

1. **Quickie Queries. It is essential you put down reasons for your answers and show your work. 30 points.**

Throughout assume  $g, h \in G$ , an abelian group, and that the order of  $g$  is 1000.

- ① The order of  $g^{2120}$ .
- ② The smallest  $n$  such that  $S_n$  has an element of the same order as  $g$ .
- ③ The number of generators of  $\langle g \rangle$ .
- ④ The number of subgroups of  $\langle g \rangle$ .
- ⑤ The number of subgroups of  $\langle g \rangle$  of order 100.
- ⑥ The number of elements of  $\langle g \rangle$  of order 100.
- ⑦ Given that  $h$  is of order 2400, the largest possible order of an element in  $G$  (as far as you know).
- ⑧ An element of that largest order (as in ⑦).

**Solution.**

- ① The order of  $g^{2120}$  is

$$\frac{1000}{\gcd(2120, 1000)} = 25.$$

- ② Since  $1000 = 2^3 5^3$ , it follows that  $n = 2^3 + 5^3 = 133$ .
- ③ Let  $\varphi(n)$  be the number of positive integers relatively prime to a positive integer  $n$ . Then the number of generators of  $\langle g \rangle$  is  $\varphi(1000) = \varphi(2^3 5^3) = \varphi(2^3) \varphi(5^3) = 400$ .
- ④ The number of subgroups of  $\langle g \rangle$  is the number of positive divisors of 1000; since  $1000 = 2^3 5^3$ , it follows that we have  $4 \cdot 4 = 16$  subgroups of  $\langle g \rangle$ .
- ⑤ There is 1 subgroup of  $\langle g \rangle$  of order 100.
- ⑥ There are  $\varphi(100) = \varphi(2^2 5^2) = \varphi(2^2) \varphi(5^2) = 40$  elements of  $\langle g \rangle$  of order 100.
- ⑦ The largest possible order of an element as far we know is

$$\frac{1000 \cdot 2400}{\gcd(1000, 2400)} = 12000.$$

- ⑧ The order of  $h^{25}$  is 96 and the order of  $g^8$  is 125. Since  $\gcd(96, 125) = 1$ , it follows that the order of  $g^8 h^{25}$  is  $96 \cdot 125 = 12000$ .

2. **15 points.** Recall that the centralizer of an element  $a \in G$  (a group) is given by

$$C(a) = \{g \in G : ag = ga\}.$$

Do the following:

- ① Show that  $gag^{-1} = hah^{-1}$  if and only if  $h^{-1}g \in C(a)$ .
- ② Assume  $G$  is finite. Show that  $|C(a)| \times \# = |G|$  where  $\#$  is the number of conjugates of  $a$ .

**Solution.**

- ① **Proof.** Suppose  $h^{-1}g \in C(a)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} h^{-1}ga &= ah^{-1}g && \iff \\ ga &= hah^{-1}g && \iff \\ gag^{-1} &= hah^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Now suppose  $gag^{-1} = hah^{-1}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} gag^{-1} &= hah^{-1} && \iff \\ ga &= hah^{-1}g && \iff \\ h^{-1}ga &= ah^{-1}g && \iff \\ h^{-1}g &\in C(a). \end{aligned}$$

□

- ② **Proof.** Let  $a \in G$ . We know that

$$|G_a| \cdot |Ga| = |G|,$$

where  $G_a$  is the stabilizer of  $a$  and  $Ga$  is the orbit of  $a$  (note that  $\# = |Ga|$ ). It suffices to show that  $C(a) = G_a$ . Now

$$\begin{aligned} x &\in C(a) && \iff \\ xa &= ax && \iff \\ xax^{-1} &= a && \iff \\ x &\in Ga, \end{aligned}$$

so that  $C(a) = Ga$ , and we have that  $|C(a)| \cdot |Ga| = |G_a| \cdot \# = |G|$ . □

3. Let  $A$  be an abelian group with identity  $e$ . **15 points.**

- ① Show that  $\{a \in A : a^3 = e\}$  is a subgroup.
- ② Find the elements of this subgroup when  $A$  is the multiplicative group of nonzero elements of  $\mathbb{Z}_{19}$ .
- ③ Give necessary and sufficient conditions on the size of  $A$  in order for this subgroup to have other elements besides  $e$ , and give reasons.

**Solution.** Let  $G = \{a \in A : a^3 = e\}$ .

- ① **Proof.**  $G$  is clearly associative under the operation of  $A$  since it is a subset of  $A$ , so in order to show that  $G$  is a subgroup, we need to show that it contains  $e$  and that it is closed under the operation of  $A$  and taking inverses.

**Identity.** Clearly  $e \in G$  since  $e^3 = e$ .

**Closure.** Suppose  $g, h \in G$ . Then since  $G$  is abelian, it follows that  $(gh)^3 = g^3h^3 = ee = e$ , so that  $gh \in G$ .

