Miscellaneous Exercise

Question 1:

Let $f: \mathbf{R} \to \mathbf{R}$ be defined as f(x) = 10x + 7. Find the function $g: \mathbf{R} \to \mathbf{R}$ such that $g \circ f = f \circ g = I_{\mathbf{R}}$.

Answer 1:

It is given that $f: \mathbf{R} \to \mathbf{R}$ is defined as f(x) = 10x + 7.

For one – one

Let f(x) = f(y), where $x, y \in \mathbf{R}$.

$$\Rightarrow 10x + 7 = 10y + 7$$

$$\Rightarrow x = y$$

 \therefore f is a one – one function.

For onto

For $y \in \mathbf{R}$, let y = 10x + 7.

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{y - 7}{10} \in \mathbf{R}$$

Therefore, for any $y \in \mathbb{R}$, there exists $x = \frac{y-7}{10} \in \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$f(x) = f\left(\frac{y-7}{10}\right) = 10\left(\frac{y-7}{10}\right) + 7 = y - 7 + 7 = y$$

 \therefore f is onto.

Therefore, f is one – one and onto.

Thus, f is an invertible function.

Let us define
$$g: \mathbf{R} \to \mathbf{R}$$
 as $g(y) = \frac{y-7}{10}$

Now, we have

$$gof(x) = g(f(x)) = g(10x + 7) = \frac{(10x + 7) - 7}{10} = \frac{10x}{10} = x$$

and

$$fog(y) = f(g(y)) = f(\frac{y-7}{10}) = 10(\frac{y-7}{10}) + 7 = y-7+7 = y$$

$$\therefore g \circ f = I_R \text{ and } f \circ g = I_R.$$

Hence, the required function $g: \mathbf{R} \to \mathbf{R}$ is defined as $g(y) = \frac{y-7}{10}$.

Question 2:

Let $f: W \to W$ be defined as f(n) = n - 1, if is odd and f(n) = n + 1, if n is even. Show that f is invertible. Find the inverse of f. Here, W is the set of all whole numbers.

Answer 2:

It is given that:

$$f: W \to W$$
 is defined as $f(n) = \begin{cases} n-1, & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \\ n+1, & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \end{cases}$

For one – one

Let
$$f(n) = f(m)$$
.

It can be observed that if n is odd and m is even, then we will have n-1=m+1.

$$\Rightarrow n - m = 2$$

However, this is impossible.

Similarly, the possibility of n being even and m being odd can also be ignored under a similar argument.

 \therefore Both n and m must be either odd or even. Now, if both n and m are odd,

Then, we have

$$f(n) = f(m)$$

$$\Rightarrow n-1=m-1$$

$$\Rightarrow n = m$$

Again, if both n and m are even,

Then, we have

$$f(n) = f(m)$$

$$\Rightarrow n + 1 = m + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow n = m$$

 $\therefore f$ is one – one.

For onto

It is clear that any odd number 2r + 1 in co-domain N is the image of 2r in domain

N and any even number 2r in co-domain N is the image of 2r + 1 in domain N.

 \therefore f is onto.

Hence, f is an invertible function.

Let us define
$$g: W \to W$$
 as $g(m) = \begin{cases} m+1, & \text{if } m \text{ is even} \\ m-1, & \text{if } m \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$

Now, when n is odd

$$gof(n) = g(f(n)) = g(n-1) = n-1+1 = n$$
 and

When *n* is even

$$gof(n) = g(f(n)) = g(n+1) = n+1-1 = n$$

Similarly,

When m is odd

$$fog(m) = f(g(m)) = f(m-1) = m-1+1 = m$$
 and

When m is even

$$fog(m) = f(g(m)) = f(m+1) = m+1-1 = m$$

$$\therefore gof = I_W \text{ and } fog = I_W$$

Thus, f is invertible and the inverse of f is given by $f^{-1} = g$, which is the same as f. Hence, the inverse of f is f itself.

Question 3:

If $f: \mathbf{R} \to \mathbf{R}$ is defined by $f(x) = x^2 - 3x + 2$, find f(f(x)).

