

1.  $G = \text{group}$ . (1) Center  $Z$  of  $G$  is  $\{z \in G; zg = gz \ \forall g \in G\}$ .
- (2)  $Z$  is a subgroup:  $e \in Z$  as  $eg = ge \ \forall g \in G$ ;  $z_1, z_2 \in Z \Rightarrow (z_1 z_2)g = z_1(z_2 g) = z_1(g z_2) = (z_1 g)z_2 = (g z_1)z_2 = g(z_1 z_2) \Rightarrow z_1 z_2 \in Z$ ;  $z \in Z \Rightarrow zg = gz \ \forall g \Rightarrow g z^{-1} = z^{-1} g \ \forall g \Rightarrow z^{-1} \in Z \therefore Z$  is a subgroup.  
 $Z \triangleleft G$  since  $\forall z \in Z, \forall g \in G, gzg^{-1} = z \in Z$ .  $\text{as } Z \triangleleft G$
- (3) If  $G/Z = \langle aZ \rangle, \forall g \in Z \exists m = m(g) \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$  with  $gZ = (aZ)^m = a^m Z \therefore g = a^m z$  for some  $z = z(g)$  in  $Z$ .  
 For another  $g' \in G, g' = a^{m'} z'$ , and  $gg' = a^m z a^{m'} z' = a^{m+m'} z z' = a^{m+m'} z' z = a^{m+m'} z' a^m z = g'g$ , so  $G$  is abelian.
2.  $f: G \rightarrow H$  hom,  $J$  subgroup of  $H$ ;  $f^{-1}(J) = \{x \in G; f(x) \in J\}$  is a subgroup:  $e \in f^{-1}(J)$  since  $f(e) \in J$ ;  $x, y \in f^{-1}(J) \Rightarrow f(xy) = f(x)f(y) \in J \Rightarrow xy \in f^{-1}(J)$ ;  $x \in f^{-1}(J) \Rightarrow f(x^{-1}) = f(x)^{-1} \in J$  as  $f(x) \in J$ .  
 (2)  $\ker(f) \subset f^{-1}(J)$  since  $x \in \ker(f) \Rightarrow f(x) = e \in J \Rightarrow x \in f^{-1}(J)$  [you were not asked to show that  $\ker(f)$  is sgp].
3. Every  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$  can be expressed uniquely as  $(a-b+b, b) = (a-b, 0) + (b, b)$ , so the cosets of  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$  modulo  $D = \{(x, x); x \in \mathbb{R}\}$  are  $a + D, a \in \mathbb{R}$ .
4. If  $\text{ord}(a) = k$ , then  $a^k = e \Rightarrow (gag^{-1})^k = gag^{-1} \dots gag^{-1} = ga^k g^{-1} = e$ , so  $\text{ord}(gag^{-1})$  divides  $k$ .  
 If  $(gag^{-1})^m = e$  then  $a^m = e$  (same argument: name  $gag^{-1} = b$ , then  $b^m = e$  and so  $a^m = (g^{-1}bg)^m = b^m = e$ ).  
 Hence  $\text{ord}(gag^{-1}) = k$  (and not  $m < k$ ), and the uniqueness implies  $gag^{-1} = a \ \forall g \in G \therefore a$  is central.
5. (1) The centralizer  $S(x)$  of  $x \in G$  is  $\{g \in G; gx = xg\}$ . (2)  $S(x)$  is a subgroup as  $e \in S(x)$  (indeed,  $ex = xe$ ); if  $g, h \in S(x)$  then  $(gh)x = g(hx) = g(xh) = (gx)h = g(xh) = g(hx) = (gh)x$  so  $gh \in S(x)$ ;  
 $g \in S(x) \Rightarrow gx = xg \Rightarrow xg^{-1} = g^{-1}x \Rightarrow g^{-1} \in S(x)$ . (3) If  $G = S_3, x = (12), S((12)) = \langle (12) \rangle \triangleleft S_3$ .
- (4)  $C(x) = \{g \times g^{-1}; g \in G\}$  (conjugacy class of  $x$  in  $G$ ). (5)  $f: G/S(x) \rightarrow C(x), gS(x) \mapsto g \times g^{-1}$ .  
 Since  $G/S(x)$  and  $C(x)$  are sets, not groups, don't attempt to show that  $f$  is a homomorphism!  
 $f$  is well defined: if  $gS(x) = hS(x), g = hs, s \in S(x) \Rightarrow g \times g^{-1} = hs \times (hs)^{-1} = hs \times s^{-1}h^{-1} = h \times h^{-1}$ .  
 $f$  is onto: each element of  $C(x)$  is  $g \times g^{-1} (\exists g \in G)$ , and  $f(gS(x)) = g \times g^{-1}$ .  
 $f$  is into: if  $g \times g^{-1} = h \times h^{-1}$  then  $x = h^{-1}g \times g^{-1}h = (h^{-1}g) \times (h^{-1}g)^{-1} \Rightarrow h^{-1}g = s \in S(x) \Rightarrow gS(x) = hS(x)$ . }  $f$  is isom of sets!
6.  $G = \langle a, b; a^4 = e, a^2 = b^2, ba = a^3b \rangle = \{e, a, a^2, a^3, b, ab, a^2b, a^3b\}$   
 Conjugacy classes:  $\{e\}, \{a^2\}, \{a, a^3 = bab^{-1}\}, \{b, b^3 = aba^{-1}\}, \{ab, a^3b = ba^3b^{-1}\}$   
 Centralizers:  $G, G, \{e, a, a^2, a^3\}, \{e, b, b^2, b^3\}, \{e, a^2, ab, a^3b\}$