**Inverse.** Suppose  $g \in G$ . Then it follows that  $ggg = g^3 = e$ . Now

$$ggg = e \Rightarrow gg = g^{-1} \Rightarrow g = (g^{-1})^2 \Rightarrow e = (g^{-1})^3 \Rightarrow g^{-1} \in G,$$

so that  $G$  is closed under taking inverses.

Thus we can conclude that  $G$  is a subgroup of  $A$ .  $\square$

- ② We want the elements  $a$  of  $\mathbb{Z}_{19}$  such that  $a^3 = 1$ . By computation we find that the subgroup of  $A$  that satisfies this condition is  $\{1, 7, 13\}$ .
- ③ If  $a^3 = e$ , then the order of  $a$  divides 3 so that the order of  $a$  is 1 or 3. So we want the order of  $a$  to be 3. Thus we must require that 3 divides  $|A|$ , so that by Cauchy's Theorem, an element of order 3 will be in  $G$ .

4. **On a Group.** Consider  $G_3 = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & m \\ 0 & s \end{pmatrix} : m \in \mathbb{Z}_8, s \in \{1, 3\} \right\}$ . Do ① through ⑥.  
**20 points.**

- ① Show  $G_3$  is a subgroup of  $GL(2, \mathbb{Z}_8)$  and find its order.
- ② Find the order of  $h = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , and its centralizer,  $C(h)$ .
- ③ Find all the conjugates of  $h$ .
- ④ Show that regardless of what  $m$  is, the centralizer of  $g_m = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & m \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $C(g_m)$ , has four elements.
- ⑤ Find the center of  $G_3$ ,  $Z(G)$ . **Hint.** You basically already have.
- ⑥ Decide how many elements of each order there are in  $G_3$ .

**Solution.**

- ① We have that  $|G_3| = 8 \cdot 2 = 16$ . To show that  $G_3$  is a subgroup of  $GL(2, \mathbb{Z}_8)$ , we need only show that  $G_3$  has an identity and that it is closed under multiplication since it is finite. Notice that  $G_3$  is associative under multiplication since  $\mathbb{Z}_8$  is associative under multiplication.

**Identity.** If we let  $m = 0$  and  $s = 1$ , we shall see that  $G_3$  contains the identity.

**Closure.** Let  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & m \\ 0 & s \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & n \\ 0 & t \end{pmatrix} \in G_3$ . Then we have that

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & m \\ 0 & s \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & n \\ 0 & t \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & n + mt \\ 0 & st \end{pmatrix} \in G_3$$

because  $\{1, 3\}$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_8$  are both closed under multiplication. Thus  $G_3$  is closed under multiplication. Hence  $G_3$  is a subgroup of  $GL(2, \mathbb{Z}_8)$ .

- ② **Order of  $h$ .** Since  $h^n = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & n \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , it follows that the order of  $h$  is 8.

**Centralizer of  $h$ .** Let  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & m \\ 0 & s \end{pmatrix} \in C(h)$ . Then it follows that

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & m \\ 0 & s \end{pmatrix} h = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1+m \\ 0 & s \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & s+m \\ 0 & s \end{pmatrix} = h \begin{pmatrix} 1 & m \\ 0 & s \end{pmatrix},$$

so that  $1 + m = s + m$ . That is,  $s = 1$ . Thus

$$C(h) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & m \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} : m \in \mathbb{Z}_8 \right\}.$$

- ③ The set of conjugates of  $h$  is  $\{ghg^{-1} : g \in G_3\}$ . So let  $g = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & m \\ 0 & s \end{pmatrix} \in G_3$ . Then we have that  $ghg^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & s^{-1} \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , so that the conjugates of  $h$  are  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

- ④ **Proof.** Let  $m \in \mathbb{Z}_8$  and  $g_m = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & m \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ . We want to show that  $|C(g_m)| = 4$ . Let  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & n \\ 0 & t \end{pmatrix} \in C(g_m)$ . Then it follows that

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & n \\ 0 & t \end{pmatrix} g_m = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & m+3n \\ 0 & s \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & mt+n \\ 0 & s \end{pmatrix} = g_m \begin{pmatrix} 1 & n \\ 0 & t \end{pmatrix},$$

so that  $m + 3n = mt + n$ ; that is,  $m + 2n = mt$ .

