

# Tax Time Scavenger Hunt Answer Key

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** You have just been hired by the IRS to provide assistance to taxpayers. As part of your orientation, you are expected to become familiar with some basic resources that will help answer taxpayer questions. Your job is to become familiar with the IRS's website, [www.irs.gov/](http://www.irs.gov/). Use this site to find the answers to the below questions.

1. What are ways that a taxpayer can get help from the IRS? (Web site, videos, phone calls)
2. What is the closest IRS Taxpayer Assistance Center to where you live? (Answers will vary.)
3. What if I owe more than I can pay? (Set up a payment plan)
4. What happens if I just don't file? (Can face penalties and fines)
5. Let's say I wait tables after school. Are my tips taxable? (Yes)
6. What's the purpose of a W-4 form? (Set the correct amount of federal income tax to be withheld from your pay.)
7. How much is the standard deduction? (Depends on a variety of factors)
8. When should you itemize instead of claiming the standard deduction? (When you have more deductions than the standard deduction)
9. What are three itemized deductions I could claim now or in the near future. (Medical expenses, charitable contributions, mortgage interest, real property taxes, business expenses, etc.)

## Tax Time Scavenger Hunt

---

10. What was the highest percentage income tax being paid in 1918? Why was it so high? (77% because of World War I expenses)
  
11. When did the IRS come into existence, and why? (July 1862 to help pay for the Civil War expenses)