Answer 3:

It is given that $f: \mathbf{R} \to \mathbf{R}$ is defined as $f(x) = x^2 - 3x + 2$.

$$f(f(x)) = f(x^2 - 3x + 2)$$

$$= (x^2 - 3x + 2)^2 - 3(x^2 - 3x + 2) + 2$$

$$= (x^4 + 9x^2 + 4 - 6x^3 - 12x + 4x^2) + (-3x^2 + 9x - 6) + 2$$

$$= x^4 - 6x^3 + 10x^2 - 3x$$

Question 4:

Show that function $f: \mathbf{R} \to \{x \in \mathbf{R}: -1 < x < 1\}$ defined by $f(x) = \frac{x}{1+|x|}$, $x \in \mathbf{R}$ is one – one and onto function.

Answer 4:

It is given that $f: \mathbf{R} \to \{x \in \mathbf{R}: -1 < x < 1\}$ is defined as $f(x) = \frac{x}{1+|x|}, x \in \mathbf{R}$.

For one – one

Suppose f(x) = f(y), where $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$. VEFT

$$\Rightarrow \frac{x}{1+|x|} = \frac{y}{1+|y|}$$

It can be observed that if x is positive and y is negative,

Then, we have

$$\frac{x}{1+x} = \frac{y}{1-y} \Rightarrow 2xy = x - y$$

Since, x is positive and y is negative

$$x > y \Rightarrow x - y > 0$$

But, 2xy is negative.

Then $2xy \neq x - y$

Thus, the case of x being positive and y being negative can be ruled out.

Under a similar argument, x being negative and y being positive can also be ruled out.

x and y have to be either positive or negative.

When x and y are both positive, we have

$$f(x) = f(y) \Rightarrow \frac{x}{1+x} = \frac{y}{1+y} \Rightarrow x + xy = y + xy \Rightarrow x = y$$

When x and y are both negative, we have

$$f(x) = f(y) \Rightarrow \frac{x}{1-x} = \frac{y}{1-y} \Rightarrow x - xy = y - xy \Rightarrow x = y$$

 $\therefore f$ is one – one.

For onto

Now, let $y \in \mathbf{R}$ such that -1 < y < 1.

If y is negative, then, there exists $x = \frac{y}{1+y} \in \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$f(x) = f\left(\frac{y}{1+y}\right) = \frac{\left(\frac{y}{1+y}\right)}{1+\left|\frac{y}{1+y}\right|} = \frac{\frac{y}{1+y}}{1+\left(\frac{-y}{1+y}\right)} = \frac{y}{1+y-y} = y$$

If y is positive, then, there exists $x = \frac{y}{1-y} \in \mathbf{R}$ such that

$$f(x) = f\left(\frac{y}{1-y}\right) = \frac{\left(\frac{y}{1-y}\right)}{1+\left|\frac{y}{1-y}\right|} = \frac{\frac{y}{1-y}}{1+\left(\frac{y}{1-y}\right)} = \frac{y}{1-y+y} = y$$

 $\therefore f$ is onto.

Hence, f is one – one and onto.

Question 5:

Show that the function $f: \mathbf{R} \to \mathbf{R}$ given by $f(x) = x^3$ is injective.

Answer 5:

 $f: \mathbf{R} \to \mathbf{R}$ is given as $f(x) = x^3$.

For one – one

Suppose f(x) = f(y), where $x, y \in \mathbf{R}$.

$$\Rightarrow x^3 = y^3 \dots (1)$$

Now, we need to show that x = y.

Suppose $x \neq y$, their cubes will also not be equal.

$$\Rightarrow x^3 \neq y^3$$

However, this will be a contradiction to (1).

$$\therefore x = y$$

Hence, f is injective.

Question 6:

Give examples of two functions $f: \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{Z}$ and $g: \mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Z}$ such that g of is injective but g is not injective.

(Hint: Consider f(x) = x and g(x) = |x|)

Answer 6:

Define $f: \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{Z}$ as f(x) = x and $g: \mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Z}$ as g(x) = |x|.

We first show that g is not injective.

It can be observed that

$$g(-1) = |-1| = 1$$

$$g(1) = |1| = 1$$

∴
$$g(-1) = g(1)$$
, but $-1 \neq 1$.

 \therefore g is not injective.

