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Wilson's Theorem for CAT





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According to Wilson's theorem for prime number 'p',
 $[(p-1)! + 1]$ is divisible by p.

In other words, $(p-1)!$ leaves a remainder of $(p-1)$ when divided by p.

Thus, **$(p-1)! \bmod p = p-1$**

For e.g.

4! when divided by 5, we get 4 as a remainder.

6! When divided by 7, we get 6 as a remainder.

10! When divided by 11, we get 10 as a remainder.

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If we extend Wilson's theorem further, we get an important corollary
 $(p-2)! \bmod p = 1$

As from the Wilson's theorem we have, $(p-1)! \bmod p = (p-1)$

Thus, $[(p-1)(p-2)!] \bmod p = (p-1)$

This will be equal to $[(p-1) \bmod p] * [(p-2)! \bmod p] = (p-1)$

For any prime number 'p', we observe that $(p-1) \bmod p = (p-1)$.

For e.g. $6 \bmod 7$ will be 6.

Thus, $(p-1) * [(p-2)! \bmod p] = (p-1)$

Thus, for RHS to be equal to LHS,

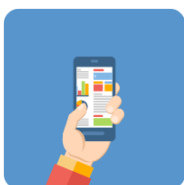
$(p-2)! \bmod p = 1$

Hence, $5! \bmod 7$ will be 1 and $51! \bmod 53$ will be 1

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Examples:

Q.1) What will be the remainder when $568!$ is divided by 569?

Solution: According to Wilson's theorem we have,
For prime number 'p', $(p-1)! \bmod p = (p-1)$

In this case 569 is a prime number. Thus, $568! \bmod 569 = 568$.
Hence, when $568!$ is divided by 569 we get 568 as remainder.
Answer: 568

Q.2) What will be the remainder when $225!$ is divided by 227?

Solution: We know that for prime number 'p', $(p-2)! \bmod p = 1$.
In this case, 227 is a prime number.

Thus, $225! \bmod 227$ will be equal to 1. In other words, when $225!$ is divided by 227 we get remainder as 1.
Answer: 1

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Q.3) What will be the remainder when $15!$ is divided by 19?

Solution: 19 is a prime number.

From corollary of Wilson's theorem, for prime number 'p',
 $(p-2)! \pmod p = 1$

Thus, $17! \pmod{19} = 1$

$[17 \cdot 16 \cdot 15!] \pmod{19} = 1$

$[17 \pmod{19}] \cdot [16 \pmod{19}] \cdot [15! \pmod{19}] = 1$

$[-2] \cdot [-3] \cdot [15! \pmod{19}] = 1$

$[6 \cdot 15!] \pmod{19} = 1$

Multiplying both sides by 3, we get

$[18 \cdot 15!] \pmod{19} = 3$

$[-1 \cdot 15!] \pmod{19} = 3$

Multiplying both sides by '-1', we get

$15! \pmod{19} = -3$

Remainder of '-3' when divided by 19 is same as remainder of '16' when divided by 19.

Thus $15! \pmod{19} = 16$

Answer: 16



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Q.4) What will be the remainder when $(23!)^2$ is divided by 47?

Solution: 47 is a prime number.

From corollary of Wilson's theorem, for prime number 'p',
 $(p-2)! \pmod p = 1$

Thus, $45! \pmod{47} = 1$

$[45 \cdot 44 \cdot 43 \cdot 42 \cdot \dots \cdot 25 \cdot 24 \cdot 23!] \pmod{47} = 1$

$[(-2) \cdot (-3) \cdot (-4) \cdot (-5) \cdot \dots \cdot (-22) \cdot (-23) \cdot 23!] \pmod{47} = 1$

We see that, there are even number of terms from '-2' to '-23'. Thus, negative sign cancels off.

We get,

$[23! \cdot 23!] \pmod{47} = 1$

Thus, $(23!)^2 \pmod{47} = 1$

Hence, when $(23!)^2$ is divided 47, we get 1 as a remainder.

Answer: 1



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