchased by a corporation insuring an officer.

**ANSWER:** a

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Moderate  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Multiple Choice  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-06 - LO:2-06  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Knowledge

75. Toby transfers to Jim a life insurance policy with a face value of \$25,000 and a cash value of \$5,000 in payment of a personal debt. Jim continues to make premium payments on the policy until Toby's death. At that time, Jim had paid \$1,500 in premiums.

- a. How much income must Jim report when he receives the \$25,000 in proceeds?
- b. Would your answer be different if Toby and Jim were partners in a partnership? Why?

*ANSWER:*

- a. **\$18,500** = \$25,000 - \$5,000 - \$1,500.
- b. **Yes.** Transfers to a partner, even for valuable consideration, result in nontaxable proceeds.

*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Challenging  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Subjective Short Answer  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-06 - LO:2-06  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Comprehension

76. Tracy transfers to Glen a life insurance policy with a face value of \$40,000 and a cash value of \$8,000 in payment of a personal debt. Glen continues to make premium payments on the policy until Tracy's death. At that time, Glen had paid \$3,500 in premiums.

- a. How much income must Glen report when he receives the \$40,000 in proceeds?
- b. Would your answer be different if Tracy were a shareholder and CEO of a corporation to which the policy was transferred? Why?

*ANSWER:*

- a. **\$28,500** = \$40,000 - \$8,000 - \$3,500
- b. **Yes.** Transfers to corporation by a shareholder and officer of a corporation, even if for valuable consideration, result in nontaxable proceeds.

*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Challenging  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Subjective Short Answer  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-06 - LO:2-06  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Comprehension

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

77. Van is sick and tired of his job. His doctor certifies that his health may be compromised if he continues to work at his current job. He sells his life insurance policy to Life Settlements, Inc. for \$50,000 so he can take a break from work. He has paid \$10,000 so far for the policy. How much of the \$50,000 must Van include in his taxable income?

**ANSWER:** He must pay tax on the \$40,000 gain on the sale of the policy. Van has not met the requirement for an accelerated death benefit or a viatical settlement.

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Challenging

**QUESTION TYPE:** Subjective Short Answer

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-06 - LO:2-06

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Analysis

78. Helga receives a \$300,000 life insurance payment when her boyfriend Andy dies. How much of the payment is taxable to Helga?

**ANSWER:** None of the payment is taxable. Life insurance proceeds received upon the death of the insured are generally considered to be tax-free and specifically excluded from taxable income.

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Easy

**QUESTION TYPE:** Subjective Short Answer

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-06 - LO:2-06

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

79. Ordinarily life insurance proceeds are excluded from gross income. Why would they be taxable if the policy had been transferred for valuable consideration, prior to the death of the insured?

**ANSWER:** If a policy is transferred for valuable consideration, it takes on the nature of an investment for the new owner. Generally, the excess of the amount realized on disposal of an investment over the cost of the investment is subject to taxation.

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate

**QUESTION TYPE:** Essay

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-06 - LO:2-06

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Analysis

80. To promote business activity, the tax rules generally are very liberal in treating business gifts as tax-free income to the recipient.

- a. True
- b. False

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

**ANSWER:** False  
**RATIONALE:** Gifts made in a business setting are generally considered disguised income. The courts are likely to rule that business gifts are taxable income.  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Easy  
**QUESTION TYPE:** True / False  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-07 - LO:2-07  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

81. The receipt of an inheritance is excluded from the taxable income of the recipients.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Easy  
**QUESTION TYPE:** True / False  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-07 - LO:2-07  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

82. Dividend income arising from stock received as a gift is excluded from gross income since the dividends are considered part of the gift.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** False  
**RATIONALE:** Dividend income arising from stock received as a gift is taxable.  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Easy  
**QUESTION TYPE:** True / False  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-07 - LO:2-07  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

83. In June of the current year, Rob's wealthy stepmother died and left him a stock portfolio worth \$600,000. Before she died, she gave him a gift of \$20,000 in cash. How much of these amounts, if any, are taxable to Rob? Why?

**ANSWER:** \$0  
Inheritances and gifts are not taxable to the recipient.  
**POINTS:** 1

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

*DIFFICULTY:* Easy  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Subjective Short Answer  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-07 - LO:2-07  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Knowledge

84. In June of the current year, a wealthy aunt gave Janie a stock portfolio worth \$150,000. During the year, she collects \$4,000 in dividends. How much of these amounts, if any, should Janie include in gross income for the current year? Why?