Now, g of: $\mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{Z}$ is defined as $g \circ f(x) = g(f(x)) = g(x) = |x|$.

Let $x, y \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $g \circ f(x) = g \circ f(y)$.

$$\Rightarrow |x| = |y|$$

Since x and $y \in \mathbb{N}$, both are positive.

$$|x| = |y| \Rightarrow x = y$$

Hence, gof is injective

Question 7:

Given examples of two functions $f: \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ and $g: \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ such that g of is onto but f is not onto.

(Hint: Consider
$$f(x) = x + 1$$
 and $g(x) = \begin{cases} x - 1, & \text{if } x > 1 \\ 1, & \text{if } x = 1 \end{cases}$

Answer 7:

Define $f: \mathbf{N} \to \mathbf{N}$ by f(x) = x + 1

and
$$g: \mathbf{N} \to \mathbf{N}$$
 by $g(x) = \begin{cases} x - 1, & \text{if } x > 1 \\ 1, & \text{if } x = 1 \end{cases}$

We first show that g is not onto.

For this, consider element 1 in co-domain **N**. It is clear that this element is not an image of any of the elements in domain **N**.

 $\therefore f$ is not onto.

Now, gof:
$$\mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$$
 is defined by $gof(x) = g(f(x)) = g(x+1) = x+1-1 = x$ $[x \in \mathbb{N} \Rightarrow x+1 > 1]$

Then, it is clear that for $y \in \mathbb{N}$, there exists $x = y \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $g \circ f(x) = y$.

Hence, *g*o*f* is onto.

Question 8:

Given a non-empty set X, consider P(X) which is the set of all subsets of X.

Define the relation R in P(X) as follows:

For subsets A, B in P(X), ARB if and only if $A \subseteq B$. Is R an equivalence relation on P(X)? Justify you answer.

Answer 8:

Since every set is a subset of itself, ARA for all $A \in P(X)$.

∴ R is reflexive.

Let $ARB \Rightarrow A \subset B$.

This cannot be implied to $B \subseteq A$.

For instance, if $A = \{1, 2\}$ and $B = \{1, 2, 3\}$, then it cannot be implied that B is related to A.

∴ R is not symmetric.

Further, if ARB and BRC, then $A \subseteq B$ and $B \subseteq C$.

 $\Rightarrow A \subset C$

 $\Rightarrow ARC$

∴ R is transitive.

Hence, R is not an equivalence relation as it is not symmetric.

Question 9:

Given a non-empty set X, consider the binary operation *: $P(X) \times P(X) \to P(X)$ given by $A * B = A \cap B \forall A, B$ in P(X) is the power set of X. Show that X is the identity element for this operation and X is the only invertible element in P(X) with respect to the operation*.

Answer 9:

It is given the binary operation *:

$$P(X) \times P(X) \rightarrow P(X)$$
 given by $A * B = A \cap B \forall A, B \text{ in } P(X)$

We know that $A \cap X = A = X \cap A$ for all $A \in P(X)$

$$\Rightarrow A * X = A = X * A \text{ for all } A \in P(X) \text{ tional } S_A$$

Thus, *X* is the identity element for the given binary operation *.

Now, an element $A \in P(X)$ is invertible if there exists $B \in P(X)$ such that

$$A * B = X = B * A$$

[As X is the identity element]

or

$$A \cap B = X = B \cap A$$

This case is possible only when A = X = B.

Thus, X is the only invertible element in P(X) with respect to the given operation*. Hence, the given result is proved.

Question 10:

Find the number of all onto functions from the set $\{1, 2, 3, ..., n\}$ to itself.

Answer 10:

Onto functions from the set $\{1, 2, 3, ..., n\}$ to itself is simply a permutation on n symbols 1, 2, ..., n.

Thus, the total number of onto maps from $\{1, 2, ..., n\}$ to itself is the same as the total number of permutations on n symbols 1, 2, ..., n, which is n.

Question 11:

Let $S = \{a, b, c\}$ and $T = \{1, 2, 3\}$. Find F^{-1} of the following functions F from S to T, if it exists.

