

CONCEPT: QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS OF TAXES

● We can use algebra to determine the effect of a tax.

□ To find the new equilibrium quantity and price with a tax:

- Step 1: Replace P with (P – Tax) in the supply OR P with (P + Tax) in the demand

- Step 2: Solve for the new equilibrium by setting $Q_D = Q_S$ using the new equation.

- Step 3: The equilibrium price is the amount paid/received by the non-taxed party.

- Step 4: Solve for remaining price paid/received

> If consumer taxed, add tax to new equilibrium price to find price consumers pay.

> If producer taxed, subtract tax from new equilibrium price to find price producers receive.

EXAMPLE: The original supply and demand curves are as follows. What is the new equilibrium price and quantity if suppliers are taxed \$1 per unit? What is the amount suppliers receive? What is the amount consumers pay?

$$Q_S = 2P - 6$$

$$Q_D = 10 - P$$

P* =	Q* =	Suppliers Receive =	Consumers Pay =
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PRACTICE: The supply and demand curves for a product are as follows. What is the amount suppliers receive if a \$0.50 tax is imposed upon consumers?

- a) \$2.80
- b) \$3.00
- c) \$3.20
- d) \$3.30
- e) \$3.50

$$Q_D = 600 - 100P$$

$$Q_S = -150 + 150P$$