Group Members:

(1) From Theorem 4.1, prove the following Corollary 1: For any group element a,  $|a| = |\langle a \rangle|$ . (Treat finite and infinite order cases separately.)

(2) From Theorem 4.1, prove the following Corollary 2: Let G be a group and let a be an element of order  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  in G. If  $a^k = e$ , then n divides k.

## Break.

**Theorem 4.2**  $\langle a^k \rangle = \langle a^{\gcd(n,k)} \rangle$ . Let *a* be an element of order *n* in a group and let *k* be a positive integer. Then  $\langle a^k \rangle = \langle a^{\gcd(n,k)} \rangle$  and  $|a^k| = n/\gcd(n,k)$ .

- (3) Prove in steps the following Corollary 1 to Theorem 4.2. Criterion for  $\langle a^i \rangle = \langle a^j \rangle$ .
- Let |a| = n. Then  $\langle a^i \rangle = \langle a^j \rangle$  iff gcd(n, i) = gcd(n, j).
- (a) First, use Theorem 4.2 to argue that this is equivalent to the statement that  $\langle a^{\gcd(i,n)} \rangle = \langle a^{\gcd(j,n)} \rangle$  iff  $\gcd(n,i) = \gcd(n,j)$ .
- (b) Second, figure out which direction is the easy direction and prove it.
- (c) Third, use Theorem 4.2 to resolve the harder direction.

(4) Prove the following Corollary 2 of Theorem 4.2. Generators of Cyclic Groups. Let  $G = \langle a \rangle$  be a cyclic group of order n. Then  $G = \langle a^k \rangle$  iff gcd(n,k) = 1. (There are two directions to prove.)

(5) How does the following Corollary 3 of Theorem 4.2 follow very easily? Generators of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ . An integer k in  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  is a generator of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  iff gcd(n,k) = 1.

## Break.

## Theorem 4.3 Fundamental Theorem of Cyclic Groups.

Every subgroup of a cyclic group is cyclic. Moreover, if  $|\langle a \rangle| = n$ , then the order of any subgroup of  $\langle a \rangle$  is a divisor of n; and, for each positive divisor k of n, the group  $\langle a \rangle$  has exactly one subgroup of order k namely,  $\langle a^{n/k} \rangle$ .