

1.  $\because x = a, x = b$  are both integer solutions to the congruence  $g^x \equiv h \pmod{p}$

$$\therefore g^a \equiv g^b \pmod{p}$$

$$\therefore g^{a-b} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

$g$  is a generator for  $Z_p^*$ , so  $g \in Z_p^*$ .

From Fermat's theorem, then

$$g^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

$$\therefore p-1 \mid a-b$$

$$\therefore a \equiv b \pmod{p-1}$$

2. a) 7.      b) 11.      c) 18

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def simple_program(e, n, p):
    for i in range(0, p):
        if pow(e, i) % p == n:
            return i

print(simple_program(2, 13, 23))
print(simple_program(10, 22, 47))
print(simple_program(627, 608, 941))
```

```
7
11
18
```

3. a)  $\tau\sigma^2 = \sigma^2\tau\sigma = \sigma^2\sigma^2\tau = \sigma^3\sigma\tau = \sigma\tau$

b)  $\tau(\sigma\tau) = \tau\sigma\tau = \sigma^2\tau^2 = \sigma^2$

$$c) (\sigma\tau)(\sigma\tau) = \sigma\tau\sigma\tau = \sigma\sigma^2\tau\tau = \sigma^3\tau^2 = e$$

$$d) (\sigma\tau)(\sigma^2\tau) = \sigma\tau\tau\sigma = \sigma\tau^2\sigma = \sigma^2$$

**Answer:**  $S_3$  is NOT a commutative group.

**Prove:**

*If  $S_3$  is a commutative group, then for  $\forall a, b \in S_3, ab = ba$ . But,*

$$\tau\sigma = \sigma^2\tau = \sigma(\sigma\tau) \neq \sigma\tau$$

*So,  $S_3$  is **NOT** a commutative group.*

4.  $\because a \in Z_p^*$ , from Fermat's theorem, then

$$a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

$$\because b = a^{\frac{p-1}{q}}$$

$$\therefore b^q = a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

$$\therefore \text{ord}_p(b) | q$$

But  $q$  is a prime,

$\therefore$  if  $b \neq 1$ , then  $b$  has order  $q$ .

$\therefore$  either  $b = 1$  or else  $b$  has order  $q$ .