**Case 1.**  $t = 1$ . Then we have that  $m + 2n = m$  so that  $2n = 0$ ; that is  $n \in \{0, 4\}$ .

**Case 2.**  $t = 3$ . Then we have that  $m + 2n = 3m$  so that  $2m = 2n$ . Notice that since  $m \in \mathbb{Z}_8$ , then  $2m \in \{0, 2, 4, 6\}$ . For each value of  $2m$ , the equation  $2m = 2n$  has exactly two solutions for  $n$  and they are

$2m$	$n$
0	$\{0, 4\}$
2	$\{1, 5\}$
4	$\{2, 6\}$
6	$\{3, 7\}$

Thus for each value of  $t$ ,  $n$  has exactly two values, so that there are 4 matrices in  $C(g_m)$ .  $\square$

- ⑤ The center of  $G_3$  is the set of elements of  $G_3$  that commute with all the elements of  $G_3$ . Notice that if an element is in the center of  $G_3$ , then it must be in the

centralizer of all elements of  $G_3$ . By (4), we know that

$$h^8 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } h^4 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

are the only elements in  $\bigcap_{m \in \mathbb{Z}_8} C(g_m)$  (the intersection of the centralizers of matrices of the form  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & m \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ ). Since the remaining matrices (matrices of the form  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & y \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ) are all powers of  $h$ , it follows that  $h^8$  and  $h^4$  also commute with them. Thus the center of  $G_3$  consists of  $h^8$  and  $h^4$ .

(6)

Matrix	Order
$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$	1
$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$	2
$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 7 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$	4
$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 7 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$	8

5. **On the Same Group.** Let  $G_3$  be the group from the previous exercise. Let it act on the set  $X$  of vectors of size 2:  $\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$  with entries in  $\mathbb{Z}_8$ . Do the following: **25 points.**

- (1) Count the number of fixed points of  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ .
- (2) Count the number of fixed points of  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .
- (3) Count the number of fixed points of  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .
- (4) Finish filling the table below with the number of fixed points below each of the respective matrices:

$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 7 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$
16	32	8	16	8	8	16	8
$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 7 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$
8	8	16	8	16	8	16	64

- (5) Use Burnside's Lemma to count the number of orbits.
- (6) Find the stabilizer of  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , and use it to find the size of its orbit.

- ⑦ Find the stabilizer of  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ , and use it to find the size of its orbit.
- ⑧ Find the stabilizer of  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ , and use it to find the size of its orbit.

**Solution.**

- ① We want to find all  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_8$  such that

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}.$$

From the above, we shall get

$$\begin{pmatrix} x + 2y \\ 3y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix},$$

so that  $x + 2y = x$  and  $2y = 0$ . These equations both simplify to  $2y = 0$ ; thus  $y \in \{0, 4\}$ . So we have 8 choices for  $x$  and 2 choices for  $y$  for a total of 16 choices.

The number of fixed points of  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$  is 16.

- ② We want to find all  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_8$  such that

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}.$$

From the above, we shall get

$$\begin{pmatrix} x + 4y \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix},$$

so that  $x + 4y = x$ . That is  $4y = 0$ , so that  $y \in \{0, 2, 4, 6\}$ . So we have 8 choices for  $x$  and 4 choices for  $y$  for a total of 32 choices. The number of fixed points of  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is thus 32.

- ③ Proceed as in ① and ② above to get  $x + y = x$ , so that  $y = 0$ ; so we have 8 choices for  $x$  and 1 choices for  $y$  for a total of 8 choices. The number of fixed points of  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is thus 8.

- ④ The table has been filled above.

- ⑤ According to Burnside's Lemma, the number of orbits is

$$\frac{16 + 32 + 8 + 16 + 8 + 8 + 16 + 8 + 8 + 16 + 8 + 16 + 8 + 16 + 64}{16} = 16.$$

- ⑥ Let  $X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . We want to find all  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & m \\ 0 & s \end{pmatrix} \in G_3$  such that

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & m \\ 0 & s \end{pmatrix} X_1 = X_1.$$

From the above equation, we shall get  $X_1 = X_1$ , so that all of  $G_3$  stabilizes  $X_1$ . That is,  $|\text{Stabilizer}(X_1)| = |G_3|$ . Recall that

$$|\text{Stabilizer}(X_1)| \cdot |\text{Orbit}(X_1)| = |G_3|.$$

Thus  $|\text{Orbit}(X_1)| = 1$ .

- ⑦ Similarly let  $X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ . We want to find all  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & m \\ 0 & s \end{pmatrix} \in G_3$  such that

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & m \\ 0 & s \end{pmatrix} X_2 = X_2.$$

From the above equation, we shall get

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 + 4m \\ 4s \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix},$$

so that all  $4m = 0$  and  $4s = 4$ . Thus  $m \in \{0, 2, 4, 6\}$  and  $s \in \{1, 3\}$ . Thus  $|\text{Stabilizer}(X_2)| = 8$ . Since

$$|\text{Stabilizer}(X_2)| \cdot |\text{Orbit}(X_2)| = |G_3|,$$

it follows that  $|\text{Orbit}(X_2)| = 2$ .

