

Name. \_\_\_\_\_

1. The statement below is not always true for  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ . Give an example where it is false, and add a hypothesis on  $y$  that makes it a true statement.

“If  $x$  and  $y$  are nonzero real numbers and  $x > y$ , then  $(-1/x) > (-1/y)$ .”

Let  $x = 1$  and  $y = -1$ , they are both nonzero and  $x > y$ , however

$$(-1/x) = -1 < 1 = (-1/(-1)) = (-1/y).$$

If we add the hypothesis  $y > 0$  then the statement is true: start with  $x > y$ , because  $y > 0$ , it follows that  $x > y > 0$ . Thus  $xy > 0$  and we can divide both sides of the inequality  $x > y$  by  $xy$ , to get  $1/y > 1/x$ . Finally, multiplying by  $(-1)$  the inequality is reversed and we get  $(-1/x) > (-1/y)$ .

2. Let  $f$  be a function from  $\mathbb{R}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ . Without using words of negation, write a sentence that expresses the negation of the following statement:

“For all  $b \in \mathbb{R}$ , there is an  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $f(x) = b$ .”

There is a  $b \in \mathbb{R}$ , such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f(x) \neq b$ .

3. Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  and  $g : B \rightarrow C$  be injective functions on their respective domains. Prove that  $g \circ f : A \rightarrow C$  is an injection.

Let  $h = g \circ f$  and suppose that  $h(c_1) = h(c_2)$ . Thus  $g(f(c_1)) = g(f(c_2))$  and because  $g$  is injective, it follows that  $f(c_1) = f(c_2)$ , but  $f$  is injective too, so it follows that  $c_1 = c_2$ . Therefore  $h$  is injective.

4. Let  $P(x)$  be the assertion “ $x$  is odd”, and let  $Q(x)$  be the assertion “ $x^2 - 1$  is even”. Consider the following statements:

(a)  $(\forall x \in \mathbb{Z})[P(x) \Rightarrow Q(x)]$ .

(b)  $(\forall x \in \mathbb{Z})[Q(x) \Rightarrow P(x)]$ .

Prove that both (a) and (b) are true. Hint for part (b): Use the contrapositive.

(a). Let  $x$  be an odd number, then there is  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , such that  $x = 2k + 1$ . It follows that  $x^2 - 1 = (2k + 1)^2 - 1 = 4k^2 + 4k = 2(2k^2 + 2k)$ . Therefore  $x^2 - 1$  is even.

(b). We prove the contrapositive. Suppose  $\neg P(x)$  is true, that is  $x$  is not an odd integer. Then  $x$  is even and there is  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $x = 2k$ . It follows that  $x^2 - 1 = 4k^2 - 1 = 2(2k^2) - 1$  is odd, so  $\neg Q(x)$  is true.

5. Determine the set of natural numbers  $n$  for which the inequality  $3^n > 2n^3$  holds.

The answer is  $\{1\} \cup \{n \in \mathbb{N} : n \geq 6\}$ , or  $\mathbb{N} - \{2, 3, 4, 5\}$ . If  $n = 1$ , then  $3^n = 3 > 2 = 2n^3$ . If  $n = 2$ , then  $3^n = 9 < 16 = 2n^3$ . If  $n = 3$ , then  $3^n = 3^3 = 27 < 54 = 2n^3$ . If  $n = 4$ , then  $3^n = 81 < 128 = 2n^3$ . If  $n = 5$ , then  $3^n = 3^5 = 243 < 250 = 2n^3$ . Finally, if  $n \geq 6$  the statement is always true and we prove it by induction on  $n$ . If  $n = 6$ , then  $3^n = 729 > 532 = 2n^3$ . Suppose by induction hypothesis that  $3^n > 2n^3$  for some  $n \geq 6$ . Multiplying both sides by 3 we get

$$3^{n+1} = 3 \cdot 3^n > 6n^3 = 2n^3 + 4n^3.$$

because  $n \geq 6$ , then  $4n^3 = n(4n^2) \geq 6 \cdot 4n^2 = 24n^2$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} 3^{n+1} &= 3 \cdot 3^n > 6n^3 = 2n^3 + 4n^3 \\ &\geq 2n^3 + 24n^2 = 2(n^3 + 12n^2) = 2(n^3 + 3n^2 + 3n^2 + n^2 + 5n^2) \\ &> 2(n^3 + 3n^2 + 3n + 1) = 2(n+1)^3, \end{aligned}$$

which proves the statement by induction. Note that  $n^2 \geq n \geq 1$  for every positive integer  $n$ .