*ANSWER:* **\$4,000.** The gift of stock is not classified as income, but earnings on the stock are income.

*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Moderate  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Subjective Short Answer  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-07 - LO:2-07  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Knowledge

85. Geoff is a company president who has had a very good year at work. The owner of the company is pleased and gives him a gift of \$50,000 at the end of the year. The owner writes “gift” in the memo section of the check. How much of the gift is taxable to Geoff?

*ANSWER:* The full \$50,000 is taxable. The gift is clearly bonus income in a business setting so does not qualify for tax-free gift treatment, even if Geoff’s employer calls the payment a gift.

*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Easy  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Subjective Short Answer  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-07 - LO:2-07  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Comprehension

86. Tim receives a \$25,000 gift from his parents for a down payment on a house. They know he can not buy a house without their help. They write “gift” in the memo line of the check. How much of the gift is taxable to Tim?

*ANSWER:* None of the gift is taxable. Gifts are excluded from the taxable income of the person receiving the gift.

*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Easy  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Subjective Short Answer  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-07 - LO:2-07  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Comprehension

87. Elmore receives a rental property as an inheritance from his grandmother. The rental is worth \$500,000 and Elmore collected rental income of \$24,000 during the year.

For the year, how much is Elmore's gross income as a result of the inheritance?

**ANSWER:** **\$24,000**, the amount of the rental income.

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Easy

**QUESTION TYPE:** Subjective Short Answer

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-07 - LO:2-07

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Comprehension

88. Amounts received as scholarships for books and tuition may be excluded from the recipient's taxable income.

a. True

b. False

**ANSWER:** True

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Easy

**QUESTION TYPE:** True / False

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-08 - LO:2-08

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

89. A scholarship for room and board granted in 2015 is fully taxable to the recipient.

a. True

b. False

**ANSWER:** True

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Easy

**QUESTION TYPE:** True / False

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-08 - LO:2-08

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

90. Nicole is a student at USB Law; she receives a \$52,000 scholarship for 2015. Of the \$52,000, \$40,000 is used for tuition, \$5,000 is used for books, and \$7,000 is used for room and board. How much of the scholarship is excluded from taxable income for Nicole in 2015?

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

- a. \$5,000
- b. \$7,000
- c. \$45,000
- d. \$47,000
- e. \$52,000

**ANSWER:** c  
**RATIONALE:** Scholarship used for room and board is not excludable.  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Easy  
**QUESTION TYPE:** Multiple Choice  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-08 - LO:2-08  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

91. To pay for college, Henry received the following:  
\$1,000 scholarship from the Thespian Club to pay for books  
\$4,000 scholarship from the Elks Lodge for tuition  
\$5,000 worth of room and board as a dorm supervisor through a work-study program

How much income must Henry report on his tax return?

- a. \$0
- b. \$4,000
- c. \$5,000
- d. \$6,000
- e. \$10,000

**ANSWER:** c  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate  
**QUESTION TYPE:** Multiple Choice  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-08 - LO:2-08  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

92. Karina receives a scholarship of \$10,000 to a college. She is also given a job which pays \$5,000 a year to help with her expenses. \$7,000 of the scholarship is earmarked for tuition and \$3,000 is for room and board. How much of the money from the scholarship and the job are taxable to Karina?

**ANSWER:** The \$5,000 earnings from the job are taxable, as is \$3,000 of the scholarship. There is no exclusion for payments made for room and board. \$7,000 is not taxable, since scholarships for tuition are specifically excluded from taxable income.  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Easy



## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

*QUESTION TYPE:* Subjective Short Answer  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-08 - LO:2-08  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Comprehension

93. Kim earned \$30,000 from Pfizer before she was laid off. She then collected \$7,000 of unemployment benefits. Finally, Kim received a \$12,500 scholarship for tuition so she could return to college to earn a microbiology degree. How much does Kim need to report as income on her tax return?

*ANSWER:* Kim needs to report \$37,000 on her tax return: \$30,000 from her employment at Pfizer and \$7,000 from unemployment benefits received. The \$12,500 scholarship is excluded from income.

