Math 255

Name:

Problem 1: Compute each of the following Legendre symbols.

$$a) \ \left(\frac{4}{101}\right)$$

Since 4 is a square in the integers, it is a square modulo 101 and $\left(\frac{4}{101}\right) = 1$.

$$b) \ \left(\frac{15}{11}\right)$$

We cannot apply Quadratic Reciprocity since 15 is not a prime. However, since $15 \equiv 4 \pmod{11}$ and 4 is a square in the integers,

$$\left(\frac{15}{11}\right) = \left(\frac{4}{11}\right) = 1.$$

$$c) \ \left(\frac{13}{17}\right)$$

Since both 13 and 17 are odd primes, we can apply Quadratic Reciprocity:

$$\left(\frac{13}{17}\right)\left(\frac{17}{13}\right) = (-1)^{\frac{13-1}{2}\frac{17-1}{2}} = 1$$

Therefore

$$\left(\frac{13}{17}\right) = \left(\frac{17}{13}\right) = \left(\frac{4}{13}\right) = 1.$$

The last two equalities are because $4 \equiv 17 \pmod{13}$ and 4 is a square in the integers.