Corporate Finance, Module 18: Weighted Average Cost of Capital

Illustrative Test Questions

(The attached PDF file has better formatting.)

Question 18.1: WACC

Which of the following statements about weighted average cost of capital (WACC) is true?

- A. The WACC provides a good evaluation measure for a capital budgeting project that is *safer* than other projects of the firm.
- B. One purpose of the WACC is to adjust the cost of equity by the appropriate tax rate.
- C. The WACC provides the correct discount rate only for projects with business *risks similar to those of the existing assets* of the firm.
- D. The WACC provides the correct discount rate only for projects whose capital needs are *provided by the* same percentage of debt as the other projects of the firm.
- E. If a company issues additional debt, the increased leverage causes the WACC to rise.

Answer 18.1:

Statement A: The applies only to projects that are similar to the firm.

Statement B: The cost of debt capital (not equity capital) is adjusted by the tax rate.

Statement C: The WACC is the firm's cost of capital; it applies only to projects that are similar in risk to the existing activities of the firm.

Statement D: The actual borrowing for each project is not relevant. Only the risk of the project is relevant, or the optimal debt-equity ratio for the project.

Statement E: If the value of the tax shield is greater than the increased cost of bankruptcy, the increased leverage causes the WACC to *decline*.