(i)
$$F = \{(a, 3), (b, 2), (c, 1)\}$$

(ii)
$$F = \{(a, 2), (b, 1), (c, 1)\}$$

Answer 11:

$$S = \{a, b, c\}, T = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

(i) F:
$$S \to T$$
 is defined as $F = \{(a, 3), (b, 2), (c, 1)\}$

$$\Rightarrow$$
 F (a) = 3, F (b) = 2, F(c) = 1

Therefore, F^{-1} : $T \to S$ is given by $F^{-1} = \{(3, a), (2, b), (1, c)\}.$

(ii) F:
$$S \to T$$
 is defined as $F = \{(a, 2), (b, 1), (c, 1)\}$

Since F(b) = F(c) = 1, F is not one – one.

Hence, F is not invertible i.e., F^{-1} does not exist.

Question 12:

Consider the binary operations *: $\mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R} \to \mathbf{R}$ and o: $\mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R} \to \mathbf{R}$ defined as a * b = |a - b| and $a \circ b = a$, $\forall a, b \in \mathbf{R}$. Show that * is commutative but not associative, o is associative but not commutative. Further, show that $\forall a, b, c \in \mathbf{R}$, $a*(b \circ c) = (a * b) \circ (a * c)$. [If it is so, we say that the operation * distributes over the operation o]. Does o distribute over *? Justify your answer.

Answer 12:

It is given that *: $\mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R} \to \text{and o: } \mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R} \to \mathbf{R} \text{ is defined as } a * b = |a - b| \text{ and } a \circ b = a, \ \forall \ a, \ b \in \mathbf{R}$

For $a, b \in \mathbf{R}$, we have

$$a * b = |a - b|$$
 and $b * a = |b - a| = |-(a - b)| = |a - b|$
 $\therefore a * b = b * a$

Hence, the operation * is commutative.

It can be observed that

$$(1*2)*3 = (|1-2|)*3 = 1*3 = |1-3| = 2$$

and

$$1 * (2 * 3) = 1 * (|2 - 3|) = 1 * 1 = |1 - 1| = 0$$

$$(1*2)*3 \neq 1*(2*3)$$
 where $1, 2, 3 \in \mathbf{R}$.

Hence, the operation * is not associative.

Now, consider the operation o

It can be observed that 1 o 2 = 1 and 2 o 1 = 2.

$$\therefore$$
 1 o 2 \neq 2 o 1 where 1, 2 \in **R.**

Hence, the operation o is not commutative.

Let $a, b, c \in \mathbf{R}$. Then, we have

$$(a \circ b) \circ c = a \circ c = a$$

and

$$a \circ (b \circ c) = a \circ b = a$$

$$\therefore a \circ b) \circ c = a \circ (b \circ c)$$
, where $a, b, c \in \mathbf{R}$

Hence, the operation o is associative.

Now, let $a, b, c \in \mathbf{R}$, then we have

$$a * (b \circ c) = a * b = |a - b|$$

$$(a * b) \circ (a * c) = (|a - b|)o(|a - c|) = |a - b|$$

Hence,
$$a * (b \circ c) = (a * b) \circ (a * c)$$
.

Now.

$$1 \circ (2 * 3) = 1 \circ (|2 - 3|) = 1 \circ 1 = 1$$

$$(1 \circ 2) * (1 \circ 3) = 1 * 1 = |1 - 1| = 0$$

$$\therefore$$
 1 o (2 * 3) \neq (1 o 2) * (1 o 3) where 1, 2, 3 \in **R**

Hence, the operation o does not distribute over *.

Question 13:

Given a non-empty set X, let *: $P(X) \times P(X) \rightarrow P(X)$ be defined as A * B = $(A-B) \cup (B-A), \forall A, B \in P(X)$. Show that the empty set Φ is the identity for the operation * and all the elements A of P(X) are invertible with $A^{-1} = A$.

(Hint:
$$(A - \Phi) \cup (\Phi - A) = A$$
 and $(A - A) \cup (A - A) = A * A = \Phi$).

Answer 13:

It is given that *: $P(X) \times P(X) \rightarrow P(X)$ is defined

as
$$A * B = (A - B) \cup (B - A) \forall A, B \in P(X)$$
.

