Question #1 of 23

Rapid Tech Inc has mistakenly overestimated the useful lives of their PP&E: it has become apparent that due to rapid changes in technology, a significant part of Rapid's PP&E will need to be replaced sooner than anticipated. Rapid's CFO has indicated that the new depreciation schedules will take into account the shortened lives of the PP&E that will be acquired as replacement. The most likely impact on Rapid's future return on invested capital (ROIC) is that ROIC will:

A) increase.

B) decrease.

C) remain the same.

Explanation

Increases in PP&E will increase invested capital, while higher depreciation expense will reduce earnings. Both factors will reduce the return on invested capital.

(Study Session 10, Module 28.1, LOS 28.d)

Related Material

SchweserNotes - Book 3

Question #2 of 23

When comparing a large company with a much smaller company, which of the following statements regarding economies of scale is *most* accurate?

A) An analyst will conclude that economies of scale are present in the industry if the larger company has higher revenues and a higher gross profit margin.

B) An analyst will conclude that economies of scale are present in the industry if the smaller company has a higher gross margin and lower revenues.

C) An analyst will conclude that economies of scale are present in the industry if the larger company has higher revenues and higher gross profit.

Explanation

Economies of scale are evidenced by larger companies displaying larger gross margins. Having a larger revenue figure and a larger gross profit does not necessarily imply a larger margin.

(Study Session 10, Module 28.1, LOS 28.c)

Related Material

SchweserNotes - Book 3

Question #3 of 23

PixOut Inc. is a U.S. based manufacturer of waterproof cameras. PixOut's products are typically used by leisure customers wishing to use a camera for snorkeling and deep-sea diving. The cameras come in at a reasonable price point and are aimed primarily at the 'point and shoot' market. Recently, a rival manufacturer has brought an extremely cheap waterproof case for smart phones to the market, and this is having a definite impact on PixOut's sales.

Torsten Gruber is forecasting the impact the phone cover may have on PixOut's revenue next year. Gruber's predicted sales figures in units are shown below:

	2014E
PixOut cameras sold (units)	42,505
Sales of smart phone covers (units)	11,044

Gruber is assuming that a percentage of the phone cover sales have cannibalized PixOut camera sales. In predicting the sales for 2014, he is assuming a 25% cannibalization rate. In addition, he forecasts the average selling price of a PixOut camera is $185 and the average selling price of the smart phone cover is $80.

Which of the following is closest to Gruber's estimate of the revenue lost by PixOut due to cannibalization in 2014?

A) $265,056.

B) $510,785.

C) $5,898,000.

Explanation

Number of phone covers sold	11,044
Cannibalization rate	25%
Number of camera sales lost	11,044 × 25% = 2,761
Revenue lost	**2,761 × $185 = $510,785**

(Study Session 10, Module 28.2, LOS 28.j)

Related Material

SchweserNotes - Book 3

Question #4 of 23

Dan Patrino is currently constructing pro-forma accounts for Rooling Inc., an engineering company based in the U.S. He has put together the following forecast for the next 3 years:

	2013	2014E	2015E	2016E
	$millions	$millions	$millions	$millions
Sales	935	954	973	993
PPE (NVB)	295			
EBITDA		239	253	278
Net Income for year		95	107	130

Partrino is now forecasting the balance sheet and intends to use the following assumptions:

- Capital expenditure will remain constant at 2.5% of sales for the foreseeable future.
- Depreciation will be 1.5% of sales in 2014, 1.7% of sales in 2015 and 1.9% of sales in 2016.

Partrino's forecast of the net book value of PPE at the end of 2016 is *closest to*:

A) $325 million.

B) $304 million.

C) $318 million.

Explanation

	2013	2014E	2015E	2016E
	$millions	$millions	$millions	$millions
Sales	**935**	**954**	**973**	**993**
Capex (% sales)		2.5%	2.5%	2.5%
Capex ($m)		24	24	25
Depreciation (% sales)		1.5%	1.7%	1.9%
Depreciation ($m)		14	17	19
Net PPE	**295**	**305**	**312**	**318**

(Study Session 10, Module 28.2, LOS 28.m)

Related Material

SchweserNotes - Book 3

Question #5 of 23

Which of the following statements regarding pricing power is *most* accurate? A company is *most* likely to have a *high* level of pricing power, if it is operating in an industry that:

A) is fragmented.

