Assignment 1 MAT 347

Q2i: Let $g \in G$. Suppose that a, b are both multiplicative inverses of g. Using the properties of group multiplication, we get that

$$bg = e \implies (bg)a = ea \implies b(ga) = a \implies b = a$$

Hence the multiplicative identity is unique.

Q2ii: Let $g, h \in G$. We let $(gh)^{-1} = a$. We see that

$$(gh)a = e$$

$$g^{-1}(gh)a = g^{-1}e$$

$$(g^{-1}g)(ha) = g^{-1}$$

$$ha = g^{-1}$$

$$(h^{-1}h)a = h^{-1}g^{-1}$$

$$(a = h^{-1}g^{-1})$$
(by associativity and identity)
$$(multiply left sides by h^{-1})$$

$$(multiply left sides by h^{-1})$$

$$(by inverse)$$

Thus we see that $a = (gh)^{-1} = h^{-1}g^{-1}$ as desired.

Q2iii: First, note that by multiplying gh = e by h^{-1} to the right, we get that $g = h^{-1}$. Similarly, when we multiply gh = e by g^{-1} to the left we get that $h = g^{-1}$. We can now verify that indeed

$$gh = e$$

$$(hg)h = he$$

$$(hg)(hg) = (he)g$$

$$(g^{-1}g)(h^{-1}h) = hg$$

$$ee = hg$$

$$e = hg$$

$$(by inverse)$$

$$(by identity)$$

Thus we have that gh = e = hg as desired.