

0.1 General Feedback

Here are some general points:

0.1.1 English

The standard of the written English was rather poor. In the age of the word processor there is no real excuse for poor spelling, and most offer grammar advice as well. I am aware that a lot of you have English as a second language. If this is the case consider doing the following two things:

1. keep your sentences short and simple;
2. use bullet points in your writing.

0.1.1.1 Mathematics

The presentation of the mathematics was poor.

1. Consider the question on group theory, in a group G there is a lot of difference between $g1$ (it means g multiplied by the identity 1) and g_1 which is just an element in the group called g_1 .
2. You can not make up your own terminology. The Euler function is traditionally denoted ϕ , if you don't want to follow tradition then you can pick your own variable: 'let f denote the Euler function'. You cannot pick a symbol that looks 'a bit like' ϕ and use that, so you can not use \emptyset (the symbol for the empty set) for ϕ anymore then you can write 8anana for Banana.
3. There was a sloppiness in some discussions, for example $\mathbf{A}1$, $A1$, a_1 $a1$ are four different variables some discussions seemed to think it was all right to confuse them. The worst examples were the confusion of ab and a^b these are most certainly not the same!

0.1.1.2 marks

There was a wide distribution in the marks, and a number of fails. A lot of the fails were marginal, so a good exam performance will get you through (recall you only need to reach 50% overall, you don't need to reach 50% in each component).

0.1.2 shorthand

I have written on your script and have used the following shorthand:

1. clar - clarify
2. def -define
3. ✓- correct
4. ✗- wrong
5. non - nonsense
6. mw - more working required