

1. What is the chromatic number of the Petersen graph? What is its edge-chromatic number?
2. Let  $G$  be a graph with chromatic number  $k$ . Show that  $e(G) \geq \binom{k}{2}$ .
3. Show that, for any graph  $G$ , there is an ordering of the vertices of  $G$  for which the greedy algorithm uses only  $\chi(G)$  colours.
4. For each  $k \geq 3$ , find a bipartite graph  $G$ , with an ordering  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  of its vertices, for which the greedy algorithm uses  $k$  colours. Give an example with  $n = 2k - 2$ . Is there an example with  $n = 2k - 3$ ?
5. What is  $\chi'(K_{n,n})$ ? What is  $\chi'(K_n)$ ?
6. Let  $G$  be a bipartite graph of maximum degree  $\Delta$ . Must we have  $\chi'(G) = \Delta$ ?
7. Find the chromatic polynomial of the  $n$ -cycle.
8. Let  $G$  be a graph on  $n$  vertices, with  $P_G(t) = t^n + a_{n-1}t^{n-1} + a_{n-2}t^{n-2} + \dots + a_1t + a_0$ . Show that the  $a_i$  alternate in sign (in other words,  $a_i \leq 0$  if  $n - i$  is odd and  $a_i \geq 0$  if  $n - i$  is even). Show also that if  $G$  has  $m$  edges and  $c$  triangles then  $a_{n-2} = \binom{m}{2} - c$ .
9. An *acyclic orientation* of a graph  $G$  is an assignment of a direction to each edge of  $G$  in such a way that there is no directed cycle. Show that the number of acyclic orientations of  $G$  is precisely  $|P_G(-1)|$ .
10. Let  $G$  be a plane graph in which every face is a triangle. Show that the faces of  $G$  may be 3-coloured, unless  $G = K_4$ .
11. Can  $K_{4,4}$  be drawn on the torus? What about  $K_{5,5}$ ?
12. A *minor* of a graph  $G$  is any graph that may be obtained from a subgraph of  $G$  by successively contracting edges – equivalently, a graph  $H$  on vertex-set  $\{v_1, \dots, v_r\}$  is a minor of  $G$  if we can find disjoint connected subgraphs  $S_1, \dots, S_r$  of  $G$  such that whenever  $v_i v_j \in E(H)$  there is an edge from  $S_i$  to  $S_j$ . Show that for any  $k$  there is an  $n$  such that every graph  $G$  with  $\chi(G) \geq n$  has a  $K_k$  minor. Writing  $c(k)$  for the least such  $n$ , show that  $c(k+1) \leq 2c(k)$ . [Hint: choose  $x \in G$ , and look at the sets  $\{y \in G : d(x, y) = t\}$ .] Show that  $c(k) = k$  for  $1 \leq k \leq 4$ , and explain why  $c(5) = 5$  would imply the 4-Colour Theorem.
13. Let  $G$  be a countable graph in which every finite subgraph can be  $k$ -coloured. Show that  $G$  can be  $k$ -coloured.
- +14. Construct a triangle-free graph of chromatic number 1526.