B) has high fixed costs.

C) has low barriers to exit.

Explanation

Pricing power is most likely to be low in industries that are fragmented, have limited growth potential, have high barriers to exit, have high fixed costs, and in industries where the product offerings are essentially identical.

(Study Session 10, Module 28.2, LOS 28.g)

Related Material

SchweserNotes - Book 3

Question #6 of 23

Davide Andreu is concerned about the possible impact of inflation on two German retailers that he covers in his equity analyst role. Andreu has used last year's financials to produce common size income statements for the two retailers as shown below.

	Tooboola GmbH	Portentona GmbH
Sales	100%	100%
Cost of Goods Sold	38%	48%
Gross Margin	**62%**	**52%**
Sales, General & Admin	40%	20%
Depreciation	5%	15%
Operating Margin	**17%**	**17%**

Andreu is forecasting inflation of 10% in cost of goods sold for both companies due to large increases in commodity prices in the next period. Due to the fragile state of the economic recovery does not expect either company to be able to pass these costs on to consumers. Sales, general and admin costs are likely to rise by 5% and accounting depreciation will be unaffected.

If Andreu's forecasts are correct, which of the following statements is *least* accurate?

A) Both companies will experience the same decrease in gross margin.

B) Tooboola has a larger forecasted gross margin than Portentona.

C) The forecasted operating margins will be equal for Tooboola and Portentona.

Explanation

	Tooboola	Toobola Forecast	Portentona	Portentona Forecast
Sales	100%	**100%**	100%	**100%**
Cost of Goods Sold **(x1.10)**	38%	**41.8%**	48%	**52.8%**
Gross Margin	62%	**58.2%**	52%	**47.2%**
SG&A **(x1.05)**	40%	**42.0%**	20%	**21.0%**
Depreciation	5%	**5.0%**	15%	**15.0%**
Operating Margin	17%	**11.2%**	17%	**11.2%**

Tooboola's gross margin drops 3.8% to 58.2%. This is a relative drop of 6.1%.

Portentona's gross margin drops 4.8% to 47.2%. This is a relative drop of 9.2%.

(Study Session 10, Module 28.2, LOS 28.i)

Related Material

SchweserNotes - Book 3

Question #7 of 23

Victor Mendoza is an equity analyst for LLT Partners, a private wealth management firm. Mendoza is currently valuing Testo Inc, a seller of smart phones. While reviewing the financials, Mendoza collects sales information of two of Testo's popular models as indicated below (figures in $ millions):

Year	20x1	20X2	20X3
Alpinex	88.9	92.3	97.5
Bemax	0	54	433

The annual growth rate for both models combined from 20x1 to 20x3 is *closest* to:

A) 44%

B) 496%

C) 144%

Explanation

Combined sales in 20X1 = 88.9. Combined sales in 20X3 = 97.5 + 433 = 530.5.

Annual growth rate = [530.5 / 88.9]1/2 -1 = 1.44 or 144%

(Study Session 10, Module 28.1, LOS 28.a)

Related Material

SchweserNotes - Book 3

Question #8 of 23

Jared Mush is preparing a report on the Everystate corporation. The information below pertains to the year ending 31 December 2015 and 2016.

	Dec. 31,2016	Dec. 31,2015
Property-Liability	32,567	31,309
Everystate Financial	3,928	4,309
Corporate and Other	39	35
Consolidated revenues	$ 36,534	$ 35,618

Mush believes that for 2017, the growth rate in property/liability is 3%, financial is 2% and corporate and other is 0. The estimated revenues for 2017 is *closest* to:

A) $38,230

B) $37,590

C) $36,678

Explanation

	2017 Forecast	Dec. 31, 2016
Property-Liability	33,544	32,567
Everystate Financial	4,007	3,928
Corporate and Other	39	39
Consolidated revenues	$ 37,590	$ 36,534

(Study Session 10, Module 28.2, LOS 28.i)

Related Material

SchweserNotes - Book 3

Question #9 of 23

Victor Mendoza is an equity analyst for LLT Partners, a private wealth management firm. Mendoza is currently valuing Testo Inc, a seller of smart phones. While reviewing the financials, Mendoza collects sales information of two of Testo's popular models as indicated below (figures in $ millions):

Year	20x1	20X2	20X3
Alpinex	88.9	92.3	97.5
Bemax	0	54	433

What percentage of combined growth in 20X3 is due to Bemax?

