Chapter 9

Mechanics of Options Markets

Practice Questions

Consolidate

Problem 9.8

Explain why an American option is always worth at least as much as a European option on the same asset with the same strike price and exercise date.

Problem 9.9

Explain why an American option is always worth at least as much as its intrinsic value.

Problem 9.11

Suppose that a European call option to buy a share of Rio Tinto for AUD 100.00 costs AUD 5.00 and is held until maturity. Under what circumstances will the holder of the option make a profit? Under what circumstances will the option be exercised? Draw a diagram illustrating how the profit from a long position in the option depends on the stock price at maturity of the option.

Problem 9.12

Suppose that a European put option to sell a share of BHP for AUD 60 costs AUD 8 and is held until maturity. Under what circumstances will the seller of the option (the party with the short position) make a profit? Under what circumstances will the option be exercised? Draw a diagram illustrating how the profit from a short position in the option depends on the stock price at maturity of the option.

Problem 9.13

A trader buys a call option to buy a share of BHP with a strike price of AUD 45 and a put option to sell a share of BHP with a strike price of AUD 40. Both options have the same maturity. The call costs AUD 3 and the put costs AUD 4. Draw a diagram showing the variation of the trader's profit with the BHP stock price.

Problem 9.18

The treasurer of a corporation is trying to choose between options and forward contracts to hedge the corporation's foreign exchange risk. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each.