

Modern Algebra

IFoS (IFS) Previous Year
Questions (PYQ) from
2020 to 2009

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Maths Optional
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IAS, UPSC, IFS, IFoS, CIVIL
SERVICE MAINS EXAMS MATHS
OPTIONAL STUDY MATERIALS

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Modern Algebra PYQ 2020 to 2009

2020

1. Let p be prime number. Then show that $(p-1)!+1 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$. Also, find the remainder when $6^{44} \cdot (22)!+3$ is divided by 23. [8 Marks]
2. Let R be a non-zero commutative ring with unity. Show that M is a maximal ideal in a ring R if and only if $\frac{R}{M}$ is a field. [10 Marks]
3. Let G be a finite group and let p be a prime. If p^m divides order of G , then show that G has a subgroup of order p^m , where m is a positive integer. [15 Marks]
4. Let K be a finite field. Show that the number of elements in K is p^n , where p is a prime, which is characteristic of K and $n \geq 1$ is an integer. Also, prove that $\frac{\mathbb{Z}_3[x]}{(X^2+1)}$ is a field. How many elements does this field have? [15 Marks]

2019

5. Let R be an integral domain. Then prove that $\text{Ch } R$ (characteristic of R) is 0 or a prime. [8 Marks]
- 6.
7. Let I and J be ideals in a ring R . Then prove that the quotient ring $(I+J)/J$ is isomorphic to the quotient ring $I/(I \cap J)$. [10 Marks]
8. If in the group G , $a^5 = e$, $aba^{-1} = b^2$ for some $a, b \in G$, find the order of b . [10 Marks]
9. Show that the smallest subgroup V of A_4 containing $(1, 2)(3, 4)$, $(1, 3)(2, 4)$ and $(1, 4)(2, 3)$ is isomorphic to the Klein 4-group. [10 Marks]

2018

10. Prove that a non-commutative group of order $2n$, where n is an odd prime, must have a subgroup of order n . [8 Marks]
11. Find all the homomorphisms from the group $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$ to $(\mathbb{Z}_4, +)$ [10 Marks]
12. Let R be a commutative ring with unity. Prove that an ideal P of R is prime if and only if the quotient ring R/P is an integral domain. [10 Marks]
13. Show by an example that in a finite commutative ring, every maximal ideal need not be prime. [10 Marks]
14. Let H be a cyclic subgroup of a group G . If H be a normal subgroup of G , prove that every subgroup of H is a normal subgroup of G [10 Marks]

2017

15. Prove that every group of order four is Abelian. [8 Marks]

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16. Let G be the set of all real numbers except -1 and define $a * b = a + b + ab \forall a, b \in G$. Examine if G is an Abelian group under $*$. [10 Marks]
17. Let H and K are two finite normal subgroups of co-prime order of a group G . Prove that $hk = kh \forall h \in H$ and $k \in K$. [10 Marks]
18. Let A be an ideal of a commutative ring R and $B = \{x \in R : x^n \in A \text{ for some positive integer } n\}$. Is B an ideal of R ? Justify your answer. [10 Marks]
19. Prove that the ring $\mathbb{Z}[i] = \{a + ib : a, b \in \mathbb{Z}, i = \sqrt{-1}\}$ of Gaussian integers is a Euclidean domain [10 Marks]

2016

20. Prove that the set of all bijective functions from a non-empty set X onto itself is a group with respect to usual composition of functions. [8 Marks]
21. Show that in the ring $R = \{a + b\sqrt{-5} \mid a, b \text{ are integers}\}$, the elements $\alpha = 3$ and $\beta = 1 + 2\sqrt{-5}$ are relatively prime but $\alpha\gamma$ and $\beta\gamma$ have no $g.c.d$ in R , where $\gamma = 7(1 + 2\sqrt{-5})$. [10 Marks]
22. Let G be a group of order pq , where p and q are prime numbers such that $p > q$ and $q \nmid (p-1)$. Then prove that G is cyclic. [15marks]
23. Show that any non-abelian group of order 6 is isomorphic to the symmetric group S_3 . [15marks]

