

# SOLUTION

## Tutorial #2: Consumer's problem.

Given:  $\begin{cases} h = 16 \\ w = 10 \\ \pi = 16 \end{cases}$   $\begin{cases} \text{tax rate } \tau = 0.20 \\ T = 0 \text{ (no lump-sum tax)} \\ \frac{\partial c}{\partial l} = MRS_{l,c} \end{cases}$

a) After tax wage =  $w(1-\tau) = 10(1-0.2) = 8$

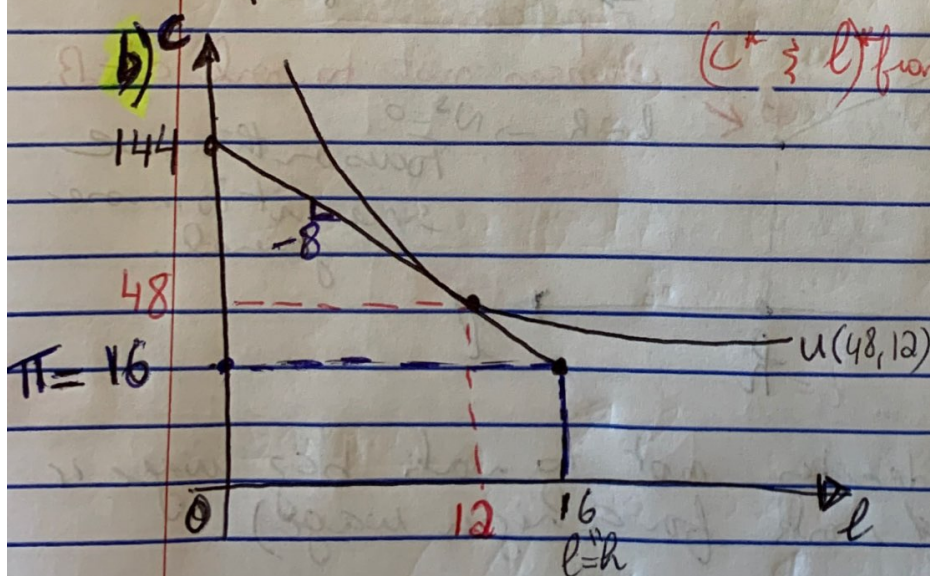
$$c + \underbrace{w(1-\tau)l} = \underbrace{w(1-\tau)h} + \pi - T \rightarrow 0$$

$$\Rightarrow c + 8l = 8 \times 16 + 16 = 144$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{c + 8l = 144} \sim BC$$

\* To max utility, Paul should set  $c^*$  &  $l^*$  so that:

in terms of <sup>value of leisure</sup>  $c$  <sup>goods</sup>  $MRS_{l,c} = w$   
& his BC is "met".  $\rightarrow$  cost of leisure



$$(c^* \& l^*) \text{ from } \begin{cases} c + 8l = 144 \\ MRS_{l,c} = w \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial c}{\partial l} = 8$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{c^* = 4l^*}$$

$$4l^* + 8l^* = 144$$

$$12l^* = 144$$

$$\boxed{l^* = 12}$$

$$c^* = 4 \times 12$$

$$\boxed{c^* = 48}$$

$$N^s = h - l^* = 16 - 12$$

$$\boxed{N^s = 4}$$

For Proof:

\* At  $N^s = 6$ ,  $l = R - N^s = 16 - 6$   
 $\Rightarrow \boxed{l = 10} \neq 12$

•  $c = 144 - 8l$   
 $= 144 - 80$   
 $\boxed{c = 64} \neq 48$

Optimizing  
Condition  
not met.

•  $MRS_{lc} = \frac{2c}{l} = \frac{2 \times 64}{10} = 12.8 > w = 8$

value of leisure  
exceeds

cost of leisure

$\Rightarrow$  Paul should buy more leisure.  $\square$

c) \* Expenditure Approach:  $GDP = C + I + G$

i) • total income taxes collected from Paul =  $\tau \cdot w \cdot N^s$   
 $= 0.2 \times 10 \times 4$

• Total Govt spending  $\boxed{G} = 50 \times 8 = 400$   
 $\neq \tau \times T \Rightarrow \boxed{T = 8}$

ii) Paul's consumption is 48.

• Agg. consumption  $\boxed{C} = 50 \times 48 = 2400$

$GDP = C + G = 2400 + 400 = 2800$

\* Income Approach:  $GDP = wN^s + \pi + R$

i) Paul's labor income (before tax) =  $10 \times 4 = 40$   
Total labor income =  $50 \times 40 = 2000$

ii) Paul's profit income = 16

total profit income  $\pi = 50 \times 16 = 800$

$GDP = wN + \pi = 2000 + 800 = 2800$

d)  $\tau \uparrow$  20% to 40%

$\therefore$ , After tax wage =  $(1 - \tau^N) w = 0.6 \times 10 = 6$  #8

$c + 6l = 6 \times 16 + 16$

$c + 6l = 112$   $\rightarrow$  new BC

$MRS_{lc} = \frac{2c}{l} = 6 \Rightarrow c = 3l^*$

$3l + 6l = 112$

$9l = 112$

$l^* \approx 12.44$   $\uparrow$

$c^* \approx 3(12.44)$

$c^* \approx 37.33$   $\downarrow$

$N^S \downarrow$

$GDP \downarrow$

You can use income approach to prove it

e) Income effect:  $\uparrow$  tax rate  $\Rightarrow \downarrow$  income  
 $\therefore$ , Paul  $l \downarrow$   $c \downarrow$   
 $\therefore$ , Paul wants to  $\uparrow N^S$

Substitution effect: leisure is less expensive now ( $\uparrow w$ )  
 $\therefore$ , Paul  $\uparrow l$  ( $\downarrow c$ )

Overall,  $\uparrow l$   $\therefore$  substitution effect is stronger in this case.  
 ( $N^S \downarrow$ ,  $\downarrow GDP$ )