*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Easy  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Subjective Short Answer  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-08 - LO:2-08  
ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-12 - LO:2-12  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Comprehension

94. Amounts received by an employee as reimbursement for medical expenses under a policy provided by the taxpayer's employer are excluded from gross income.

- a. True
- b. False

*ANSWER:* True  
*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Easy  
*QUESTION TYPE:* True / False  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-09 - LO:2-09  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Knowledge

95. If an employer claims a business deduction for group health insurance premiums paid on behalf of his employees, the amount must be included in the employees' gross income.

- a. True
- b. False

*ANSWER:* False  
*RATIONALE:* Premiums for group health insurance paid on the behalf of an employee are excluded from the employee's income and may be deducted by the employer.  
*POINTS:* 1

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

*DIFFICULTY:* Easy  
*QUESTION TYPE:* True / False  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-09 - LO:2-09  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Knowledge

96. Payments made by an employer for health insurance on behalf of an employee are considered income to the employee at the time the payments are made.

- a. True
- b. False

*ANSWER:* False  
*RATIONALE:* Health insurance premiums paid by a taxpayer's employer are excluded from the taxpayer's income.  
*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Easy  
*QUESTION TYPE:* True / False  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-09 - LO:2-09  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Knowledge

97. Robert works for American Motors. American Motors pays a \$1,200 premium on Robert's health insurance in 2015. Robert has an operation on his big toe in 2015 that cost \$7,200. The insurance company paid for \$6,800 of it. Which one of the following is true for 2015?

- a. Robert must claim the \$1,200 premium paid by his employer as income.
- b. Robert must claim the \$6,800 paid by the insurance company for the operation as income.
- c. Robert must claim the \$1,200 premium and the \$6,800 insurance payment as income.
- d. None of these events are taxable on his 2015 return.

*ANSWER:* d  
*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Moderate  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Multiple Choice  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-09 - LO:2-09  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Analysis

98. Which of the following may be excluded from income?

- a. Payment for the loss of an arm
- b. Premiums for health insurance paid by the employer
- c. Reimbursement from the insurance company for a physical examination

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

- d. All of the above are excluded from gross income
- e. None of the above are excluded from gross income

**ANSWER:** d  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate  
**QUESTION TYPE:** Multiple Choice  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-09 - LO:2-09  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

99. Joey is a single taxpayer. Joey's employer pays \$1,800 per year for his health insurance. During the year, Joey had medical expenses of \$2,500 and the insurance company reimbursed him for the full \$2,500. How much of the above amounts, if any, must be included in Joey's gross income? Why?

**ANSWER:** **None.** The health insurance premiums paid by the employer are not income to Joey and the reimbursement of medical expense by the insurance company is not income to Joey.  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Easy  
**QUESTION TYPE:** Subjective Short Answer  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-09 - LO:2-09  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Comprehension

100. Marco and his family are covered by his company's health insurance plan. The health insurance costs his company \$2,500 a year. During the year, Marco's daughter is diagnosed with a serious illness and the health insurance pays \$25,000 for treatment. How much of the insurance and treatment costs are taxable to Marco?

**ANSWER:** None of the cost of the family insurance or amounts paid by the insurance company for treatment are taxable to Marco. These amounts are specifically excluded from taxable income under the tax law.  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Easy  
**QUESTION TYPE:** Subjective Short Answer  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-09 - LO:2-09  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Comprehension

101. Cash allowances for meals or lodging generally must be included in the employee's income.

- a. True
- b. False

**ANSWER:** True

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Easy  
*QUESTION TYPE:* True / False  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-10 - LO:2-10  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Knowledge

102. The value of lodging provided to a professor to enable him to live near the campus is excluded from gross income.

- a. True
- b. False

*ANSWER:* False  
*RATIONALE:* Since a professor is not required to live on campus, the value of lodging is included in gross income.

*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Easy  
*QUESTION TYPE:* True / False  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-10 - LO:2-10  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Comprehension

103. Anthony is a marine biologist who spends months living on a boat in the ocean studying the impact of runoff water a hundred miles off the coast as a part of his job. Which of the following sentences is the most accurate?

- a. Lodging is included in his income.
- b. He may exclude meals from his income.
- c. The fuel used to power the boat is excluded from his income.
- d. b & c are correct, not a.
- e. All are correct.

