

*Mathematicians have tried in vain to this day to discover some order in the sequence of prime numbers, and we have reason to believe that it is a mystery into which the human mind will never penetrate.- Leonhard Euler.*

**Please note:**

1. Calculators are not allowed in the exam.
2. You may assume the following axioms and theorems:
  - (a) **Axiom:** The natural numbers  $\mathbb{N}$  satisfies the Well Ordering Principle, i.e., every non-empty subset of natural numbers contains a least element.
  - (b) **Theorem:** Let  $a, b, c$  be integers. The linear equation  $ax + by = c$  has a solution if and only if  $\gcd(a, b)$  divides  $c$ .
3. **You must** provide full explanations for all your answers. You must include your work.

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**Theory Question 1.** Prove that if  $p$  is prime and  $p|ab$  then either  $p|a$  or  $p|b$ . Explain why the previous statement can be re-written as follows: if  $p$  is a prime and  $ab \equiv 0 \pmod p$  then  $a \equiv 0 \pmod p$  or  $b \equiv 0 \pmod p$ .

**Theory Question 2.** Prove the existence part of the Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic, i.e., every natural number  $n > 1$  can be written as a product of primes.

**Theory Question 3.** Prove the uniqueness part of the Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic, i.e., every natural number  $n > 1$  can be written uniquely as a product of primes, up to a reordering of the prime-power factors (you may assume Theory Question 2).

**Theory Question 4.** Prove Euclid's theorem on the infinitude of primes, i.e., prove that there exist infinitely many prime numbers.

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**Question 1.** Use Euclid's algorithm to:

1. Find the greatest common divisor of 13 and 50.
2. Find all solutions of the linear diophantine equation  $13x + 50y = 2$ .
3. Find the multiplicative inverse of 13 modulo 50. Find the multiplicative inverse of 50 modulo 13.
4. Find all solutions to  $26x \equiv 4 \pmod{100}$ .

**Question 2.** Prove that the equation  $x^2 - 7y^3 + 21z^5 = 3$  has no solution with  $x, y, z$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$  (Hint: Calculate all possible squares modulo 7).

**Question 3.** Show that 257 divides  $100 \cdot 2^{25} - 57 = 3355443143$ .

**Question 4.** What time does a clock read 100 hours after it reads 2 o'clock? If the time is now 2PM, after 100 hours, will it be in the PM or in the AM?

**Question 5.** Show that  $2^{2^n} + 5$  is composite for every positive integer  $n$ .

**Question 6.** Find the smallest positive integer  $n$  such that

$$n \equiv 7 \pmod{3}, \quad n \equiv 5 \pmod{5}, \quad n \equiv 3 \pmod{7}.$$

**Question 7.** A troop of 17 monkeys store their bananas in 11 piles of equal size with a twelfth pile of 6 left over. When they divide the bananas into 17 equal groups, none remain. What is the smallest number of bananas they can have?

**Question 8.** The seven digit number  $n = 72x20y2$ , where  $x$  and  $y$  are digits, is divisible by 72. What are the possibilities for  $x$  and  $y$ ?

**Question 9.** Show that  $36^{100} \equiv 16 \pmod{17}$ .

**Question 10.** Show that  $42 \mid n^7 - n$  for all positive  $n$ .

**Question 11.** Show that  $5555^{2222} + 2222^{5555}$  is divisible by 7.

**Question 12.** Prove that for any natural number  $n \geq 1$ ,  $3^{6n} - 2^{6n}$  is divisible by 35 (Hint: work modulo 5 and modulo 7, separately).

**Question 13.** Find the remainder when  $14!$  is divided by 17.

**Question 14.** Prove that if  $n$  is odd, then  $n$  and  $n - 2$  are relatively prime. (Hint: Use the theorem (b) at the beginning of this document).

**Question 15.** Prove that if  $k \geq 1$ , the integers  $6k + 5$  and  $7k + 6$  are relatively prime.

**Question 16.** Find all primes  $p$  such that  $17p + 1$  is a square.

**Question 17.** Show that  $n(n - 1)(2n - 1)$  is divisible by 6 for every  $n > 0$ .

**Question 18.** Does  $3x \equiv 1 \pmod{18}$  have a solution? What about  $3x \equiv 1 \pmod{19}$ ? Determine for which integers  $1 \leq a \leq 17$  the equation  $ax \equiv 1 \pmod{18}$  has solutions. Do the same modulo 19.

**Question 19.** Verify that:

1. The numbers  $0, 2, 2^2, 2^3, 2^4, 2^5, 2^6, 2^7, 2^8, 2^9, 2^{10}$  are a complete set of representatives modulo 11.
2. The numbers  $0, 2, 2^2, 2^3, 2^4, 2^5, 2^6$  are not a complete set of representatives modulo 7.