6. Let  $\langle a \rangle$  be a recursive sequence defined by  $a_1 = 0$ ,  $a_2 = 2$ , and  $a_n = 4a_{n-1} - 3a_{n-2}$  for any integer  $n \geq 3$ . Prove that  $a_n = 3^{n-1} - 1$  for all natural numbers. Hint: Use strong induction.

If  $n = 1$ , then  $a_1 = 0 = 3^0 - 1$ . If  $n = 2$ , then  $a_2 = 2 = 3^1 - 1$ . Assume by induction hypothesis that  $n \geq 2$  and for every  $k < n$  we have that  $a_k = 3^{k-1} - 1$ . Then by definition,

$$a_n = 4a_{n-1} - 3a_{n-2}.$$

Noting that  $n-1$  and  $n-2$  are both less than  $n$  and at least 0, we apply the induction hypothesis to  $a_{n-1}$  and  $a_{n-2}$ , that is  $a_{n-1} = 3^{n-2} - 1$  and  $a_{n-2} = 3^{n-3} - 1$ . It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= 4(3^{n-2} - 1) - 3(3^{n-3} - 1) \\ &= 4 \cdot 3^{n-2} - 4 - 3 \cdot 3^{n-3} + 3 \\ &= 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 3^{n-3} - 3 \cdot 3^{n-3} - 1 \\ &= 3^{n-3}(12 - 3) - 1 = 3^{n-3} \cdot 9 - 1 = 3^{n-3} \cdot 3^2 - 1 = 3^{n-1} - 1. \end{aligned}$$

Thus the result is true by induction.

7. A clerk returns 10 hats to 10 people who have checked them, but not necessarily in the right order. For which  $k$  is it possible that exactly  $k$  people get a wrong hat? Prove your answer.

The answer is for any  $k$ ,  $2 \leq k \leq 10$  or  $k = 0$ . First we argue that  $k = 1$  is impossible. Indeed, if everyone except perhaps person  $p$  has the right hat, then there are 9 people

which have the right hat. This leaves only one remaining hat which has to be the hat of person  $p$ , which means that  $p$  actually has the correct hat. Let  $p_1, \dots, p_{10}$  denote the 10 people and  $h_1, \dots, h_{10}$  their corresponding hats. To see that the other values are possible consider the following assignments for every  $k \geq 2$ : first  $p_1$  gets  $h_k$ , second, if  $2 \leq i \leq k$ , then  $p_i$  gets  $h_{i-1}$ , and last, if  $k+1 \leq i \leq 10$ , then  $p_i$  gets  $h_i$ . In this assignment exactly the persons  $p_1, \dots, p_k$  get the wrong hats. Finally, it is possible that every person receives his/her own hat and  $k = 0$ .

8. Let  $f : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  be defined as  $f(a, b) = ab(a+b)/2$ . Prove that  $f$  is not a surjection. Hint: look for a small natural number which is not in the image set.

Suppose  $f(a, b) = 2$ . It follows that

$$\frac{ab(a+b)}{2} = 2$$

for some  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ . Thus  $ab(a+b) = 4$ . But, if  $a$  and  $b$  are at least 2, then  $a \geq 2$ ,  $b \geq 2$ , and  $a+b \geq 4$ . It follows that  $ab(a+b) \geq 16$ . If  $a = 1$  and  $b \geq 2$ , then  $a+b \geq 3$  and thus  $ab(a+b) \geq 6$ . The only remaining pair is  $(a, b) = (1, 1)$ , and in that case  $ab(a+b) = 2$ . Thus there are no pairs  $(a, b)$  of natural numbers such that  $f(a, b) = 2$ . Therefore  $f$  is not a surjective function.