A) 54%

B) 99%

C) 79%

Explanation

Combined sales for 20X2 = 92.3 + 54 = 146.3

Combined sales for 20X3 = 97.5 + 433 = 530.5

Increase in sales for both products in 20X3 = 530.5 – 146.3 = $384.20

Increase in sales for Bemax = 433 – 54 = $ 379

Percentage of combined growth attributable to Bemax = 379/384.20 = 98.65%

(Study Session 10, Module 28.1, LOS 28.a)

Related Material

SchweserNotes - Book 3

Question #10 of 23

When an analyst is developing long term projections of earnings for a company, which of the following statements is *least* accurate?

A) When forecasting long term earnings for a highly cyclical company, an expected mid-cycle level of earnings should be used.

B) Earnings projections should be based on the most recent earnings for growing companies as it reflects the current state of the economy.

C) A perpetuity should only be used if the analyst does not anticipate any inflection points occurring in the industry or economic environment.

Explanation

The most recent earnings figure may not sustainable. Even growing companies may face a downturn due to changes in the industry. The most recent data is not necessarily the most appropriate.

(Study Session 10, Module 28.2, LOS 28.l)

Related Material

SchweserNotes - Book 3

Question #11 of 23

Kerry Winstone covers TVStream Inc., a U.S. based company offering streaming video. She has carried out an analysis using Porter's five forces model. The table below summarizes her main conclusions.

Force	Factors
Threat of substitutes	Broadcast TV and DVD media are cost-effective substitutes.
Rivalry	There are several companies in the industry and TVStream has a 25% market share.
Bargaining power of suppliers	The content must be purchased from the major networks and movie studios.
Bargaining powers of buyers	Customers are fragmented and the base consists largely of individual subscribers.
Threat of new entrants	Major TV networks are in position to launch their own streaming service using existing technologies.

Winstone should *most appropriately* conclude that:

A) TVStream is likely to have a large degree of pricing power and above average profitability due to favorable bargaining power of suppliers

B) TVStream is unlikely to have a large degree of pricing power and below average profitability due to threat of new entrants.

C) TVStream is likely to have a high degree of pricing power derived largely from high barriers to entry.

Explanation

Force	Factors	Condition
Threat of substitutes	Broadcast TV and DVD media are cost-effective substitutes.	Unfavorable
Rivalry	There are several companies in the industry and TVStream has a 25% market share.	Neutral
Bargaining power of suppliers	The content must be purchased from the major networks and movie studios.	Unfavorable
Bargaining powers of buyers	Customers are fragmented and the base consists largely of individual subscribers.	Favorable
Threat of new entrants	Major TV networks are in position to launch their own streaming service using existing technologies.	Unfavorable

There is clearly a high threat of new entrants and high bargaining power of suppliers, both of which make the industry relatively unattractive.

(Study Session 10, Module 28.2, LOS 28.h)

Related Material

SchweserNotes - Book 3

Question #12 of 23

Cynbo Industries Limited operates in two countries Mazat and Napat. The effective tax rates of Cynbo's operations in Mazat and Napat are 15% and 22% respectively. For the most recent fiscal year, Cynbo reported profit before tax of $350 and $200 for Mazat and Napat respectively. For the next year, it is expected that Cynbo's profit will grow at 5% and 8% for Mazat and Napat respectively. The effective tax rate for Cynbo for the next fiscal year is *closest* to:

A) 18.5%

B) 19.4%

C) 17.6%

Explanation

Given the growth forecasts, Cynbo's forecasted profit before tax, taxes and profit after tax are 583.50, 102.65, and 480.86 respectively. Effective tax rate = 102.65/583.50 = 17.60%

