

Quiz B for 9:45 Class: 7/29/13

Name Key

Assume there is a 30% chance that Falling Apple's EBIT will equal \$15 million per year, a 45% chance that Falling Apple's EBIT will equal \$25 million per year, and a 25% chance that Falling Apple's EBIT will equal \$40 million per year.

- What is Falling Apple's optimal level of interest payments if capital markets are perfect? Note: No need to justify your answer.
- How will Falling Apple's optimal level of interest payments change (compared to a) if the corporate tax rate equals 30%?
- How will Falling Apple's optimal level of interest payments change (compared to b) if the corporate tax rate equals 30%, the personal tax rate on equity income is 10%, and the personal tax rate on ordinary income is 40%? Justify your answer.
- How will Falling Apple's optimal level of interest payments change (compared to c) if there is the potential for conflict of interest between the firm's stockholders and bondholders? Note: No need to justify your answer.

a. There is no optimal level⁸

b. \$40 million per year⁸ (w) ↑

c. $\frac{0-15}{\tau^*} = 1 - \frac{(1-0.3)(1-0.1)}{(1-0.4)} = -0.05$ (14)
 $\Rightarrow \text{optimal} = \0

d. No change⁸ ⇒ comment - this would drive optimal leverage even lower. (w) ↑ + dead wt no change

Scale
36 = 75

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32 = 73

28 = 71

24 = 69

20 = 67

16 = 61

12 = 55