- ⑧ Similarly let  $X_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ . We want to find all  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & m \\ 0 & s \end{pmatrix} \in G_3$  such that

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & m \\ 0 & s \end{pmatrix} X_3 = X_3.$$

From the above equation, we shall get

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 + 2m \\ 2s \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix},$$

so that all  $2m = 0$  and  $2s = 2$ . Thus  $m \in \{0, 4\}$  and  $s = 1$ . Thus  $|\text{Stabilizer}(X_3)| = 2$ . Since

$$|\text{Stabilizer}(X_3)| \cdot |\text{Orbit}(X_3)| = |G_3|,$$

it follows that  $|\text{Orbit}(X_3)| = 8$ .

6. **True or False.** Consider the veracity or falsehood of each of the following statements, and argue as well as you can for those that you believe are true while providing a counterexample for those that you believe are false. There is partial credit for just the correct answer. **20 points**

- ① Every abelian group of order 525 has an element of order 21.
- ② The permutation  $(123)(2465)(5674)(12578)(456312)$ .
- ③  $S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ -3b & a \end{pmatrix} : a, b \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}$  is an integral domain.
- ④ A subgroup of a cyclic group is cyclic.
- ⑤ It is possible for an infinite group to have subgroups of finite index.
- ⑥ Any group of order 12 has an element of order 6.
- ⑦ Every group of order 1001 has an element of order 7.
- ⑧ Every field is an integral domain.
- ⑨ Let  $G$  and  $H$  be groups. Let  $f : G \rightarrow H$  be a homomorphism onto  $H$ . If  $G$  is abelian, then so is  $H$ .
- ⑩ Let  $G$  and  $H$  be groups. Let  $f : G \rightarrow H$  be a homomorphism onto  $H$ . If  $H$  is abelian, then so is  $G$ .

**Solution.**

- ① True.  
**Proof.** Let  $G$  be an abelian group of order 525. Because the primes 3 and 7 both divide  $|G|$ , it follows by Cauchy's Theorem that  $G$  has an element  $h$  of order 3 and an element  $g$  of order 7. Since 3 and 7 are relatively prime and since  $G$  is abelian, it must have an element of order  $3 \cdot 7 = 21$ .  $\square$
- ② False because the sign of the permutation is  
 $\text{sign}(123) \cdot \text{sign}(2465) \cdot \text{sign}(5674) \cdot \text{sign}(12578) \cdot \text{sign}(456312) = 1 \cdot -1 \cdot -1 \cdot 1 \cdot -1 = -1$ .
- ③ True.  
**Proof.** First observe that the determinant of a matrix in  $S$  is 0 if and only if it is the zero matrix. Also we know that  $S$  is a commutative ring. Now let  $A_1, A_2 \in S$ . Suppose  $A_1 A_2 = \mathbf{0}$ . Then we must have that  
$$0 = \det(\mathbf{0}) = \det(A_1 A_2) = \det(A_1) \det(A_2),$$
so that  $\det(A_1) = 0$  or  $\det(A_2) = 0$ . That is  $A_1 = \mathbf{0}$  or  $A_2 = \mathbf{0}$ , so that  $S$  is an integral domain.  $\square$
- ④ True. Let  $G = \langle g \rangle$  be a cyclic group and let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . Then  $H$  is also cyclic since it is generated by  $g^r$  where  $r$  is the smallest positive integer such that  $g^r \in H$ .
- ⑤ True. Although  $\mathbb{Z}$  is infinite, its subgroup,  $60\mathbb{Z}$ , has index 60.
- ⑥ False because  $A_4$  has order 12 but it has no element of order 6 (since  $A_4$  doesn't even have a subgroup of order 6).



⑦ True.

**Proof.** Let  $G$  be a group of order 1001. Since 7 is prime and since 7 divides 1001, it follows at once by Cauchy's Theorem that  $G$  has an element of order 7.  $\square$

⑧ True.

**Proof.** Let  $F$  be a field. Suppose for some  $a, b \in F$ , with  $a \neq 0$ , we have  $ab = 0$ . Since  $F$  is a field and since  $a$  is nonzero, it follows that  $a^{-1}$  exists. Thus we have that  $0 = ab = a^{-1}(ab) = (a^{-1}a)b = b$ , so that  $F$  is an integral domain.  $\square$

⑨ True.

**Proof.** Let  $x, y \in H$ . Then since  $f$  is onto, there exist  $a, b \in G$  such that  $f(a) = x$  and  $f(b) = y$ . Thus

$$xy = f(a)f(b) = f(ab) = f(ba) = f(b)f(a) = yx,$$

so that  $H$  is also abelian.  $\square$

⑩ False.

**Counterexample.** Consider  $f : S_6 \rightarrow \{e\}$ . This map is onto and  $\{e\}$  is trivially abelian. Also  $f$  is a homomorphism, but  $S_6$  is not abelian.