Let $A \in P(X)$. Then, we have

Let
$$A \in P(X)$$
. Then, we have $A * \Phi = (A - \Phi) \cup (\Phi - A) = A \cup \Phi = A$

$$\Phi * A = (\Phi - A) \cup (A - \Phi) = \Phi \cup A = A$$

$$A * \Phi = A = \Phi * A \text{ for all } A \in P(X)$$

Thus, Φ is the identity element for the given operation*.

Now, an element $A \in P(X)$ will be invertible if there exists $B \in P(X)$ such that

$$A * B = \Phi = B * A.$$

[As Φ is the identity element]

Now, we observed that

$$A * A = (A - A) \cup (A - A) = \Phi \cup \Phi = \Phi \text{ for all } A \in P(X).$$

Hence, all the elements A of P(X) are invertible with $A^{-1} = A$.

Question 14:

Define a binary operation *on the set $\{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ as

$$a * b = \begin{cases} a + b, & \text{if } a + b < 6 \\ a + b - 6, & \text{if } a + b \ge 6 \end{cases}$$

Show that zero is the identity for this operation and each element $a \neq 0$ of the set is invertible with 6 - a being the inverse of a.

Answer 14:

Let $X = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}.$

The operation * on X is defined as $a * b = \begin{cases} a + b, & \text{if } a + b < 6 \\ a + b - 6, & \text{if } a + b \ge 6 \end{cases}$

An element $e \in X$ is the identity element for the operation *, if

$$a * e = a = e * a$$
 for all $a \in X$

For $a \in X$, we have

$$a * 0 = a + 0 = a$$

$$[a \in X \Rightarrow a + 0 < 6]$$

$$0 * a = 0 + a = a$$

$$[a \in X \Rightarrow 0 + a < 6]$$

$$\therefore a * 0 = a = 0 * a \text{ for all } a \in X$$

Thus, 0 is the identity element for the given operation *.

An element $a \in X$ is invertible if there exists $b \in X$ such that a * b = 0 = b * a.

i.e.,
$$\begin{cases} a+b=0=b+a, & if \ a+b < 6 \\ a+b-6=0=b+a-6, & if \ a+b \ge 6 \end{cases}$$

 $\Rightarrow a=-b \text{ or } b=6-a$

But, $X = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ and $a, b \in X$. Then, $a \neq -b$.

b = 6 - a is the inverse of a for all $a \in X$.

Hence, the inverse of an element $a \in X$, $a \ne 0$ is 6 - a i.e., $a^{-1} = 6 - a$.

Question 15:

Let $A = \{-1, 0, 1, 2\}$, $B = \{-4, -2, 0, 2\}$ and $f, g: A \to B$ be functions defined by $f(x) = x^2 - x$, $x \in A$ and $g(x) = 2 \left| x - \frac{1}{2} \right| - 1$, $x \in A$. Are f and g equal? Justify your answer. (Hint: One may note that two function $f: A \to B$ and $g: A \to B$ such that $f(a) = g(a) \ \forall \ a \in A$, are called equal functions).

Answer 15:

It is given that $A = \{-1, 0, 1, 2\}, B = \{-4, -2, 0, 2\}.$

Also, it is given that $f, g: A \rightarrow B$ are defined by

$$f(x) = x^2 - x, x \in A \text{ and } g(x) = 2 \left| x - \frac{1}{2} \right| - 1, x \in A$$

It is observed that

$$f(-1) = (-1)^2 - (-1) = 1 + 1 = 2$$
and $g(-1) = 2 \left| (-1) - \frac{1}{2} \right| - 1 = 2 \left(\frac{3}{2} \right) - 1 = 3 - 1 = 2$

$$\Rightarrow f(-1) = g(-1)$$

$$f(0) = (0)^{2} - (0) = 0$$
and $g(0) = 2 \left| 0 - \frac{1}{2} \right| - 1 = 2 \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) - 1 = 1 - 1 = 0$

$$\Rightarrow f(0) = g(0)$$

$$f(1) = (1)^{2} - (1) = 1 - 1 = 0$$
and $g(1) = 2 \left| (1) - \frac{1}{2} \right| - 1 = 2 \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) - 1 = 1 - 1 = 0$

$$\Rightarrow f(1) = g(1)$$

$$f(2) = (2)^{2} - (2) = 4 - 2 = 2$$
And $g(2) = 2 \left| (2) - \frac{1}{2} \right| - 1 = 2 \left(\frac{3}{2} \right) - 1 = 3 - 1 = 2$

$$\Rightarrow f(2) = g(2)$$

$$\therefore f(a) = g(a) \text{ for all } a \in A$$

Hence, the functions f and g are equal.