*ANSWER:* d  
*RATIONALE:* Meals and lodging were provided at the convenience of the employer. Additionally, Anthony could not reasonably return home each night.

*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Easy  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Multiple Choice  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-10 - LO:2-10  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Comprehension

104. In which of the following cases may the employee exclude the meals and/or lodging:

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

- a. A taxpayer lives rent-free at the property she manages even though the owner does not require the manager to live on site.
- b. A headmaster at a boarding school is required to be on campus all night.
- c. A president of a major film studio receives a cash allowance to live in Beverly Hills.
- d. An employee has an option of dining in an employer-sponsored cafeteria or dining out of the office.

**ANSWER:** b  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Easy  
**QUESTION TYPE:** Multiple Choice  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-10 - LO:2-10  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

105. Bob is a machinist in a remote Alaskan crab-freezing plant. The plant is accessible only by boat or airplane and has no available lodging for rent. Bob's employer provides him with lodging at the plant and pays for all of his electricity, gas, and other utilities, valued at \$700 per month. Is the value of the lodging taxable to Bob? Explain.

**ANSWER:** No. The lodging costs paid by the employer are not taxable to the employee because the lodging is on the business premises and must be accepted as a requirement for employment.  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate  
**QUESTION TYPE:** Subjective Short Answer  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-10 - LO:2-10  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Analysis

106. As a new benefit to employees, the Acme Company is providing a dining allowance every Tuesday for use in one of the twenty restaurants that they own around town. Should this benefit be included in the wages of the employees?

**ANSWER:** Yes. The meals are not being provided for the convenience of the employer. Therefore, the value of the meals should be included in the wages of the employees.  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate  
**QUESTION TYPE:** Subjective Short Answer  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-10 - LO:2-10  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Analysis

107. Interest earned on bonds issued by a state government is fully taxable.

- a. True
- b. False

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

**ANSWER:** False  
**RATIONALE:** Interest earned on bonds issued by a state government is excluded from gross income.  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Easy  
**QUESTION TYPE:** True / False  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-11 - LO:2-11  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

108. An investor is comparing the following two bonds: a bond from ABC Corp which pays an interest rate of 9 percent per year and a municipal bond which pays an interest rate of 7.9 percent per year. The investor is in the 15 percent tax bracket. Which bond will give the investor a higher after-tax interest rate and for which reason?

- a. The ABC bond because it pays a 9 percent interest rate, while the municipal bond only pays 7.9 percent .
- b. The ABC bond because it pays an equivalent after-tax rate of 10.6 percent, while the municipal bond pays out an equivalent after-tax rate of 9.3 percent.
- c. The municipal bond because it pays an equivalent after-tax rate of 9.3 percent, while the ABC bond pays out a 9 percent interest rate.
- d. The municipal bond because it pays an equivalent after-tax rate of 7.9 percent, while the ABC bond pays out an equivalent after-tax rate of 7.65 percent.
- e. None of the above is correct.

**ANSWER:** d  
**RATIONALE:** The after tax rate (7.9 percent) on the municipal bond is the pre-tax rate since interest on this bond is tax-exempt.  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate  
**QUESTION TYPE:** Multiple Choice  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-11 - LO:2-11  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Analysis

109. Which taxpayer would benefit the most from a tax-free municipal bond compared to a taxable bond?

- a. A taxpayer whose only income is from Social Security
- b. A taxpayer who won a mega-million-dollar lottery
- c. The average blue collar worker
- d. They would all equally benefit from the tax-free municipal bond

**ANSWER:** b  
**RATIONALE:** Higher income generally leads to higher tax rates which lowers the after-tax return on a taxable bond.  
**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate  
**QUESTION TYPE:** Multiple Choice

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

*HAS VARIABLES:* False

*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-11 - LO:2-11

*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Comprehension

110. A taxpayer in the 33 percent tax bracket invests in a New York City Bond paying 5 percent interest. What taxable interest rate would provide the same after-tax return?

*ANSWER:* **7.46%** =  $5\% / (1 - 0.33)$

*POINTS:* 1

*DIFFICULTY:* Moderate

*QUESTION TYPE:* Subjective Short Answer

*HAS VARIABLES:* False

*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-11 - LO:2-11

*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Analysis

111. Mable is a wealthy widow who has come to you for tax advice. She is in the 35 percent tax bracket. She has a choice between investing in a high-quality municipal bond paying 3.5 percent or a high-quality corporate bond paying 7 percent. From a tax standpoint, which investment would you advise her to make and why?

