

**B. Sc. DEGREE (C.B.C.S.S.) EXAMINATION, OCTOBER 2016**  
**SEMESTER V - MATHEMATICS**  
**MAT5AA - ABSTRACT ALGEBRA**

Time: Three Hours

Maximum Marks: 80

**PART A**

**(Short Answer Questions)**

**I. Answer all questions . Each question carries 1 mark.**

1. The smallest non abelian group has ...elements.
2. How many proper subgroups are there for the Klein 4 group?
3. What is the order of  $\sigma = (4,5)(2,3,7)$  in  $S_8$ ?
4. Find the number of generators of a cyclic group of order 60.
5. Define an isomorphism.
6. State True or False:  $\mathbb{Z}$  is a subfield of  $\mathbb{Q}$ .
7. How many zero divisors does the field  $\mathbb{Z}_5$  have?
8. Define a division ring.
9. State True or False:  $\mathbb{Q}$  is a ideal in  $\mathbb{R}$ .
10. Define a quotient ring.

**(10 × 1 = 10)**

**PART B**

**(Brief Answer Questions)**

**II. Answer any eight questions. Each question carries 2 marks.**

11. List the elements of the subgroups  $\langle 3 \rangle$  and  $\langle 15 \rangle$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_{18}$ .
12. Compute the products  $\tau\sigma$  and  $\tau^2\sigma$  if  $\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 3 & 1 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\tau = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 2 & 4 & 1 & 3 & 6 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$ .
13. Define binary operation on a set. Determine whether  $*$  defined by  $a * b = c$ , where  $c$  is the largest integer less than the product of  $a$  and  $b$  does give a binary operation on  $\mathbb{Z}^+$ .
14. Prove that a group has exactly one idempotent element.
15. Show that  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  has no proper nontrivial subgroups if  $p$  is a prime number.
16. Prove that an isomorphism maps inverses onto inverses.
17. Show that every subgroup of an abelian group is a normal subgroup.
18. Prove that a group homomorphism  $\phi: G \rightarrow G'$  is a one-to-one map if and only if  $\ker(\phi) = \{e\}$ .
19. Find all solutions of the equation  $x^3 - 2x^2 - 3x = 0$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_{12}$ .
20. Define unit element in a ring. Find all units in the ring  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$ .
21. Prove that if  $R$  is a ring with unity and  $N$  is an ideal of  $R$  containing a unit then  $N = R$ .
22. An element of a ring  $R$  is idempotent if  $a^2 = a$ . Show that a division ring contains exactly two idempotent elements.

**(8 × 2 = 16)**

## PART C

### (Short Essay Type Questions)

III. Answer any six questions. Each question carries 4 marks.

23. Which of the permutations in  $S_3$  are even permutations? Give the table for the alternating group  $A_3$ .
24. Let  $S$  be the set of all real numbers except  $-1$ . Define  $*$  on  $S$  by  $a * b = a + b + ab$ . Show that  $\langle S, * \rangle$  is a group.
25. Prove that a subgroup of a cyclic group is cyclic.
26. Prove that an infinite cyclic group  $G$  is isomorphic to the group  $\mathbb{Z}$  of integers under addition.
27. State and prove Lagrange's theorem.
28. Define an integral domain. Prove that every field  $F$  is an integral domain.
29. If  $R$  is a ring with additive identity  $0$ , then prove that for any  $a, b \in R$ 
  1.  $0a = a0 = 0$
  2.  $a(-b) = (-a)b = -(ab)$
  3.  $(-a)(-b) = ab$ .
30. Show that an intersection of ideals of a ring  $R$  is again an ideal of  $R$ .
31. Show that a factor ring of a field is either the trivial ring of one element or is isomorphic to the field.

(6 × 4 = 24)

## PART D

### (Essay Type Questions)

IV. Answer any two questions. Each question carries 15 marks.

32. Prove that no permutation of a finite set can be expressed both as a product of an even number of transpositions and as a product of an odd number of transpositions.
33. State and prove Cayley's theorem.
34. State and prove Fundamental Homomorphism Theorem.
35. (a) Let  $R$  be a commutative ring and let  $a \in R$ . Show that  $I_a = \{x \in R \mid ax = 0\}$  is an ideal of  $R$ .  
(b) An element  $a$  of a ring  $R$  is nilpotent if  $a^n = 0$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ . Show that the collection of all nilpotent elements in a commutative ring  $R$  is an ideal.

(2 × 15 = 30)