2015

24. If in a group G there is an element a of order 360, what is the order of a^{220} ? Show that if G is cyclic group of order n and m divides n , then G has a subgroup of order m . [10 Marks]
25. If p is a prime number and e a positive integer, what are the elements ' a ' in the ring \mathbb{Z}_p^e of integers modulo p^e such that $a^2 = a$? Hence (or otherwise) determine the elements in \mathbb{Z}_{35} such that $a^2 = a$. [14 Marks]
26. What is the maximum possible order of a permutation in S_8 , the group of permutations on the eight numbers $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, 8\}$? Justify your answer (Majority of marks will be given for the justification). [13 Marks]

2014

27. If G is a group which $(a \cdot b) = a^4 \cdot b^4$, $(a \cdot b)^5 = a^5 \cdot b^5$ and $(a \cdot b)^6 = a^6 \cdot b^6$, for all $a, b \in G$, then prove that G is Abelian. [8 Marks]
28. Let j_n be the set of integers mod n then prove that j_n is a ring under the operation of addition and multiplication mod n under what conditions on n , j_n is a field? Justify your answer. [10 Marks]
29. Let R be an integral domain with unity. Prove that the units of R and $R[x]$ are the same. [10 Marks]

2013

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30. Prove that if every element of group $(G, 0)$ be its own inverse, then it is an abelian group [10 Marks]
31. Show that any integral domain is a field [13 Marks]
32. Every field is an integral domain –Prove it [13 Marks]
33. Prove that (i)The intersection of two ideals is an ideal (ii) A field has proper ideals [14 Marks]

2012

34. Show that every field is without zero divisor. [10 Marks]
35. Show that in a symmetric group S_3 , there are four elements σ satisfying $\sigma^2 = \text{Identity}$. And three elements satisfying $\sigma^3 = \text{Identity}$. [13 Marks]
36. If R is an integral domain, show that the polynomial ring $R[x]$ also an integral domain. [14 Marks]

2011

37. Let G be a group, and x and y be any two elements of G . If $y^5 = e$ and $xyx^{-1} = x^2$, then Show that $O(x) = 31$, where e is the identity element of G and $x \neq e$. [10 Marks]
38. Let Q be the set of all rational numbers show that $Q(\sqrt{2}) = \{a + b\sqrt{2} : a, b \in Q\}$ is a field under the usual addition and multiplication. [10 Marks]
39. Let G be the group of non-zero complex numbers under multiplication, and let N be the set of complex numbers of absolute value 1. Show that G/N is isomorphic to group of all positive real numbers under multiplication. [13 Marks]
40. Let G be a group of order $2p$, p prime show that either G is cyclic or G is generated by $\{a, b\}$ with relations $a^p = e = b^2$ and $bab = a^{-1}$ [13 Marks]

2010

41. Let $G = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & a \\ a & a \end{bmatrix} \mid a \in R, a \neq 0 \right\}$ Show that G is a group under matrix multiplication [10 Marks]
42. Let F be a field order 32. Show that the only subfields of F are F itself and $\{0,1\}$ [10 Marks]
43. Prove or disprove that $(\mathbb{R}, +)$ and (\mathbb{R}^+, \cdot) are isomorphic group where \mathbb{R}^+ denote the set of all positive real numbers. [13 Marks]
44. Show that the zero and unity are only idempotents of Z_n if $n = p^r$ where p is a prime. [13 Marks]
45. Let R be a Euclidean domain with Euclidean valuation d . Let n be an integer such that $d(1) + n \geq 0$. show that the function $d_n : R - \{0\} \rightarrow S$, where S is the set of all negative integers defined by $d_n(a) = d(a) + n$ for all $a \in R - \{0\}$ is a Euclidean valuation [13 Marks]

2009

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46. Prove that a non-empty subset H of a group G is normal subgroup of $G \Leftrightarrow$ for all $x, y \in H, g \in G,$
 $(gx)(gy)^{-1} \in H$ [10 Marks]
47. If G is a finite abelian group then show that $O(a,b)$ is a divisor of l.c.m of $O(a), O(b)$ [10 Marks]
48. Show that $d(a) < d(ab)$, where a, b be two non-zero element of a Euclidean domain R and b is not a unit in R [13 Marks]
49. Show that a field an integral domain and a non-zero finite integral is a field [13 Marks]
50. Find the multiplicative inverse of the element $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 5 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ of the ring M of all matrices of order two over the integers. [14 Marks]