

1. Suppose  $x^n = x^{n+k}$ . Then  $x^n x^k = x^n$ , so multiplying by  $x^{-n}$  gives  $x^k = e$ .  
Conversely, suppose  $x^k = e$ . Then  $x^{n+k} = x^n x^k = x^n e = x^n$ .
2. Suppose  $G$  is finite. Let  $x \in G$ . Then the elements  $x^n$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  cannot all be different, so there exist  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $n < m$  and  $x^n = x^m$ . Since  $n < m$ , there is some  $k$  with  $n + k = m$ . Then  $x^n + k = x^n$ , so  $x^k = e$  by the previous question.
3. We must check that  $e \in \langle x \rangle$ , that if  $g, h \in \langle x \rangle$  then  $gh \in \langle x \rangle$ , and that if  $g \in \langle x \rangle$  then  $g^{-1} \in \langle x \rangle$ .
  - $e = x^0 \in \langle x \rangle$ .
  - if  $g, h \in \langle x \rangle$  then  $g = x^n, h = x^m$  for some  $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$ . But then  $gh = x^{m+n} \in \langle x \rangle$ .
  - if  $g \in \langle x \rangle$  then  $g = x^n$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , so  $g^{-1} = (x^n)^{-1} = x^{-n} \in \langle x \rangle$ .

4. Suppose that  $x^n = e$ . Put  $k = o(x)$ . Divide  $n$  into  $k$ , to get  $n = qk + r$  where  $0 \leq r < k$ . Now, we have

$$e = x^n = x^{qk+r} = x^{qk} x^r = (x^k)^q x^r = e^q x^r = x^r,$$

so  $x^r = e$ . Since  $k$  was the least natural number with  $x^k = e$ , and  $r < k$ , we must have  $r = 0$ , so  $n = qk$ , so  $k \mid n$ .

5. We wish to know how many distinct values  $x^n$  can take. Well, we have

$$\begin{aligned} x^n = x^m &\iff x^{n-m} = e \\ &\iff o(x) \mid n - m \\ &\iff n \equiv m \pmod{o(x)}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus the number of distinct values is the same as the number of congruence classes modulo  $o(x)$ , which is precisely  $o(x)$ .

From Question 3, we know that  $\langle x \rangle$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , so by Lagrang's Theorem  $|\langle x \rangle| \mid o(G)$ , so since  $|\langle x \rangle| = o(x)$  we have  $o(x) \mid o(G)$ .