	Current PBT	Growth Rate	E(PBT)	Tax Rate	Tax	EAT
Mazat	350	5%	367.50	15%	55.13	312.38
Napat	200	8%	216.00	22%	47.52	168.48
Total	550		583.50		102.65	480.86

(Study Session 10, Module 28.1, LOS 28.d)

Related Material

SchweserNotes - Book 3

Question #13 of 23

Everystate Corporation reports Long-term debt of $3,398 and $3,658 respectively for the year ended Dec 31 2016 and 2015 respectively. Everystate reported an interest expense of $295 and $292 for the years ended 2016 and 2015 respectively. Everystate's interest rate on average gross debt is *closest* to:

A) 8.68%

B) 8.36%

C) 8.53%

Explanation

Average gross debt = (3,398 + 3,658)/2 = $3,528

Interest rate = 2016 interest / average debt = 295/3528 = 8.36%

(Study Session 10, Module 28.1, LOS 28.d)

Related Material

SchweserNotes - Book 3

Question #14 of 23

Ben Lorson is analyzing the revenue growth of Symphonica Inc., a retailer of audio visual equipment. Relevant data for the last two years is shown below:

	2013	2012
	$ millions	**$ millions**
Revenue	1,408	1,375
Total market size	17,606	17,450
	$ billions	**$ billions**
Nominal GDP growth	16,451	16,400

He is looking at three methods of predicting revenue for 2014:

1. Assume that Symphonica retains its 2013 share of the market for 2014, and the total market grows at the same rate as it did last year.
2. Assume that revenue growth rate is equal to previous year's nominal GDP growth rate.
3. A bottom-up approach which assumes that the growth rate of Symphonica's revenue will be the same as last year

Which of the following statements regarding Lorson's forecast is *most* accurate?

A) Lorson's growth relative to GDP growth model predicts a higher 2014 revenue figure for Symphonica than his market growth and market share model.

B) Lorson's market growth and market share model predicts a higher 2014 revenue figure for Symphonica than his bottom-up approach.

C) Lorson's bottom-up approach predicts the highest revenue for 2014.

Explanation

Market growth and market share approach (method 1)

2013 market share	1,408/17,606 = 8.00%
2013 total market growth	17,606/17,450 − 1 = 0.89%
2014 total market	17,606 × 1.0089 = 17,763
2014 revenue Symphonica	**17,763 × 8.00% = 1,421**

(Alternatively, as market share is static, revenue growth = market growth = 0.89%)

Growth relative to GDP model (method 2)

2013 nominal GDP growth	16,451/16,400 − 1 = 0.31%
2014 revenue Symphonica	**1,408 × 1.0032 = 1,412**
Bottom-up (method 3)	
2013 revenue growth	1,408/1,375 − 1 = 2.4%
2014 revenue Symphonica	**1,408 × 1.024 = 1,442**

(Study Session 10, Module 28.1, LOS 28.b)

Related Material

SchweserNotes - Book 3

Question #15 of 23

Roy Banstaza is forecasting 2014 SG&A expenses for Compuland Inc., a provider of online and live basic computing classes in the U.S. Relevant figures for the last 3 years for Compuland are given below:

	2011	2012	2013
	$ 000's	**$ 000's**	**$ 000's**
Revenue	20,050	20,062	20,155
SG&A	5,212	5,218	5,240
	$	**$**	**$**
Revenue per customer	225	220	218

Banstaza is forecasting a 2% fall in SG&A per customer in 2014 compared to 2013 due to an improved online ordering and invoicing system that Compuland has adopted. He also anticipates that the number of customers will continue to grow at the cumulative average growth rate that Compuland has experienced over the last two years.

Which of the following is *closest* to Banstaza's forecasted SG&A expense for 2014?

A) $5,328,000.00

B) $5,337,000.00

C) $5,231,000.00

Explanation

Number of customers 2011	= $20,050,000/$225 = 89,111
Number of customers 2013	= $20,155,000/$218 = 92,454
SG&A per customer 2013	= $5,240,000/92,454 = $56.68
CAGR customers using past two years	= (92,454/89,111)½ − 1 = 1.86%
Forecasted number of customers 2014	= 92,454 × 1.0186 = 94,172
Forecasted SG&A per customer 2014	= $56.68 × (1 − 0.02) = $55.54
Forecasted SG&A 2014 = $55.54 × 94,172	**= $5,230,637**

(Study Session 10, Module 28.1, LOS 28.d)

Related Material

SchweserNotes - Book 3

Question #16 of 23

For the purpose of forecasting proforma financial statements, which of the following statements is *most* accurate?

