



Economic Cartoons

Study this cartoon and review the section entitled “What Are Taxes?” beginning on page 359 before answering the questions below.



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1. What political party does the speaker on the television belong to? How can you tell?

2. **Synthesizing Information** (a) What is the proportional, or flat, tax? (b) How does it differ from the income tax Americans now pay? _____

3. What do economists say are the four characteristics of a good tax? _____

4. **Drawing Inferences** How does the elephant on TV suggest that the flat tax has the good tax characteristics of economy and simplicity? _____

5. **Recognizing Points of View** What characteristic of a good tax does the cartoonist think the flat tax lacks? Explain your answer. _____

