Study this cartoon and review the section entitled “What Are Taxes?” beginning on page 359 before answering the questions below.

1. What political party does the speaker on the television belong to? How can you tell? ____________________________________________________________________________

2. Synthesizing Information  (a) What is the proportional, or flat, tax? (b) How does it differ from the income tax Americans now pay? ____________________________________________________________________________

3. What do economists say are the four characteristics of a good tax? ____________________________________________________________________________

4. Drawing Inferences  How does the elephant on TV suggest that the flat tax has the good tax characteristics of economy and simplicity? ____________________________________________________________________________

5. Recognizing Points of View  What characteristic of a good tax does the cartoonist think the flat tax lacks? Explain your answer. ____________________________________________________________________________