Euclid Geometry Exercise -1

Question 1:
Which of the following statements are true and which are false? Give reasons for your answers.
(i) Only one line can pass through a single point.
(ii) There are an infinite number of lines which pass through two distinct points.
(iii) A terminated line can be produced indefinitely on both the sides.
(iv) If two circles are equal, then their radii are equal.
(v) In below figure, if AB = PQ and PQ = XY, then AB = XY.

Solution:
i) False. Since through a single point, infinite number of lines can pass.
ii) False. Since through two distinct points, only one line can pass.
iii) True. A terminated line can be produced indefinitely on both the sides.
(iv) True. If two circles are equal, then their centre and circumference will coincide and hence, the radii will also be equal.
v) True. It is given that AB and XY are two terminated lines and both are equal to a third line PQ. Euclid’s first axiom states that things which are equal to the same thing are equal to one another. Therefore, the lines AB and XY will be equal to each other.

Question 2:
Give a definition for each of the following terms. Are there other terms that need to be defined first? What are they, and how might you define them?

i) parallel lines
ii) perpendicular lines
iii) line segment
iv) radius of a circle
v) square

Solution:
i) Parallel Lines:
If the perpendicular distance between two lines is always constant, these are called parallel lines. In other words we may say that the lines which never intersect each other are called parallel lines. To define parallel line, we must know about point, lines and distance between lines and point of intersection.
The definitions of line, point, plane explained by Euclid is not accepted by the Mathematician. So these terms are taken as undefined.

(ii) Perpendicular lines:
If two lines intersect each other at 90°, these are called perpendicular lines. We need to define line and the angle before defining perpendicular lines.

(iii) Line segment:
A straight line drawn from any point to any other point is called as line segment. To define line segment, we must know about point and line segment.

(iv) Radius of a circle:
It is the distance between the centre of a circle to any point lying on the circle. To define radius of circle, we must know about point and circle.

(v) Square:
A square is a quadrilateral having all sides of equal length and all angles of same measure i.e. 90°. To define square, we must know about quadrilateral, side, and angle.

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Question 3
Consider two ‘postulates’ given below:
(i) Given any two distinct points A and B, there exists a third point C which is in between A and B.
(ii) There exist at least three points that are not on the same line.
Do these postulates contain any undefined terms? Are these postulates consistent?
Do they follow from Euclid’s postulates? Explain.

Solution
There are various undefined terms in the given postulates.
The given postulates are consistent because they refer to two different situations. Also, it is impossible
to deduce any statement that contradicts any well-known axiom and postulate.
These postulates do not follow from Euclid’s postulates. They follow from the axiom, “Given two distinct
points, there is a unique line that passes through them”.

Question 4:
If a point C lies between two points A and B such that AC = BC, then prove that
AC = 1/2AB. Explain by drawing the figure.

Solution:
Given that from question
AC = BC

We add equals on both sides
AC + AC = BC + AC   ... (a)

Here, (BC + AC) coincides with AB. We know that things which coincide with one another are equal to
one another.
BC + AC = AB        ... (b)
We know that things which are equal to the same thing are equal to one another. So, from equation (a)
and equation (b), we have
AC + AC = AB
2AC = AB
AC = 1/2(AB)
Question 5:
In Question 4, point C is called a mid-point of line segment AB. Prove that every line segment has one and only one mid-point.

Solution:
Let us assume there are two mid-points $C_1$ and $C_2$

![Diagram showing two mid-points $C_1$ and $C_2$ on line segment AB]

$C$ is midpoint of AB
$AC_1 = C_1B$
$A C_1 + A C_1 = B C_1 + A C_1 \quad \text{(equals are added on both sides)} \quad ... (1)$

Here, $(B C_1 + A C_1)$ coincides with AB. We know that things which coincide with one another are equal to one another.
$B C_1 + A C_1 = AB \quad ... (2)$

We know that things which are equal to the same thing are equal to one another. So, from equation (1) and equation (2), we have
$A C_1 + A C_1 = AB \quad ... (3)$

Similarly by taking $C_2$ as the mid-point of AB, we can prove that
$2A C_2 = AB \quad ... (4)$

From equation (3) and (4), we have
$2A C_1 = 2A C_2 \quad \text{(Things which are equal to the same thing are equal to one another.)}$
$A C_1 = A C_2 \quad \text{(Things which are double of the same things are equal to one another.)}$

It is possible only when point $C_1$ and $C_2$ are representing a single point.

Hence our assumption is wrong and there can be only one mid-point of a given line segment.

Question 6:
If AC = BD, then prove that AB = CD.

Solution:
We can be observed from the figure that
$AC = AB + BC$
$BD = BC + CD$

It is given that AC = BD

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So \( AB + BC = BC + CD \)
According to Euclid’s axiom, when equals are subtracted from equals, the remainders are also equal.
Subtracting \( BC \) from equation (1), we obtain
\[
AB + BC - BC = BC + CD - BC
\]
\[
AB = CD
\]

**Question 7:**
Why is Axiom 5, in the list of Euclid’s axioms, considered a ‘universal truth’? (Note that the question is not about the fifth postulate.)

**Solution:**
Axiom 5: The whole is greater than the part.
Let \( X \) is representing a whole quantity and only \( a, b, c \) are parts of it.
Now \( X = a + b + c \)
Clearly \( X \) will be greater than all its parts \( a, b \) and \( c \)
So, it is rightly said that the whole is greater than the part.

There can be many examples. This is true for anything in any part of the world, this is a universal truth.