A) Forecasted depreciation rates and capital expenditure are usually based on forecasted data.

B) Forecasted capital expenditure is usually based on historic information whereas forecasted depreciation rates are usually based on forecasted data.

C) Forecasted depreciation rates are usually based on historic information whereas forecasted capital expenditure is usually based on forecasted data.

Explanation

Depreciation rates are usually taken from historic disclosures regarding rates used in prior periods. Capital expenditure is usually forecast using analysts' judgment regarding future needs for PPE.

(Study Session 10, Module 28.1, LOS 28.e)

Related Material

SchweserNotes - Book 3

Question #17 of 23

Deluxe Toys Inc. produces electronic toys for 2-12 year olds. The most-recent income statement for Deluxe is given below:

Revenues	1500
Cost of goods sold	630
Selling expenses	120
Administrative expense	330
Operating profit	420

Ben Sharpe, Analyst with AP Partners, is forecasting Deluxe's operating profit for the next fiscal year. Sharpe believes that a new sales tax of 10% is going to be imposed on electronic toys. Sharpe also believes that cost of goods sold and selling expenses are a fixed percentage of sales, while administrative expenses are fixed. Deluxe is expected to pass on the entire cost of the sales tax to the consumer. The price elasticity of demand for Deluxe's toys is 0.75 (e.g., volume will decrease by 7.5% when the effective price increases by 10%.) Forecasted operating margin for the next year is *closest* to:

A) 23%

B) 21%

C) 26%

Explanation

New sales (including tax) = 1500 × (1 – 0.075) × (1 + 0.10) = 1526.25

Sales tax = (1526.25 / 1.10) × 10% = 138.75

Net sales = 1387.50

Due to 7.5% reduction in units sold, COGS will decline to 630 × (1 – 0.075) = 582.75

Selling expenses currently are 8% of sales. New selling expense = 1526.25 × 0.08 = 122.10

Administrative expenses are fixed at 330.

Operating profit = 1387.50 – 582.75 – 122.10 – 330 = $352.65, which is 23.11% of $1526.25.

(Study Session 10, Module 28.2, LOS 28.j)

Related Material

SchweserNotes - Book 3

Question #18 of 23

Teletharetic Inc. has recently introduced a new pain killer in the market based on a patent granted earlier in the year. The patent will expire in 5 years. Stanton Ward is an analyst covering the company for his firm and is interested on the impact the patent will have on the company. Which of the following conclusions is *most* appropriate?

A) The company can expect to see a decrease in ROIC due to the increased investment required to fund the patent development.

B) The company can expect to see a higher ROIC for the period due to the competitive advantage bestowed by the patent.

C) The company can expect to see an increase in ROIC caused by the increase in revenue and PPE.

Explanation

The patent will give the company a competitive advantage for the next 5 years. A sustainably high ROIC is usually a sign of competitive advantage. Higher investment should not be required as the product has already been introduced. Additionally, higher revenues and PPE would not necessarily lead to a higher ROIC.

(Study Session 10, Module 28.2, LOS 28.f)

Related Material

SchweserNotes - Book 3

Question #19 of 23

Deluxe Toys Inc. produces electronic toys for 2-12 year olds. Ben Sharpe, Analyst with AP Partners, is forecasting Deluxe's operating profit for the next fiscal year. Sharpe notices that Deluxe's selling expenses have increased from 5% of sales to 8% of sales over last few years. This is *most likely* to be due to the force(s) of:

A) Intra-industry rivalry and threat of substitutes.

B) Threat of new entrants and bargaining power of buyers.

C) Intra-industry rivalry and threat of vertical integration.

Explanation

Increased selling expenses are consistent with an investment in building brand loyalty, which is an appropriate response to a threat of substitutes and intra-industry competition. By spending more on advertising, Deluxe can build brand loyalty, thus improving its competitive position versus rival toy makers and alternative products.