*ANSWER:* She should invest in the corporate bond. At the 35 percent tax bracket, the after-tax equivalent rate on the corporate bond is 4.55 percent or 7 percent times  $(1 - 0.35)$ , which is greater than the 3.5 percent rate of return on the municipal bond.

*POINTS:* 1

*DIFFICULTY:* Moderate

*QUESTION TYPE:* Subjective Short Answer

*HAS VARIABLES:* False

*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-11 - LO:2-11

*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Analysis

112. A taxpayer in the 28 percent tax bracket invests in a City of San Diego bond paying 8 percent interest. What taxable interest rate would provide the same after-tax return?

*ANSWER:* **11.11 percent** =  $8\text{ percent} / (1 - 0.28)$

*POINTS:* 1

*DIFFICULTY:* Moderate

*QUESTION TYPE:* Subjective Short Answer

*HAS VARIABLES:* False

*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-11 - LO:2-11

*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Analysis

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

113. Unemployment compensation is fully taxable to the individual receiving the compensation.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

POINTS: 1

DIFFICULTY: Easy

QUESTION TYPE: True / False

HAS VARIABLES: False

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-12 - LO:2-12

NATIONAL STANDARDS: United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

STATE STANDARDS: United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

KEYWORDS: Bloom's: Knowledge

114. Steve worked as a tech supervisor for a computer company. In September of 2015, he was laid off. He was paid unemployment compensation for the rest of the year totaling \$7,000. Which of the following is true?

- a. Steve will have to report all \$7,000 of the unemployment compensation as income.
- b. Steve will have to report \$4,600 of the unemployment compensation as income.
- c. Unemployment compensation is never taxable.
- d. As long as the unemployment compensation payments are less than the taxpayer's previous salary, they are not taxable.
- e. None of the above is true.

ANSWER: a

POINTS: 1

DIFFICULTY: Easy

QUESTION TYPE: Multiple Choice

HAS VARIABLES: False

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-12 - LO:2-12

NATIONAL STANDARDS: United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

STATE STANDARDS: United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

KEYWORDS: Bloom's: Knowledge

115. Susie received unemployment benefits in the current year.

- a. All of the unemployment benefits are taxable.
- b. All of the unemployment benefits are non-taxable.
- c. Half of the unemployment benefits are taxable and half are non-taxable.
- d. The taxability of the unemployment benefits depends upon other income received for the year.

ANSWER: a

POINTS: 1

DIFFICULTY: Easy

QUESTION TYPE: Multiple Choice

HAS VARIABLES: False

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-12 - LO:2-12

NATIONAL STANDARDS: United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

STATE STANDARDS: United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting



## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

116. Jim, a single individual, was unemployed for a few months during the current year. During the year, he received \$3,600 in unemployment compensation payments. How much of his unemployment compensation payments must be included in gross income?

**ANSWER:** **\$3,600.** Unemployment compensation is included in gross income.

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Easy

**QUESTION TYPE:** Subjective Short Answer

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-12 - LO:2-12

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

117. Group term life insurance premiums paid by an employer for insurance amounts less than \$50,000 must be included in the employee's income.

a. True

b. False

**ANSWER:** False

**RATIONALE:** Group term life insurance premiums paid by an employer for insurance amounts less than \$50,000 are excluded from gross income.

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Easy

**QUESTION TYPE:** True / False

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-13 - LO:2-13

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

118. A "no-additional-cost" service includes only those services in the major line of business in which the employee is employed.

a. True

b. False

**ANSWER:** True

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Easy

**QUESTION TYPE:** True / False

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-13 - LO:2-13

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

119. Employer-provided spending accounts:

- a. May be set up for tax-free vacation savings
- b. Are not allowed for dependent care
- c. Do not require that the employee provide receipts for the expenses incurred
- d. Allow qualifying expenses to be treated as tax-free reductions in the employees' salaries

