

Please write up complete, clear solutions on your own paper. We will be looking for your reasoning and explanations, not just a correct answer. Please copy each question and write neatly.

This assignment covers material in sections 1.4, 1.5 and 1.7. The textbook is a helpful reference for these. You can also get help via email ([ewhitaker@uky.edu](mailto:ewhitaker@uky.edu)), via office hours (stop by or make an appointment) or possibly in the Mathskeller (depending on who is tutoring at the time).

For questions 1-4 answer the following, and provide a brief explanation:

- (a) Does the equation  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  have nontrivial solutions?  
(b) Does the equation  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  have at least one solution for every possible  $\mathbf{b}$ ?

1.  $A$  is a  $6 \times 6$  matrix with six pivot points
  2.  $A$  is a  $6 \times 6$  matrix with two pivot points
  3.  $A$  is a  $7 \times 5$  matrix with five pivot points
  4.  $A$  is a  $5 \times 7$  matrix with five pivot points
5. Describe and compare the solution sets of the equations  
 $x_1 + 3x_2 + 5x_3 = 0$  and  $x_1 + 3x_2 + 5x_3 = 7$ .
6. How many pivot columns must a  $5 \times 3$  matrix have if its columns are linearly independent? What about a  $3 \times 5$  matrix? Explain.