(Study Session 10, Module 28.2, LOS 28.g)

Related Material

SchweserNotes - Book 3

Question #20 of 23

Victor Mendoza is an equity analyst for LLT Partners, a private wealth management firm. Mendoza is currently valuing Testo Inc, a seller of smart phones. While reviewing the financials, Mendoza collects sales information of two of Testo's popular models as indicated below (figures in $ millions):

Year	20x1	20X2	20X3
Alpinex	88.9	92.3	97.5
Bemax	0	54	433

Mendoza believes that in 20X4 the combined growth rate of Alpinex and Bemax will slow to 30%. Mendoza also believes that Bemax's share of revenue will grow to 90%. The estimated level of sales for Bemax based on Mendoza's assumptions is *closest* to:

A) $507 million

B) $621 million

C) $563 million

Explanation

Combined sales for 20X3 = (97.5 + 433) × (1.30) = $690

Bemax's share = 0.90 × 690 = $620.69

(Study Session 10, Module 28.1, LOS 28.b)

Related Material

SchweserNotes - Book 3

Question #21 of 23

Garcia Mendoza is currently forecasting revenue for Remnicky Inc., a global provider of sports statistics to broadcasters. Mendoza is forecasting that Remnicky's revenue growth rate will be 100bps (1%) higher than global nominal GDP rate next year due to an increased interest in tracking statistics worldwide. In consultation with his economic research department, Mendoza has predicted that the real global GDP will grow at 1% next year, before flattening out and showing zero growth for the next 4 years. Inflation is predicted to remain steady at 1.5% for the next 5 years. Which of the following statements about Mendoza's forecast for next year is *most* accurate?

A) Mendoza is forecasting growth of 3.5% using a hybrid approach.

B) Mendoza is forecasting growth of using a 3.5% top-down approach.

C) Mendoza is forecasting growth of using 2.5% a top-down approach.

Explanation

Mendoza is using a top-down approach as he is modeling revenue by starting with a forecast of the entire economy.

The predicted growth rate is 1% higher than nominal GDP rate = 1% + 1.5% + 1% = 3.5%.

(Study Session 10, Module 28.1, LOS 28.a)

Related Material

SchweserNotes - Book 3

Question #22 of 23

Yolanda Resham is currently developing a forecast horizon for several companies that she covers in her role as an equity analyst. The equities under consideration are part of a portfolio with an average annual turnover of 25%. Which of the following statements is *least accurate* regarding the choice of time horizon?

A) A time horizon of 4 years would be consistent with the portfolio turnover.

B) The time horizon should be independent of the average holding period for a stock.

C) Cyclicality should be considered when developing the timeframe.

Explanation

The holding period should be considered. An average annual turnover of 25% is consistent with a holding period of 4 years (1/0.25).

(Study Session 10, Module 28.2, LOS 28.k)

Related Material

SchweserNotes - Book 3

Question #23 of 23

Jared Mush is preparing a report on the Everystate corporation. The information below pertains to the year ending 31 December 2015 and 2016.

	Dec. 31, 2016	Dec. 31, 2015
Property-Liability	32,567	31,309
Everystate Financial	3,928	4,309
Corporate and Other	39	35
Consolidated revenues	$ 36,534	$ 35,618

Mush's growth forecast for 2017 is 3% for property/liability, 0% for financial and 2% for corporate and other. Also, Mush estimates that EBIT margins for the three divisions are 17%, 18% and 23% respectively. Forecasted 2017 EBIT is *closest* to:

A) $5,700

B) $6,200

C) $6,400

Explanation

	Dec. 31, 2016	2017 Forecast	2017 EBIT
Property-Liability	32,567	33,544	5,702.48
Everystate Financial	3,928	3,928	707.04
Corporate and Other	39	40	9.15
Consolidated revenues	$ 36,534	$ 37,512	$ 6,419

Forecast revenue for Property-liability = 1.03 × 32,567 = $33,544

Forecast EBIT for property-liability = 0.17 × 33,544 = 5,702.48

(Study Session 10, Module 28.2, LOS 28.m)

Related Material

SchweserNotes - Book 3