ANSWER: d

POINTS: 1

DIFFICULTY: Easy

QUESTION TYPE: Multiple Choice

HAS VARIABLES: False

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-13 - LO:2-13

NATIONAL STANDARDS: United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

STATE STANDARDS: United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

KEYWORDS: Bloom's: Knowledge

120. Indicate which of the following statements is true.

- a. Dependent care plans can only be used to cover the costs of caring for a dependent child.
- b. Medical flexible spending accounts can be used to cover dentist fees.
- c. Public transportation may be covered by an employer-provided spending account, but parking can not be covered.
- d. Dependent care accounts may include day care but not preschool

ANSWER: b

POINTS: 1

DIFFICULTY: Easy

QUESTION TYPE: Multiple Choice

HAS VARIABLES: False

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-13 - LO:2-13

NATIONAL STANDARDS: United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

STATE STANDARDS: United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

KEYWORDS: Bloom's: Knowledge

121. Which of the following is correct?

- a. Employee discounts are always included in gross income.
- b. Employee discounts of up to 20 percent may be taken on personal property held for investment.
- c. Employee discounts are not tax-free if they exceed the employer's gross markup for merchandise.
- d. Tax-free employee discounts include discounts in lines of business in which the employee does not work.

ANSWER: c

POINTS: 1

DIFFICULTY: Moderate

QUESTION TYPE: Multiple Choice

HAS VARIABLES: False

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-13 - LO:2-13

NATIONAL STANDARDS: United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

STATE STANDARDS: United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

122. Which of the following fringe benefits is taxable to the employee receiving the benefit?
- a. A subscription to a tax journal provided by the employer to a corporation's tax accountant
  - b. A small discount on toys granted to the salesperson for a toy store
  - c. Incidental use of the company's copier by an office worker
  - d. A 15 percent discount on investment real estate granted to the employee of a real estate developer
  - e. All of the above are tax-free

**ANSWER:** d

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Easy

**QUESTION TYPE:** Multiple Choice

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-13 - LO:2-13

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Knowledge

123. William, a single taxpayer, works for the men's clothing division of a large corporation. During the year, William received the following fringe benefits:

	<u>Value</u>
20 percent discount on men's clothing (the usual markup is 40 percent)	\$350
15 percent discount on toys from the toy division of the company (the usual markup is 25 percent)	\$100
Personal copies on the company's copier	\$ 15
A subscription to <i>Men's Clothing Weekly</i>	\$ 35
Use of the company's athletic facilities	\$ 50

As a result of receiving the above fringe benefits, what amount must William include in his current year gross income?

**ANSWER:** **\$100**, the discount on toys from the toy division.

**POINTS:** 1

**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate

**QUESTION TYPE:** Subjective Short Answer

**HAS VARIABLES:** False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-13 - LO:2-13

**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic

**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting

**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Comprehension

124. Curt's tax client, Terry, is employed at a large company that offers medical flexible spending accounts to its employees. Terry must decide at the beginning of the year whether he wants to put as much as \$2,500 of his salary into the medical flexible spending account. Terry has excellent insurance through the company and is very healthy. He does not expect to have any medical expenses during the year. Terry does not itemize deductions. Should Curt recommend that Terry put the maximum in his medical flexible spending account? Why or why not?

**ANSWER:** No. Terry will be better off keeping his salary \$2,500 higher and paying tax on the salary, since he will likely have no medical costs to reimburse from a medical spending account during the year. If Terry has no medical expenses, he could lose part of the \$2,500 in the account after the end of the year.

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Moderate  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Subjective Short Answer  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-13 - LO:2-13  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Analysis

125. The amount of employee reimbursement in 2015 for parking and mass transit costs are \$250 per month each.

- a. True
- b. False

*ANSWER:* False  
*RATIONALE:* The excludable amount of mass transit fringe benefit is \$130 per month and parking is \$250 per month in 2015.

*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Easy  
*QUESTION TYPE:* True / False  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-13 - LO:2-13  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Knowledge

126. Which of the following are **not** excludable as an employee fringe benefit?

- a. Employee deductions of \$4,200 for dependent childcare expenses
- b. Premiums for up to \$50,000 of group term life insurance
- c. An employee discount that permits the sale of merchandise to employees for just over cost
- d. Public transportation costs of \$130 per month provided by the employer
- e. All of the above are excludable as an employee fringe benefit

*ANSWER:* e  
*RATIONALE:* All of the above are employee fringe benefits and at amounts below any limitations for exclusion.

