| length $i$ | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| price $p_i$ | 1 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 17 | 17 | 20 | 24 | 30 |

**Figure 15.1**  A sample price table for rods.  Each rod of length $i$ inches earns the company $p_i$ dollars of revenue.
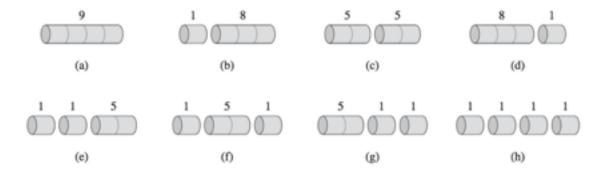


**Figure 15.2**  The 8 possible ways of cutting up a rod of length 4.  Above each piece is the value of that piece, according to the sample price chart of Figure 15.1.  The optimal strategy is part (c)—cutting the rod into two pieces of length 2—which has total value 10.