Question 16:

Let $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$. Then number of relations containing (1, 2) and (1, 3) which are reflexive and symmetric but not transitive is

- (A) 1
- (B) 2
- (C) 3
- (D) 4

Answer 16:

The given set is $A = \{1, 2, 3\}.$

The smallest relation containing (1, 2) and (1, 3) which is reflexive and symmetric, but not transitive is given by:

$$R = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3), (1, 2), (1, 3), (2, 1), (3, 1)\}$$

This is because relation R is reflexive as $(1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3) \in R$.

Relation R is symmetric since $(1, 2), (2, 1) \in \mathbb{R}$ and $(1, 3), (3, 1) \in \mathbb{R}$.

But relation R is not transitive as (3, 1), $(1, 2) \in R$, but $(3, 2) \notin R$.

Now, if we add any two pairs (3, 2) and (2, 3) (or both) to relation R, then relation R will become transitive.

Hence, the total number of desired relations is one.

The correct answer is A.

Question 17:

Let $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$. Then number of equivalence relations containing (1, 2) is

- (A) 1
- (B) 2
- (C) 3
- (D) 4

Answer 17:

It is given that $A = \{1, 2, 3\}.$

The smallest equivalence relation containing (1, 2) is given by,

$$R_1 = \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3), (1, 2), (2, 1)\}$$

Now, we are left with only four pairs i.e., (2, 3), (3, 2), (1, 3), and (3, 1).

If we odd any one pair [say (2, 3)] to R_1 , then for symmetry we must add (3, 2).

Also, for transitivity we are required to add (1, 3) and (3, 1).

Hence, the only equivalence relation (bigger than R_1) is the universal relation.

This shows that the total number of equivalence relations containing (1, 2) is two.

The correct answer is B.

Question 18:

Let
$$f: \mathbf{R} \to \mathbf{R}$$
 be the Signum Function defined as $f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x > 0 \\ 0, & x = 0 \\ -1, & x < 1 \end{cases}$

and $g: \mathbf{R} \to \mathbf{R}$ be the Greatest Integer Function given by g(x) = [x], where [x] is greatest integer less than or equal to x. Then does fog and gof coincide in (0, 1]?

Answer 18:

It is given that,
$$f: \mathbf{R} \to \mathbf{R} \text{ is defined as } f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x > 0 \\ 0, & x = 0 \\ -1, & x < 1 \end{cases}$$

Also, $g: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ is defined as g(x) = [x], where [x] is the greatest integer less than or equal to x.

Now, let $x \in (0, 1]$.

Then, we have

$$[x] = 1$$
 if $x = 1$ and $[x] = 0$ if $0 \le x \le 1$.

$$f \circ g(x) = f(g(x)) = f([x]) = \begin{cases} f(1), & \text{if } x = 1 \\ f(0), & \text{if } x \in (0, 1) \end{cases}$$
$$= \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } x = 1 \\ 0, & \text{if } x \in (0, 1) \end{cases}$$
$$g \circ f(x) = g(f(x)) = g(1) \qquad [as x > 0]$$
$$= [1] = 1$$

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Thus, when $x \in (0, 1)$, we have $f \circ g(x) = 0$ and $g \circ f(x) = 1$. Hence, $f \circ g$ and $g \circ f$ do not coincide in (0, 1].

Question 19:

Number of binary operations on the set $\{a, b\}$ are

- (A) 10
- (B) 16
- (C) 20
- (D) 8

Answer 19:

A binary operation * on $\{a, b\}$ is a function from $\{a, b\} \times \{a, b\} \rightarrow \{a, b\}$ i.e., * is a function from $\{(a, a), (a, b), (b, a), (b, b)\} \rightarrow \{a, b\}$.

Hence, the total number of binary operations on the set $\{a,b\}$ is 2^4 i.e., 16.

The correct answer is B.