*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Easy  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Multiple Choice  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-13 - LO:2-13  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Knowledge

127. In some cases, Social Security benefits may be partially taxable.

- a. True

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

b. False

*ANSWER:* True  
*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Easy  
*QUESTION TYPE:* True / False  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-14 - LO:2-14  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Knowledge

128. In regards to Social Security benefits:

- a. The Social Security inclusion formula is the same amount for each filing status.
- b. Social Security benefits are always excluded because wages are subject to Social Security tax when earned.
- c. Tax-free interest income must be included in the formula used to determine if Social Security is included in taxable income.
- d. Up to 100 percent of Social Security benefits received may be included in taxable income.

*ANSWER:* c  
*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Moderate  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Multiple Choice  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-14 - LO:2-14  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Knowledge

129. For 2015, the maximum percentage of Social Security benefits which must be included in a taxpayer's gross income is?

- a. 0%
- b. 50%
- c. 65%
- d. 85%
- e. 100%

*ANSWER:* d  
*POINTS:* 1  
*DIFFICULTY:* Easy  
*QUESTION TYPE:* Multiple Choice  
*HAS VARIABLES:* False  
*LEARNING OBJECTIVES:* ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-14 - LO:2-14  
*NATIONAL STANDARDS:* United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
*STATE STANDARDS:* United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
*KEYWORDS:* Bloom's: Knowledge

## Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions

130. Answer the following questions regarding the taxability of Social Security payments.

- a. Will a taxpayer with no income other than Social Security have to include the Social Security in taxable income?
- b. Will a taxpayer with a large amount of municipal bond income, but no taxable income, likely have to pay tax on part of his or her Social Security?

c. What is the maximum percentage of Social Security benefits which may be subject to tax on an individual's tax return?

- ANSWER:**
- a. No. The taxpayer's income is below the threshold amount used in the formula to determine whether Social Security is taxable.
  - b. Yes. Tax-free municipal bond income is added to AGI in the formula to determine the amount of taxable Social Security.
  - c. 85 percent. High-income taxpayers must include 85 percent of Social Security receipts in taxable income.

**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate  
**QUESTION TYPE:** Subjective Short Answer  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-14 - LO:2-14  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Analysis

131. During the tax year, Thomas and Yolanda received \$24,000 in Social Security benefits. The amount of their adjusted gross income for the year was \$2,000 and they received no tax-exempt interest income.

Calculate the amount of the Social Security benefits that Thomas and Yolanda must include in their gross income for the year.

**ANSWER:** **\$0.** Their modified adjusted gross income is less than the base amount required to have taxable Social Security.

**POINTS:** 1  
**DIFFICULTY:** Easy  
**QUESTION TYPE:** Subjective Short Answer  
**HAS VARIABLES:** False  
**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-14 - LO:2-14  
**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic  
**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting  
**KEYWORDS:** Bloom's: Comprehension

132. During the current year, Margaret and John received \$24,000 in Social Security benefits. The amount of their adjusted gross income for the year before any Social Security income was \$140,000 and they received \$19,000 in tax-exempt income.

Explain the treatment of their Social Security income for tax purposes and the likely percentage of the Social Security income that will be taxable to Margaret and John.

**ANSWER:** Social Security income is partially taxed based on the taxpayer's modified adjusted gross income. Modified adjusted gross income includes adjusted gross income plus tax exempt

**Chapter 2 — Gross Income and Exclusions**

interest plus half of the Social Security received. For low income taxpayers, no Social Security income is taxable. Higher income taxpayers must include 50 percent to 85 percent of the Social Security receipts in income. Given the high level of income reported by Margaret and John, it is safe to say they would have to include 85 percent of the Social Security payments in taxable income. To be certain, the IRS Social Security worksheet should be used to calculate the taxable amount.

**POINTS:**

1

**DIFFICULTY:**

Moderate

**QUESTION TYPE:**

Essay

**HAS VARIABLES:**

False

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** ITF.WABG.15.LO:2-14 - LO:2-14**NATIONAL STANDARDS:** United States - BUSPROG: Analytic**STATE STANDARDS:** United States - AK - AICPA: FN-Reporting**KEYWORDS:**

Bloom's: Comprehension