Name _____

Tax Ladder Answer Key

1. $18,000 x 10% = $1,800
2. ($20,000 x 10%) + ($12,000 x 15%) = $3,800
3. ($20,000 x 10%) + ($30,000 x 15%) = $6,500
4. ($20,000 x 10%) + ($30,000 x 15%) + ($15,000 x 20%) = $9,500
5. ($20,000 x 10%) + ($30,000 x 15%) + ($30,000 x 20%) + ($12,000 x 25%) = $15,500

Teacher's Guide

- Quick implementation: Demonstrate how income fills the lowest bracket first. Emphasize that the highest rate does not apply to the entire income.
- Differentiation: Let students write the amount of income in each bracket before multiplying by its tax rate.
- Engagement: Have pairs act as tax specialists and independently calculate each taxpayer's bill before comparing results.
- Extension: Give students a taxable income of $105,000 and have them calculate the total tax using the same schedule.

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