

**Instructions:** You are encouraged to work out solutions to these problems in groups! Discuss the problems with your classmates and/or your instructor. After doing so, please write up your solutions legibly on a separate sheet (or sheets) of paper (this part should be done on your own). Be sure to use *complete sentences*. Note: Proofs should contain *words*, not just symbols.

1. Define the *center* of a group  $G$ ,  $Z(G)$ , to be the subset of elements in  $G$  that commute with every element of  $G$ . That is,  $Z(G) = \{g \in G \mid gh = hg \forall h \in G\}$ . Define the *centralizer* of an element  $h \in G$ ,  $C(h)$  or  $C_G(h)$ , to be the set of elements in  $G$  which commute with  $h$ . That is,  $C(h) = \{g \in G \mid gh = hg\}$ .

(a) Let  $Q$  be the group of quaternions (the group you calculated the Cayley table for in problem 1 of last week's homework). What is  $Z(Q)$ ?

(b) Find the centralizer of each element in  $Q$ .

(c) Notice that for each  $q \in Q$ ,  $\langle q \rangle \leq C(q)$ . Is this always true? If yes, explain. If no, give a counterexample.

2. (Chapter 3, Exercise 4) Prove that in any group, an element and its inverse have the same order. What does this mean for  $\langle a \rangle$  and  $\langle a^{-1} \rangle$ ? Prove it.
3. (Chapter 3, Exercise 18) If  $H$  and  $K$  are subgroups of  $G$ , show that  $H \cap K$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .
4. (Chapter 3, Exercise 34) Suppose  $a$  and  $b$  are group elements such that  $|a| = 2$ ,  $b \neq e$ , and  $aba = b^2$ . Determine  $|b|$ .
5. (Chapter 4, Exercise 14) Suppose that a cyclic group  $G$  has exactly three subgroups:  $G$  itself,  $\{e\}$ , and a subgroup of order 7. What is  $|G|$ ? What can you say if 7 is replaced with  $p$  where  $p$  is a prime?
6. (Chapter 4, Exercise 32) Determine the subgroup lattice for  $Z_{12}$ . *Note:* In class we discussed how to find all the subgroups of a cyclic group. A subgroup lattice is a diagram which depicts the containment relationships between these. See pages 80-81 in your textbook for an example.
7. (Chapter 4, Exercise 40) Let  $m$  and  $n$  be elements of the group  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Find a generator for the group  $\langle m \rangle \cap \langle n \rangle$ .
8. (Chapter 4, Exercise 44) Suppose that  $G$  is a cyclic group and that 6 divides  $|G|$ . How many elements of order 6 does  $G$  have? If 8 divides  $|G|$ , how many elements of order 8 does  $G$  have? If  $a$  is one element of order 8, list the other elements of order 8.
9. (Chapter 5, Exercise 18) Let  $\alpha = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 \\ 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 1 & 7 & 8 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\beta = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 \\ 1 & 3 & 8 & 7 & 6 & 5 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Write  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\alpha\beta$  as

(a) products of disjoint cycles,

(b) products of 2-cycles.