

RELATIONS AND FUNCTIONS

BINARY OPERATIONS

EXERCISE

Q.1. Determine whether the following operation define a binary operation on the given set or not:

- (i) $'*$ on N defined by $a * b = a^b$ for all $a, b \in N$.
- (ii) $'O'$ on Z defined by $a O b = a^b$ for all $a, b \in Z$.
- (iii) $'*$ on N defined by $a * b = a + b - 2$ for all $a, b \in N$
- (iv) $'\times_6'$ on $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ defined by $a \times_6 b = \text{Remainder when } a b \text{ is divided by } 6$.
- (v) $'+_6'$ on $S = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ defined by $a +_6 b = \begin{cases} a+b, & \text{if } a+b < 6 \\ a+b-6, & \text{if } a+b \geq 6 \end{cases}$
- (vi) $'\odot'$ on N defined by $a \odot b = a^b + b^a$ for all $a, b \in N$
- (vii) $'*$ on Q defined by $a * b = (a - 1) / (b + 1)$ for all $a, b \in Q$

Q.2. Determine whether or not the definition of $*$ given below gives a binary operation. In the event that $*$ is not a binary operation give justification of this.

- (i) On Z^+ , defined $*$ by $a * b = a - b$
- (ii) On Z^+ , define $*$ by $a * b = ab$
- (iii) On R , define $*$ by $a * b = ab^2$
- (iv) On Z^+ define $*$ by $a * b = |a - b|$
- (v) On Z^+ define $*$ by $a * b = a$
- (vi) On R , define $*$ by $a * b = a + 4b^2$

Here, Z^+ denotes the set of all non-negative integers.

Q.3. Let $*$ be a binary operation on the set I of integers, defined by $a * b = 2a + b - 3$. Find the value of $3 * 4$.

Q.4. Is $*$ defined on the set $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ by $a * b = \text{LCM of } a \text{ and } b$ a binary operation? Justify your answer.

Q.5. Let $'*$ ' be a binary operation on N defined by $a * b = \text{l.c.m. } (a, b)$ for all $a, b \in N$

(i) Find $2 * 4, 3 * 5, 1 * 6$.

(ii) Check the commutativity and associativity of $'*$ ' on N .

Q.6. Determine which of the following binary operation is associative and which is commutative:

(i) $*$ on N defined by $a * b = 1$ for all $a, b \in N$

(ii) $*$ on Q defined by $a * b = (a + b)/2$ for all $a, b \in Q$

Q.7 Let A be any set containing more than one element. Let $'*$ ' be a binary operation on A defined by $a * b = b$ for all $a, b \in A$ Is $'*$ ' commutative or associative on A ?

Q.8. Check the commutativity and associativity of each of the following binary operations:

(i) $'*$ ' on Z defined by $a * b = a + b + ab$ for all $a, b \in Z$

(ii) $'*$ ' on N defined by $a * b = 2^{ab}$ for all $a, b \in N$

(iii) $'*$ ' on Q defined by $a * b = a - b$ for all $a, b \in Q$

(iv) $'\odot'$ on Q defined by $a \odot b = a^2 + b^2$ for all $a, b \in Q$

(v) $'o'$ on Q defined by $a o b = (ab/2)$ for all $a, b \in Q$

(vi) $'*$ ' on Q defined by $a * b = ab^2$ for all $a, b \in Q$

(vii) $'*$ ' on Q defined by $a * b = a + ab$ for all $a, b \in Q$

(viii) $'*$ ' on R defined by $a * b = a + b - 7$ for all $a, b \in R$

(ix) $'*$ ' on Q defined by $a * b = (a - b)^2$ for all $a, b \in Q$

(x) '*' on \mathbb{Q} defined by $a * b = a b + 1$ for all $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$

(xi) '*' on \mathbb{N} defined by $a * b = a^b$ for all $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$

(xii) '*' on \mathbb{Z} defined by $a * b = a - b$ for all $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$

(xiii) '*' on \mathbb{Q} defined by $a * b = (ab/4)$ for all $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$

(xiv) '*' on \mathbb{Z} defined by $a * b = a + b - ab$ for all $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$

(xv) '*' on \mathbb{Q} defined by $a * b = \gcd(a, b)$ for all $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$

Q.9. If the binary operation \circ is defined by $a \circ b = a + b - ab$ on the set $\mathbb{Q} - \{-1\}$ of all rational numbers other than -1 , show that \circ is commutative on $\mathbb{Q} - \{-1\}$.

Q.10. Show that the binary operation $*$ on \mathbb{Z} defined by $a * b = 3a + 7b$ is not commutative?

Q.11. On the set \mathbb{Z} of integers a binary operation $*$ is defined by $a * b = ab + 1$ for all $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. Prove that $*$ is not associative on \mathbb{Z} .

ANSWER KEY

1.
 - (i) Thus, $*$ is a binary operation on \mathbb{N} .
 - (ii) Thus, $*$ is not a binary operation on \mathbb{Z}
 - (iii) Thus, there exist $a = 1$ and $b = 1$ such that $a * b \notin \mathbb{N}$
 - (iv) Thus, \times_6 is not a binary operation on S .
 - (v) Thus, \odot is a binary operation on \mathbb{N} .
 - (vii) So, $*$ is not a binary operation in \mathbb{Q} .
2.
 - (i) Thus, $*$ is not a binary operation on \mathbb{Z}^+ .
 - (ii) Thus, $*$ is a binary operation on \mathbb{R} .

- (iii) Thus, $*$ is a binary operation on R .
- (iv) Thus, $*$ is a binary operation on Z^+ .
- (v) Thus, $*$ is a binary operation on Z^+ .
- (vi) Thus, $*$ is a binary operation on R .
3. 7
4. Thus, $*$ is not a binary operation on $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$.
5. (i) $2 * 4 = \text{l.c.m.}(2, 4) = 4$
 $3 * 5 = \text{l.c.m.}(3, 5) = 15$
 $1 * 6 = \text{l.c.m.}(1, 6) = 6$
- (ii) Thus, $*$ is associative on N .
6. (i) Thus, $*$ is associative on N .
- (ii) Thus, $*$ is not associative on N
7. Thus, $*$ is associative on A
8. (i) Thus, $*$ is associative on Z .
- (ii) Thus, $*$ is not associative on N
- (iii) Thus, $*$ is not associative on Q
- (iv) Thus, \odot is not associative on Q .
- (v) Thus, \circ is associative on Q .
- (vi) Thus, $*$ is not associative on Q .
- (vii) Thus, $*$ is not associative on Q
- (viii) Thus, $*$ is associative on R .
- (ix) Thus, $*$ is not associative on Q .

- (x) Thus, $*$ is not associative on Q .
 - (xi) Thus, $*$ is not associative on N
 - (xii) Thus, $*$ is not associative on Z
 - (xiii) Thus, $*$ is associative on Q
 - (xiv) Thus, $*$ is associative on N
9. Thus, o is commutative on $Q - \{-1\}$
10. Thus, $*$ is not commutative on Z .