



## **AP<sup>®</sup> Microeconomics 2004 Scoring Commentary Form B**

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**Question 1**

**Sample: 1A**

**Score: 9**

This is an excellent answer.

**Sample: 1B**

**Score: 6**

This is a good answer. There is no problem with the answers to parts (a) and (b). The answer to part (c) incorrectly states that total revenue is maximized at the quantity where average total cost is minimized. Part (d) explains the absence of allocative efficiency by saying that price doesn't equal marginal *revenue*, whereas the condition for allocative efficiency is that price equals marginal *cost*. Part (e) is correct.

**Sample: 1C**

**Score: 5**

This is a fairly good answer. The answer to part (a) is incorrect. The graph in part (b) is correct, except that  $P^*$  should be read off of the demand curve above  $Q^*$ , and the shaded profit section is incorrect. The answer to part (c) is correct. The answer to part (d) incorrectly states that Brunelle is producing at the allocatively efficient level. The answer to part (e) is correct.

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**Question 2**

**Sample: 2A**

**Score: 6**

This is an excellent answer.

**Sample: 2B**

**Score: 5**

This is a very good answer. One point was lost because the shaded area representing tax revenue is incorrect. The supply curve shifts upward by the amount of the tax. Thus, to show the tax revenue one must draw a rectangle that has as its height the entire vertical shift from the old supply curve to the new one and a width equal to the quantity purchased with the tax in place. The width here is correct, but the height is less than the amount of the tax. This was a common mistake.

**Sample: 2C**

**Score: 4**

This is a good answer. One point was lost in part (a) because the answer states that consumers will bear “more of” the burden rather than “all of” the burden. A second point was lost in part (c) because the height of the shaded tax revenue area is incorrect for the reasons explained in the previous commentary.

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**Question 3**

**Sample: 3A**

**Score: 6**

This is an excellent answer.

**Sample: 3B**

**Score: 5**

This is a good answer. One point was missed in part (c) because the change in consumer surplus was incorrectly identified as  $P_iKJP_w$  rather than  $P_iMNP_w$ .

**Sample: 3C**

**Score: 4**

This is a fair answer. Both points in part (c) were missed because there is no indication of the changes in consumer or producer surplus.