Russ Johnson Reading Assignment 14 March 11, 2013

Activities 25.2 and 25.3 are related by the fact that we are trying to find out what makes a set of all cosets of a coset form a group structure. In Activity 25.2 we see that the right and left cosets of H are equal and because of this the operation (aH)(bH) = (ab)H is well defined. The right and left cosets of K are not equal and because of this the operation (aK)(bK) = (ab)K is not well defined. Depending on which member of the set we choose from the sets of aK and bK we can arrive at different results for (ab)K and so it is not a well defined operation.

In Activity 25.3 we prove our conjecture that if the left and right cosets of a subgroup are equal, then the set of all cosets forms a group structure. The operation in this group structure being (aH)(bH) = (ab)H.